







Diet, Nutrition, Physical Activity and Cancer: update from WCRF

6 February 2017

**Martin Wiseman** 

**World Cancer Research Fund International & University of Southampton** 





- Intro to WCRF
- Background
- Continuous Update Project
- Impact of adherence to recommendations
- Changes in emphasis
- Conclusion



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### The World Cancer Research Fund Network



### **World Cancer Research Fund International (est. 1999)**

Leads and unifies a network of cancer charities with a global reach, dedicated to the prevention of cancer through diet, weight and physical activity.





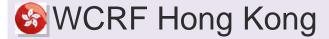
Analysing research on cancer prevention and survival

# Who we are









### **WCRF** International



Analysing research on cancer prevention and survival



Fund research on the relationship of diet, nutrition, physical activity and body weight to cancer risk

Interpret the accumulated scientific literature to derive Cancer Prevention Recommendations

Educate people through our national Health Information programmes

Advocate effective policies to help people and populations to reduce their chances of developing cancer

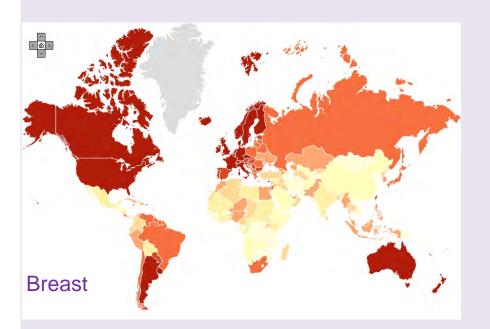


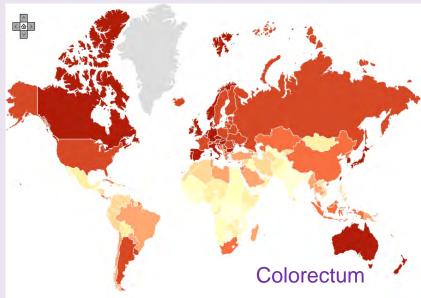


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# Global variation in cancer incidence

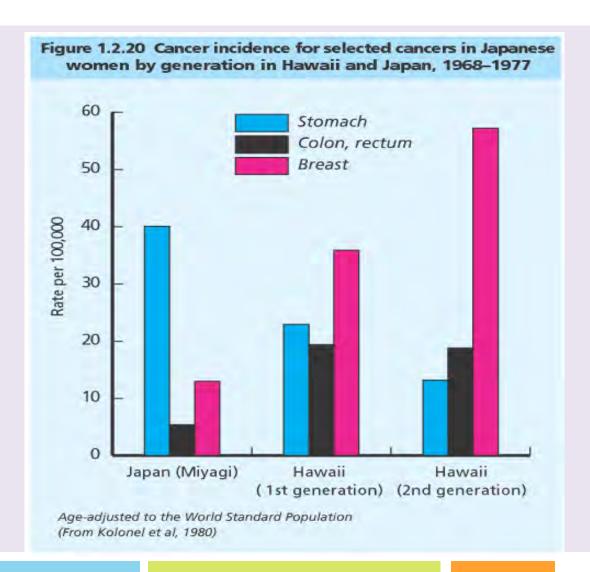




Globocan, WHO

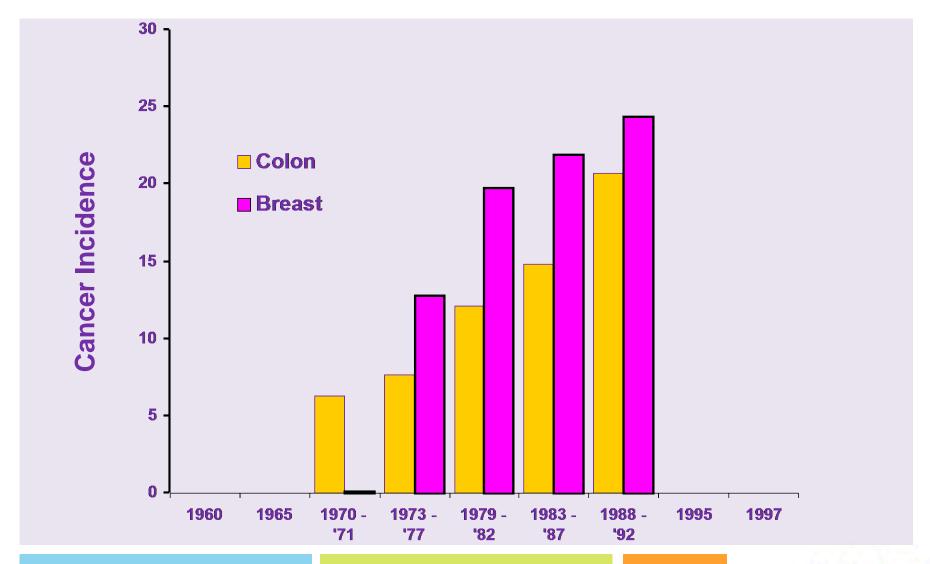


# Migration data



# World Cancer In Cancer Research Fund International

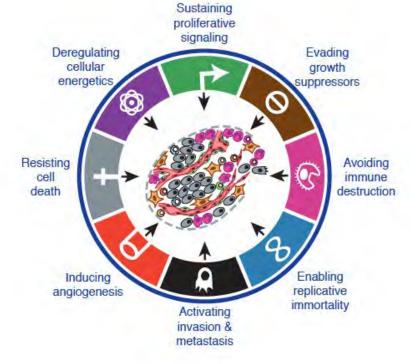
# Cancer Incidence in Japan\*



<sup>\*</sup> Per 100,000, world population standard

### Hallmarks of cancer





# Two enabling characteristics for acquiring hallmarks



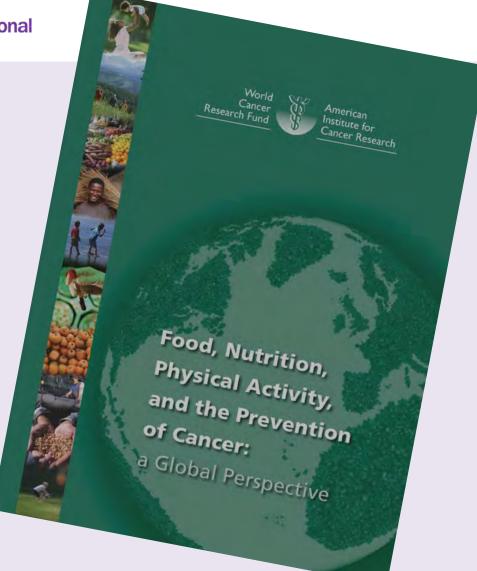


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### Summary of 'convincing' and 'probable' judgements

Foods containing dietary fibre Aflatoxins Non-starchy vegetables1 Allium vegetables Garlic Fruits<sup>2</sup> Foods containing folate Foods containing lycopene Foods containing selenium<sup>3</sup> Red meat Processed meat Cantonese-style salted fish Diets high in calcium4 Energy-dense foods5 Low energy-dense foods Salt, salted and salty foods Arsenic in drinking water Maté Sugary drinks Alcoholic drinks6 Beta-carotene7 Physical activity Sedentary living<sup>8</sup> **Body fatness** Abdominal fatness Adult weight gain Adult attained height Greater birth weight Lactation Being breastfed

KEY



Convincing decreased risk





Probable increased risk



Convincing increased risk

- Includes evidence on foods containing carotenoids for mouth, pharynx, larynx; foods containing beta-carotene for oesophagus; foods containing vitamin C for oesophagus
- <sup>2</sup> Includes evidence on foods containing carotenoids for mouth, pharynx, larynx and lung; foods containing beta-carotene for oesophagus; foods containing vitamin C for oesophagus
- Includes evidence from supplements for
- <sup>4</sup> Evidence is from milk and studies using supplements for colorectum
- 5 Includes 'fast foods'
- 6 Convincing harm for men and probable harm for women for colorectum
- <sup>7</sup> The evidence is derived from studies using supplements for lung
- <sup>8</sup> Includes evidence on televison viewing
- <sup>9</sup> Judgement for physical activity applies to colon and not rectum





The Panel emphasises the importance of not smoking and of avoiding exposure to tobacco smoke

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### BODY FATNESS

Be as lean as possible within the normal range of body weight

#### PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Be physically active as part of everyday life

### FOODS AND DRINKS THAT PROMOTE WEIGHT GAIN

Limit consumption of energy-dense foods Avoid sugary drinks

#### PLANT FOODS

Eat mostly foods of plant origin

#### ANIMAL FOODS

Limit intake of red meat and avoid processed meat

### ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

Limit alcoholic drinks

### PRESERVATION, PROCESSING, PREPARATION

Limit consumption of salt Avoid mouldy cereals (grains) or pulses (legumes)

### DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

Aim to meet nutritional needs through diet alone

### **BREASTFEEDING**

Mothers to breastfeed; children to be breastfed

### CANCER SURVIVORS

Follow the recommendations for cancer prevention





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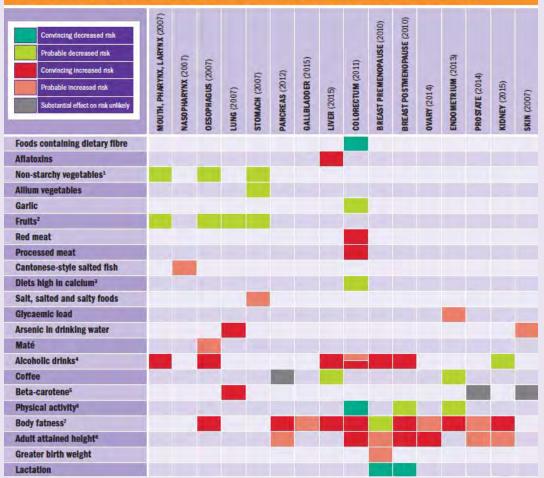






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### World Cancer Research Fund International

# **NUTRITION AND CANCERS**

- ADIPOSITY
  - BREAST (PM), COLORECTUM, ENDOMETRIUM,
     OESOPHAGUS, PANCREAS, GALLBLADDER, KIDNEY, OVARY,
     PROSTATE (ADVANCED), LIVER
- PHYSICAL (IN)ACTIVITY
  - COLON, BREAST, ENDOMETRIUM
- MEAT RED AND PROCESSED
  - COLON, RECTUM, STOMACH (non-cardia)
- ALCOHOL
  - MPL, BREAST, COLORECTUM, LIVER, OESOPHAGUS
- PLANT FOODS (F&V, PULSES, WHOLEGRAINS)
  - MPL, OESOPHAGUS, STOMACH, COLORECTUM (DF), LUNG
- BREASTFEEDING
  - BREAST (MOTHER), OBESITY (CHILD)





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# **Publications timetable**

Year	Publication
2010	Breast
2011	Colorectum
2012	Pancreas
2013-14	Endometrium, ovary, breast cancer survivors, prostate
2014-15	Bladder, kidney, liver, gallbladder
2016	Stomach, oesophagus
2017	Mouth, pharynx, larynx, nasopharynx, lung, breast, colorectum
2017	Review Recommendations for Cancer Prevention



Colorectum

Liver

**Kidney** 

**Bladder** 

**Pancreas** 

**Prostate** 

Stomach

**Oesophagus** 

Ovary

**Endometrium** 

# Changes to conclusions for

Prob **J** 

LS 1

LNC

LS 1

LNC

LNC

**LNC** 

LNC

LNC

LNC

Prob **J** 

Prob 1

Prob 1

**Effect unlikely** 



New

Prob **↓** 

Prob 1

Prob 1

Prob

Prob

Prob

**Prob** 

LNC

Prob

**Prob** 

**Prob** 

**Prob** 

**Prob** 

LS\/LNC

LNC/LS 1

Convincing 1

Convincing 1

**1** (adv)

(cardia)

(non-cardia)

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Research Fund Internation	al strong evidence s	ince 2007	
Cancer	Exposure	2007	

**Dietary fibre** 

**Glycaemic load** 

**Body fatness** 

Coffee

Coffee

Height

**Alcohol** 

**Arsenic** 

**Folate** 

Height

**Alcohol** 

Fruit/veg

**Body fatness** 

**Body fatness** 

**Body fatness** 

**Processed meat** 

Fruit/veg/βcarotene/vit C



Estimates of cancer preventability by appropriate diet, nutrition, physical activity and body fatness

	USA	UK	BRAZIL	CHINA
Mouth, pharynx, larynx	63	67	63	44
Oesophagus	63	71	50	33
Lung	36	33	36	38
Stomach	47	45	41	33
Pancreas	19	15	11	8
Gallbladder	21	16	10	6
Liver	30	24	13	7
Colorectum	50	47	41	22
Breast	33	38	22	11
Ovary	5	4	3	1
Endometrium	59	44	37	21
Prostate (advanced)	11	9	5	4
Kidney	24	19	13	8
Total for these cancers	31	32	25	24
Total for all cancers	21	24	18	20



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### **Our Cancer Prevention Recommendations**

### Be a healthy weight

Keep your weight as low as you can within the healthy range

#### Move more

Be physically active for at least 30 minutes every day, and sit less

### Avoid high-calorie foods and sugary drinks

Limit high-calorie foods (particularly processed foods high in fat or added sugar, or low in fibre) and avoid sugary drinks

### Enjoy more grains, veg, fruit and beans

Eat a wide variety of whole grains, vegetables, fruit and pulses such as beans

### Limit red meat and avoid processed meat

Eat no more than 500g (cooked weight) a week of red meat, such as beef, pork and lamb. Eat little, if any, processed meat such as ham and bacon

### For cancer prevention, don't drink alcohol

For cancer prevention, it's best not to drink alcohol. If you do, limit alcoholic drinks to two for men and one for women a day

### Eat less salt and avoid mouldy grains & cereals

Limit your salt intake to less than 6g (2.4g sodium) a day by adding less salt and eating less food processed with salt

Avoid mouldy grains and cereals as they may be contaminated by aflatoxins

### For cancer prevention, don't rely on supplements

Eat a healthy diet rather than relying on supplements to protect against cancer

### If you can, breastfeed your baby

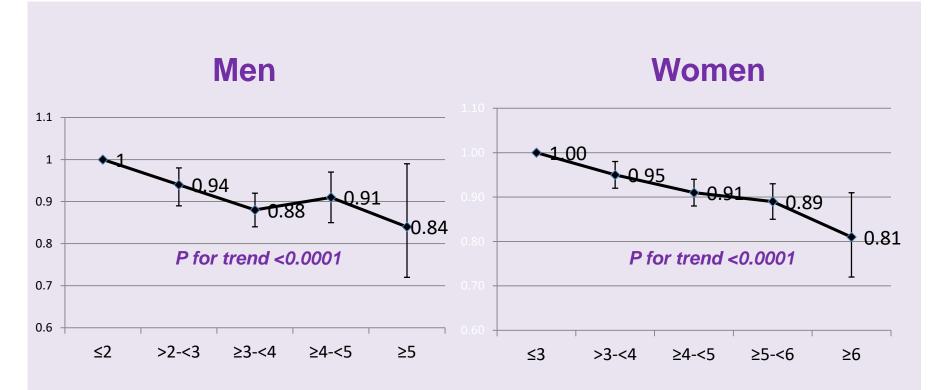
If you can, breastfeed your baby for six months before adding other liquids and foods

### Cancer survivors should follow our Recommendations (where possible)

After cancer treatment, the best advice is to follow the Cancer Prevention Recommendations. Check with your health professional



# Association between the WCRF/AICR score and total cancer risk



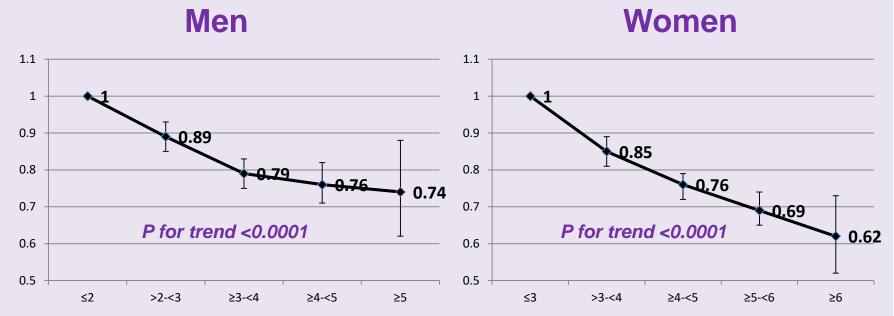
Cox regression model stratified by centre and age, and adjusted by energy intake, level of school, smoking status, presence of chronic diseases at baseline, ever use of contraceptive pills, ever use of HRT, age at first menarche, age at first pregnancy, and menopausal status

Romaguera D et al, AJCN 2012



# Association between the WCRF/AICR score and total

mortality



Cox regression model stratified by centre and age, and adjusted by level of school, smoking status, smoke intensity, and menopausal status

Vergnaud AC et al, AJCN 2013



# WCRF and ACS recommendations and cancer – systematic review

- Ten large prospective studies; 12 publications
- Strong and consistent evidence
- Greater adherence to score associated with lower overall cancer incidence and mortality
- Both men and women
- Also breast, colorectal endometrium

Kohler LN et al, CEBP 2016, 25, 1-11



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# Inferring causality



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- Strength
- Consistency
- Specificity
- Timing
- Dose Response
- Plausibility
- Coherence
- Experiment
- Analogy

**Bradford Hill** 



# Reasons for uncertainty

- Measurement error
  - Diet, activity, anthropometry (cf adiposity)
  - Random error, systematic bias
- Study design
  - RCT vs cohort vs case control
  - Mechanistic
  - Population
  - Study size
- Confounding
  - Smoking
  - Nutrient vs food
  - Multiple collinearity eg PA
- Exposure homogeneity
- Small effect size



Certainty is unattainable – degrees of uncertainty

Is the evidence strong enough to take action?

Evidence accrues and conclusions may change

Convincing is not the same as proof



# Significant shifts in emphasis

- Adiposity and activity vs foods and drinks
- Foods vs nutrients
- Whole diets vs individual foods
- Plant foods vs fruit and veg
- Lifecourse (height)

IMPACT OF OFFSPRING SIZE AND GROWTH World Cancer **ON CANCER RISK - 2007** Research Fund International Height and colorectal cancer; Height and postmenopausal breast cancer; Height and breast cancer (age unspecified); cohort studies cohort studies cohort studies Relative risk (95% CI) Relative risk (95% CI) Relative risk (95% CI) Cohort Albanes 1988 Men 1.19 (0.98-1.45) 1.44 (1.10-1.88) Nilsen 200 Cohort Hover 1998 1.17 (1.00-1.36) Albanes 1988 Women 1.17 (0.96-1.43) Palmer 2001 1.15 (1.03-1.29) Suadini 1993 Men 1.07 (0.86-1.34) Manjer 2001 1.21 (1.05-1.40) 1.13 (1.02-1.24) Bostick 1994 Women 1.11 (0.97-1.26) Toniolo 1994 1.20 (1.00-1.44) Vatten 1992 1.13 (1.06,-1.20) Thune 1996 Men 1.06 (0.97-1.16) 1.10 (1.05-1.15) Mattisson 2004 1.19 (1.08-1.30) Thune 1996 Women 1.04 (0.89-1.21) 1.10 (1.05-1.15) Vatten 1990 1.18 (0.99-1.41) Palmer 2001 1.10 (1.04-1.16) Tangrea 1997 Men 1.03 (0.88-1.20) Tryggvadottir 2002 Barrett-Connor 1993 1.17 (0.76-1.81) 1.09 (1.03-1.15) Hebert 1997 Men 1.05 (0.97-1.15) Nilsen 2001 1.09 (0.79-1.50) Van den Brandt 1997 1.17 (1.08-1.27) 0.99 (0.84-1.18) Kato 1997 Women Goodman 1997 1.03 (0.88-1.21) Galanis 1998 1.16 (1.03-1.31) Shimizu 2003 Men 1.30 (1.08-1.56) 1.01 (0.90-1.13) Key 1999 Overvad 1991 1:00 (0.77-1.31) Shimizu 2003 Women 1.18 (0.92-1.51) Tryggvaddottir 2002 1.21 (1.03-1.22) Kilkinnen 2004 1.00 (0.85-1.17) MacInnis 2004 Men 1.10 (0.94-1.27) Tulinius 1997 1.10 (1.00-1.22) 1.00 (0.87-1.14) Drake 2001 Giovannucci 2004 Men 1.12 (1.04-1.21) 0.99 (0.72-1.38) Nilsen 2001 Tornberg 1998 1.10 (1.07-1.13) Otani 2005 Men 1.04 (0.95-1.13) 0.98 (0.83-1.15) Wu 2005 Saadatien-Elahi 2002 1.10 (0.88-1.37) Nilsen 2001 0.95 (0.68-1.32) Otani 2005 Women 1.00 (0.88-1.14) Nilsen 2001 0.80 (0.58-1.10) Sonnenschein 1999 1.09 (0.95-1.25) Pischon 2006 Men 1.08 (1.01-1.17) 1.09 (1.07-1.12) Summary estimate Kaaks 1998 1.08 (0.85-1.38) Pischon 2006 Women 1.14 (1.06-1.23) Palmer 2001 1.09 (1.06-1.12) Birth weight and premenopausal breast cancer; Wirfalt 2004 D.1 cohort studies Relative risk, per 5 cm Summary estimate 1.5 Relative risk (95% CI) ve risk, per 5 cm 0.1 De Stavola 2000 1.79 (1.04-3.09) Relative risk, per 5 cm 1.52 (1.13-2.05) McCormack 2005 Height and premenopausal breast cancer; Silva 2004 1.39 (0.86-2.26) cohort studies Ahlgren 2004 1.07 (1.02-1.12) ic cancer: Summary estimate 1.08 (1.04-1.13) Relative risk (95% CI) Cohort Relative risk (95% CI) 1.17 (1.08-1.26) Palmer 2001 Tulinius 1997 1.16 (0.95-1.41) Height and ovarian cancer cohort studies Relative risk, per kg Vatten 1992 1.16 (1.06-1.27) 1.00 (0.81-1.24) Tornberg 1988 1.11 (0.98-1.26) 1.19 (0.97-1.45) Kaaks 1998 1.09 (0.93-1.29) Tulinius 1997 Women 1.31 (0.97-1.77) Relative risk (95% CI) Galanis 1998 1.04 (0.86-1.25) Michaud 2001 Women 1.21 (1.02-1.34) Cohort Manjer 2001 0.99 (0.87-1.14) Stolzenberg-Solomon 2002 Men 1.04 (0.92-1.17) Schouten 2003 1.42 (1.08-1.87) Tryggvadottir 2002 0.99 (0.79-1.24) Song 2003 Men 1.07 (0.95-1.20) Engeland 2003 1.14 (1.08-1.22) Sonnenschein 1999 0.99 (0.84-1.16) Giovanucci 2004 Men 1.07 (0.94-1.22) 1.07 (0.89-1.28) Andersaon 2004 Saadatian-Elahi 2002 0.98 (0.80-1.21) Summary estimate 1.11 (1.05-1.17) 1.15 (1.08-1.21) Summary estimate Toniolo 1994 0.92 (0.78-1.09) 0.5 0.75 1.5 2 0.1 2 3 4 0.5 1.5 Relative risk, per 5 cm Relative risk, per 5 cm Relative risk, per 10 cm



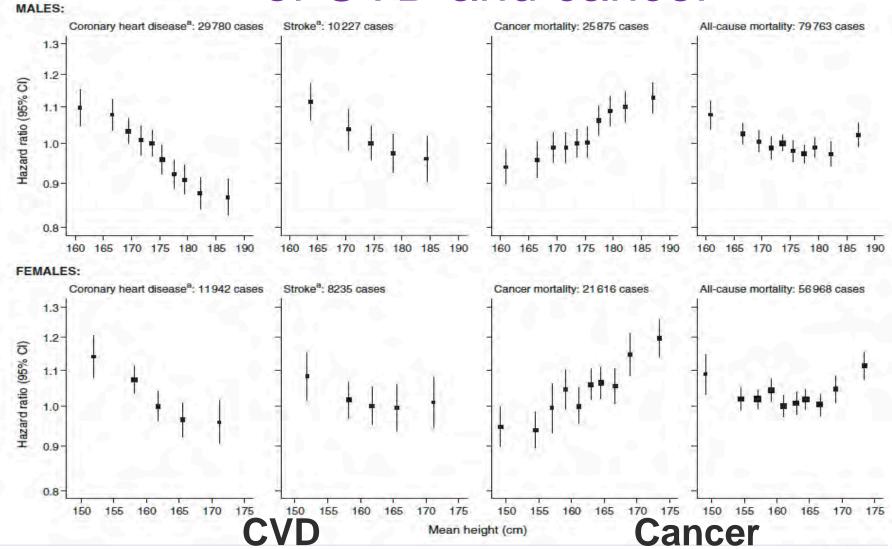
# Height and cancer CUP 2015

Every 5 cm increment in height increases risk of cancers of:

- Kidney -10%
- Breast (pre-menopausal) 9%
- Breast (post-menopausal) -11%
- Ovary 8%
- Pancreas 7%
- Colorectum 5%
- Prostate 4%



# Height and risk of CVD and cancer





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# **Bottom Line**

# The key messages are robust and generally agreed

- Be active, and don't be sedentary and keep it up as long as possible
- Eat enough but not too much don't get too thin or fat
- Eat food not pills
- Mostly from plants, emphasise wholegrains and pulses
- Avoid highly processed energy dense foods and sugar sweetened beverages (and alcohol, processed meat and salty foods)
- Grow appropriately from conception to adulthood
- Get your mother to be well nourished before getting pregnant. And to breastfeed you.



### **Bottom Line**

If you already have a diagnosis of cancer, the evidence on nutrition and outcome is not strong, but the best advice is to follow (as far as possible) the recommendations for cancer prevention



# Cancer & Nutrition NIHR infrastructure collaboration

Improving cancer prevention and care. For patients. For clinicians. For researchers

National Institute for Health Research

### Cancer and Nutrition NIHR infrastructure collaboration

Improving cancer prevention and care. For patients. For Clinicians. For researchers.

Full Report of Phase One July 2015



#### Aim:

To help facilitate translational research in cancer and nutrition which will generate the evidence to improve cancer prevention and care

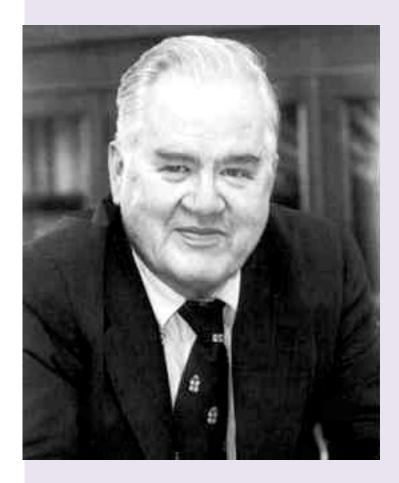
### Objectives:

To bring coherence to existing activities by

- creating a framework for future research
- establishing better networks between cancer and nutrition stakeholders



### **JOHN TUKEY**



Far better an approximate answer to the *right* question, which is often vague, than an *exact* answer to the wrong question, which can always be made precise.

The future of data analysis. Annals of Mathematical Statistics 1962

An approximate answer to the right question is worth a great deal more than a precise answer to the wrong question.

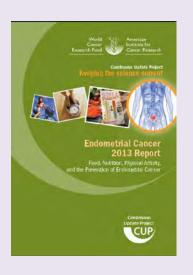
Super Freakonomics

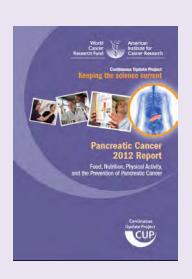


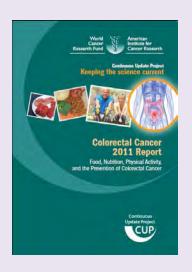
## The WCRF/AICR Continuous Update Reports

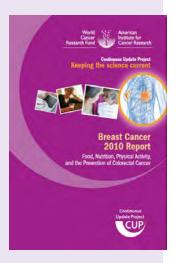


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http://www.wcrf.org/cancer\_research/cup/key\_findings/index.php



## The WCRF/AICR Continuous Update Reports



Analysing research on cancer prevention and survival

## Watch this space....

## 2017 update is coming...







http://www.wcrf.org/cancer\_research/cup/key\_findings/index.php





Breast Cancer (C50): 2014

Number of New Cases, Crude and European Age-Standardised (AS) Incidence Rates per 100,000 Population, UK

England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	UK
---------	-------	----------	---------------------	----

	Cases	46,085	2,872	4,583	1,293	54,833
	Crude Rate	167.3	182.8	166.6	137.9	167.2
Female	AS Rate	173.4	176.1	164.1	151.4	172.1
	AS Rate - 95% LCL	171.8	169.7	159.3	143.2	
	AS Rate - 95% UCL	175.0	182.5	168.8	159.7	173.6

170.7

AS rate 173.4 182.8 166.6 151.4 172.1

95% LCL and 95% UCL are the 95% lower and upper confidence limits around the AS Rate Source: cruk.org/cancerstats

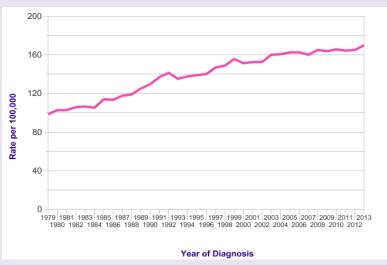
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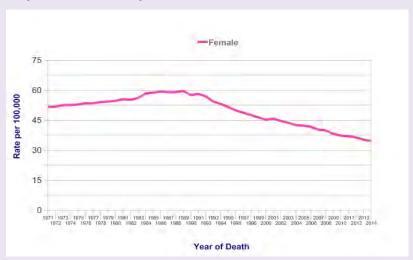
#### **Breast Cancer (C50): 1979-2013**

**European Age-Standardised Incidence Rates** per 100,000 Population, Females, Great Britain



#### Breast Cancer (C50): 1971-2014

**European Age-Standardised Mortality Rates** per 100,000 Population, Females, UK



Source: cruk.org/cancerstats

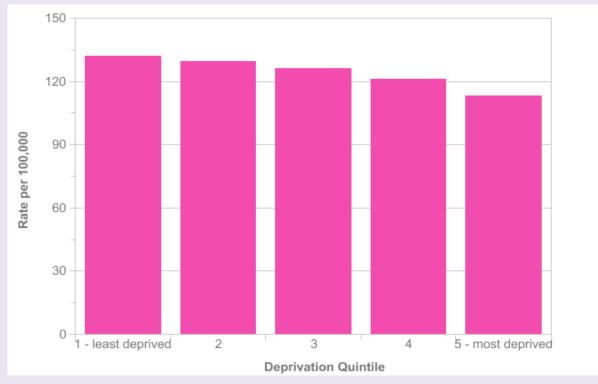
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#### **Breast Cancer (C50): 2006-2010**

#### European Age-Standardised Incidence Rates by Deprivation Quintile, England



Source: cruk.org/cancerstats

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### **Breast Cancer**

### FOOD, NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND BREAST CANCER (PREMENOPAUSE) 2010

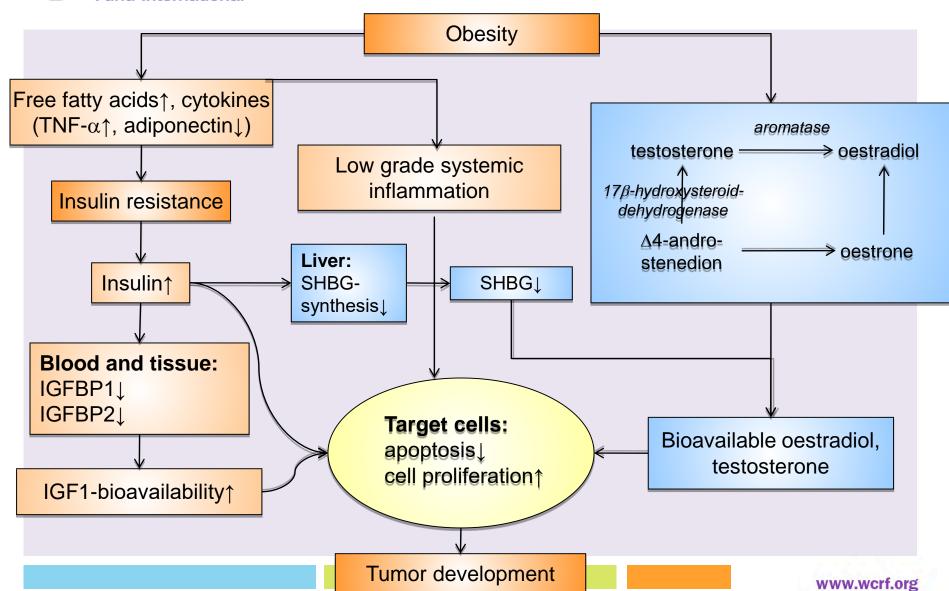
	DECREASES RISK	INCREASES RISK							
Convincing	Lactation	Alcoholic drinks	FOOD NUT	FOOD, NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND					
Probable	Body fatness	Adult attained height <sup>1</sup> Greater birth weight	BREAST CA	BREAST CANCER (POSTMENOPAUSE) 2010					
Substantial effect on risk unlikely	None identified			DECREASES RISK	INCREASES RISK				
	- Hone lacitation		Convincing	Lactation	Alcoholic drinks Body fatness Adult attained height <sup>1</sup>				
1 Adult attained height is unlikely directly to modify the risk of cancer. It is a marker for genetic, environmental, hormonal, and also nutritional factors affecting growth during the period from preconception to completion of linear growth (see chapter 6.2.13 – Second Expert Report).			Probable	Physical activity <sup>2</sup>	Abdominal fatness Adult weight gain				
			Substantial effect on risk unlikely	None identified					

1 Adult attained height is unlikely directly to modify the risk of cancer. It is a marker for genetic, environmental, hormonal, and also nutritional factors affecting growth during the period from preconception to completion of linear growth (see chapter 6.2.13 – Second Expert Report).

2 Physical activity of all types: occupational, household, transport and recreational.

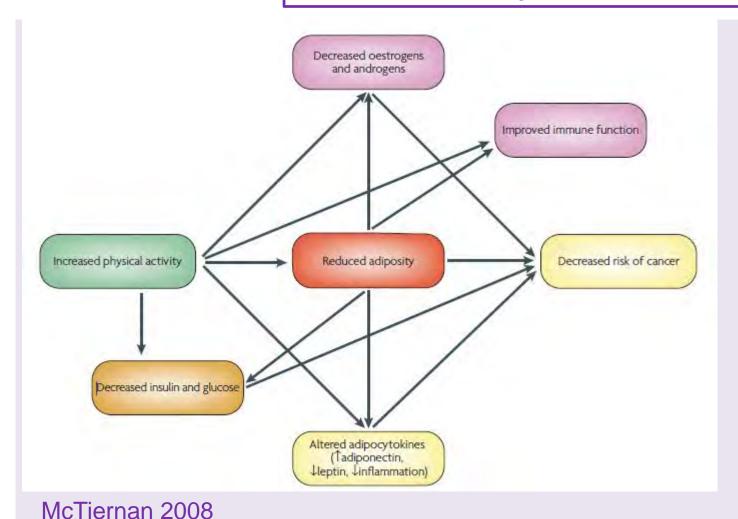


# **Obesity and Cancer – Potential Mechanisms**





## Mechanisms linking physical activity and cancer



www.wcrf.org



# Obesity, physical inactivity and cancer Mechanisms - Summary

- Insulin resistance
  - abnormal insulin/IGF axis
  - excess growth factors
- Inflammation
  - promotes oncogenic genetic signature
  - increases proliferation, angiogenesis
  - reduces apoptosis
- Excess oestrogen
  - promotes proliferation and cancer in sensitive tissues
- Reduced immune function

## World Cancer Research Pathological features - POSH

	Underweight or	Overweight	Obese	
	Healthy weight n=1526	n=784	n=533	
	(54.0%)	(27.6%)	(18.8%)	
Mean tumour size/ mm	20 (0-170)	(0-199)	26 (0.5-130)	U/H vs. Ov: p<0.0001 U/H vs. Ob: p<0.0001
Multifocal	12 (30.6%)	220 (30.4%)	130 (27.2%)	NS
Grade 3	879 (59.0%)	485 (63.6%)	331 (63.9%)	U/H vs. Ov: p=0.034 U/H vs. Ob: p =0.048
Node positive	736 (49.0%)	419(54.2%)	284 (54.6%)	U/H vs. Ov: p=0.019 U/H vs. Ob: p=0.027
ER negative	483 (31.7%)	273 (34.9%)	213 (40.1%)	U/H vs Ob: p<0.001
HER 2 positive	381 (28.2%)	180 (26.4%)	129 (27.3%)	NS
ER/ PR/ HER 2 negative	305 (20.8%)	176 (23.4%)	136(26.8%)	U/H vs. Ob: p=0.005

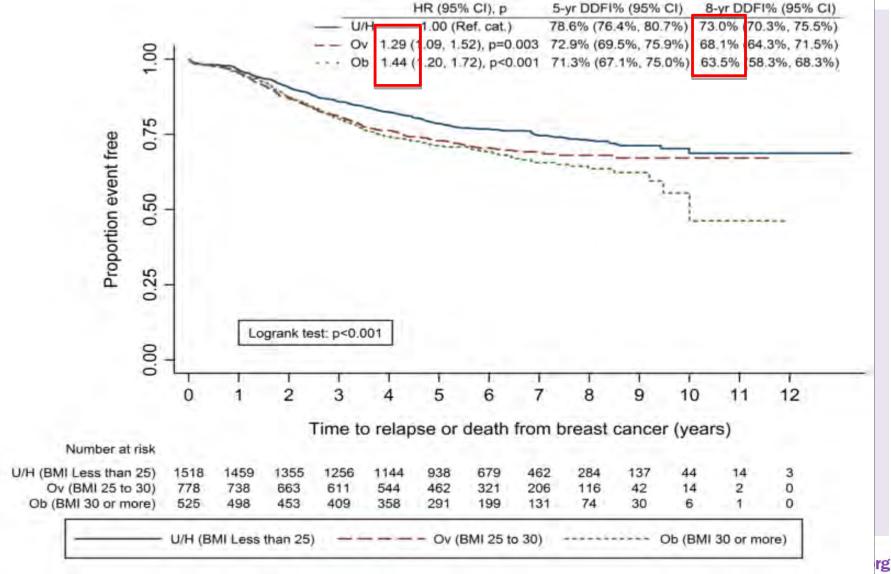
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Fund International

## World Cancer Research Fund Interna

### Distant disease free survival – POSH





## DIET, NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND BREAST CANCER SURVIVAL (BY OUTCOME)

	Outcome	ALL CAUSE MORTALITY			BREAST CANCER MORTALITY			SECOND PRIMARY BREAST CANCER					
		DECREA	SED RISK	INCREASED RISK		DECREASED RISK		INCREASED RISK		DECREASED RISK		INCREASED RISK	
		Exposure	Timeframe	Exposur	e Timeframe	Exposure	Timeframe	Exposure	Timeframe	Exposure	Timeframe	Exposure	Timeframe
STRONG	Convincing												
EVIDENCE	T WHITE												
	Limited- suggestive	Physical activity	Before diagnosis ≥12 month after	Body fatness	Before diagnosis <12 months after	Physical activity	Before diagnosis	Body fatness <sup>1</sup>	Before diagnosis <12 months after				Before diagnosis <12 months after
LIMITED EVIDENCE		Foods containing fibre	Before diagnosis ≥12 months after diagnosis	Total fat	diagnosis >12 months after diagnosis  Before diagnosis				diagnosis				diagnosis
		Foods containing soy	≥12 months after diagnosis	Saturated fatty acids	Before s diagnosis								
STRONG EVIDENCE	Substantial effect on risk unlikely												

**STRONG**: Evidence strong enough to support a judgement of a convincing or probable causal relationship and generally justify making recommendations **LIMITED**: Evidence that is too limited to justify making specific recommendations

<sup>1</sup> Post menopause only





Analysing research on cancer prevention and survival

### **Summary of Breast Cancer Survivors Report**

- Although there were significant associations between some exposures and outcomes, incomplete adjustment for potential confounders restricted the ability to ascribe causality
- CUP Panel concluded that evidence is limited