



Deconstructing Diet Investigating the link between diet and body weight in ageing

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Image source: http://lovehergifts.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/201300009437_1.jpg



Overweight and obesity are major public health concerns



Health aspects of obesity change with age



Measuring diet



Macronutrients

 Dietary pattern analysis

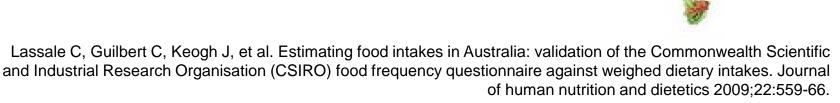
Why not both?



Why not both?

 Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation Food Frequency Questionnaire (FFQ)

- Food types
- Consumption frequency
- Serving sizes
- Cooking methods
- General eating habits





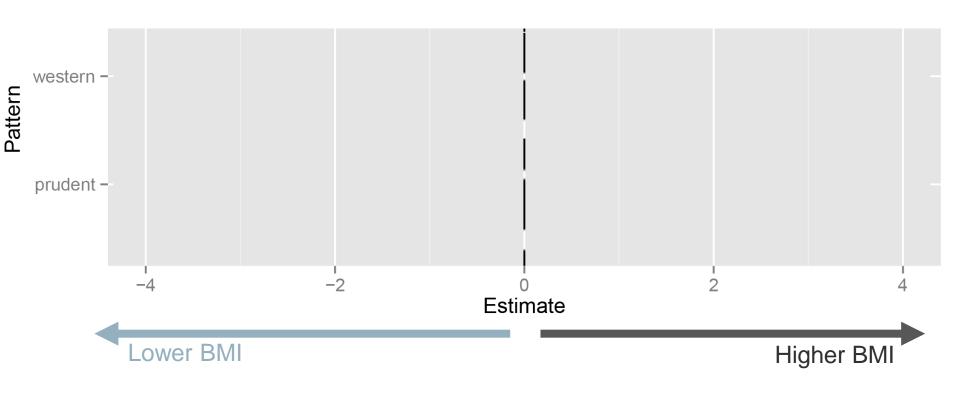
So, we did both

- PATH: 4250 community-living adults aged 20-60 years.
- BMI (weight (kg)/height(M)²) over 12 years
- Food Frequency questionnaire at baseline
- Analyses controlled for years of education, smoking status, alcohol intake, depression, hypertension, and physical activity





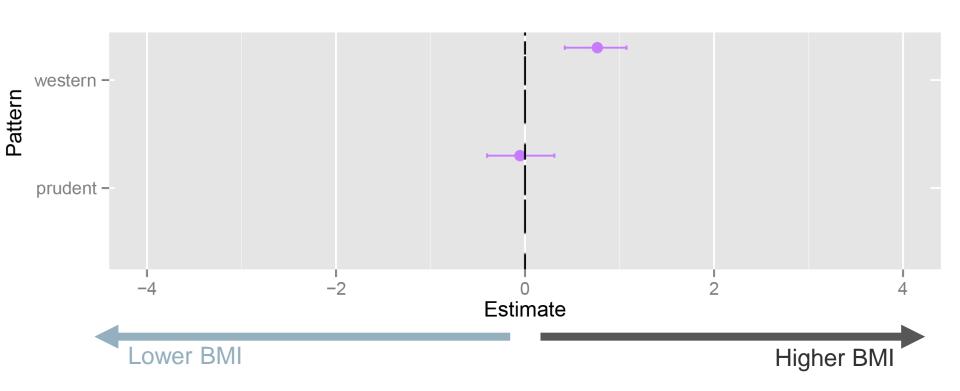
Here's what we found



Jacka FN, Cherbuin N, Anstey KJ, et al. Dietary patterns and depressive symptoms over time: examining the relationships with socioeconomic position, health behaviours and cardiovascular risk. PloS one 2014;9:e87657.

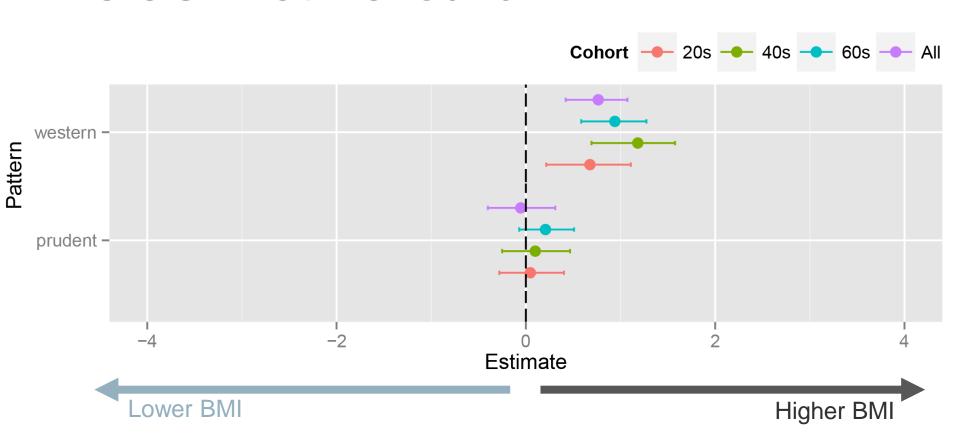


Here's what we found

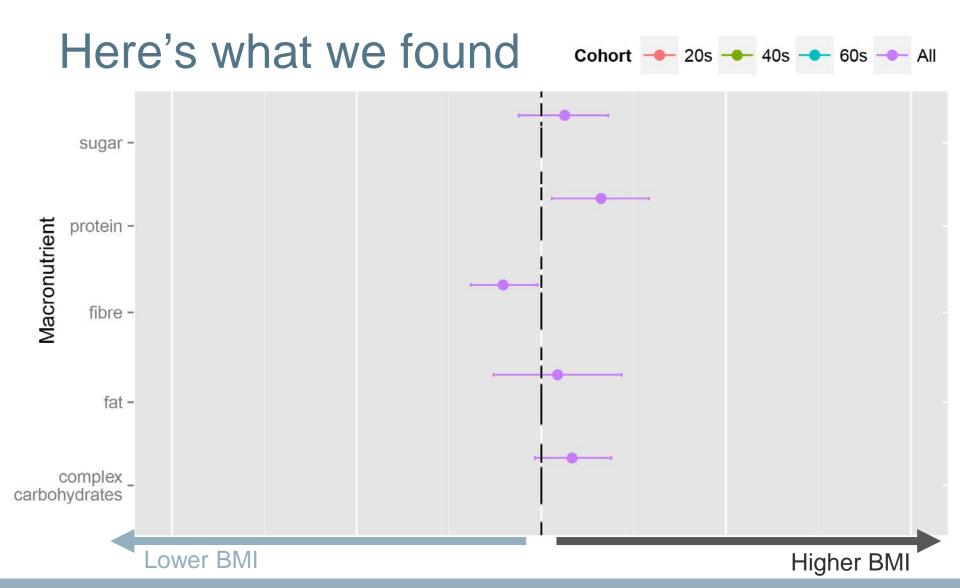




Here's what we found













Conclusions

- It's a good idea to use multiple approaches to measure diet
 - Western dietary pattern is associated with higher BMI
 - Fibre is associated with lower BMI
 - Protein is associated with higher BMI
- The association between diet and BMI was different at different ages





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Further information

Questions / queries / ideas? Get in touch at erin.walsh@anu.edu.au