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Research Article

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Analysis of Dietary Patterns and Economic and Geographic Risk Factors for the Burden of Cardiovascular Disease

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Abstract

The global epidemic of obesity is on the rise and is a risk factor for many non-communicable chronic diseases (NCD).

Purpose: To examine risk factors for the burden of cardiovascular disease (CVD) in men in 50 countries with minimum and maximum morbidity.

Methods and Results: Using the Mann-Whitney U-criterion, a comparative analysis of risk factors in two groups of countries (25 countries per group) with the minimum and maximum burden of CVD in 2004 was performed.

Quality of life: Group 1 had 6 times higher per capita income ($p \le 0.0001$) compared to Group 2. There were no statistically significant differences between Group 1 and Group 2 for geographic latitude ($p \ge 0.7$), longitude ($p \ge 0.4$), and ultraviolet level (UV) ($p \ge 0.3$). Prosperity, health care, education, clean water and air, life expectancy, corruption, happiness, etc. indicated the success of Group 1 countries compared to Group 2 ($p \le 0.0001$).

Burden of CVD morbidity: Group 1 compared to Group 2 had 4 times lower burden of coronary disease ($p \le 0.0001$); 4.5 times lower burden of cerebrovascular disease ($p \le 0.0001$) and 6 times lower burden of hypertension ($p \le 0.0008$). Group 1 had a 2.5-fold lower burden of cirrhosis ($p \le 0.0008$) and no statistical difference in the burden of diabetes mellitus ($p \ge 0.2$).

Metabolic syndrome (MS): in Group 1 compared to Group 2 there were 1.2 times higher proportion (%) of men with overweight: (BMI ≥ 25) (p≤0.004); 1.4 times higher proportion (%) of men with obesity: (BMI ≥30) (p≤0.01); 1.6 and 2.0 times higher proportion (%) of men with hyperlipidemia: (Chol. ≥ 5.0) (p≤0.0001), and (Chol. ≥ 6.2) (p≤0.0001); 1.6 times higher proportion (%) of men with low physical activity: (NFA≤ 60 min) (p≤0.01). However, the proportion (%) of men with hyperglycemia (Glu > 7.0) and high blood pressure (BP≥140/90 mm/Hg) were not statistically different in Group 1 and Group 2 (p≥0.8).

Dietary patterns: Group 1 had 1.2 times higher consumption of animal products (AP) ($p \ge 0.02$); consumption of cereals and vegetables (CV) was not statistically different ($p \ge 0.2$); Group 1 had 2.3 times higher consumption of fruits (FS) ($p \le 0.0001$); 3.5 times higher consumption of alcoholic beverages (AB). Consumption of macronutrients (energy, carbohydrate, protein, and fat) corresponded to food consumption levels. The diversification of nutrients was higher in Group 1.

Conclusion: despite high income rate, high levels of overweight and obesity in Group 1, the burden of CVD and cirrhosis was 4 times higher in low-income countries. The burden of diabetes mellitus was not statistically different between Groups 1 and 2.

Keywords: Food consumption levels; Dietary patterns; Predictors of Metabolic Syndrome; Burden of cardiovascular diseases; Diabetes; Cirrhosis

Abbreviations: AB: Alcoholic Beverages; AP: Animal Products; BMI: Body Mass Index; BP: Blood Pressure; CVD: Cardiovascular Disease; CD: Communicable maternal perinatal Diseases Chol - blood cholesterol; CL: Consumption Level of selected foods; EEI: Ecological Efficiency Index; FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; FS: Fruits and Sweeteners; GDP: Gross Domestic Product; Glu: Blood Glucose; HPI: Happiness Index; IHD: Index of Human Development; LPA: Low Physical Activity; M: Male; NCD: Non-Communicable Diseases: P: Person; CV: Cereals and Vegetables; RE: Rating Educations; TCL: Total Daily Consumption; Type 2 diabetes: T2DM; UV: Ultraviolet level



Introduction

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) are the main cause of death worldwide. The prevalence of CVD is increasing in both developing and developed countries [1]. Currently, almost one third of the world's population is physically inactive, which poses a public health problem by the growing evidence of the link between lifestyle and the increasing prevalence of obesity, CVD, and diabetes [2]. Treatment of obesity and CVD is one of the complex problems of our time. Weight reduction is proposed as a therapy for metabolic syndrome (MS). Among various diets, ketogenic diets, lowcarbohydrate, and high-fat and/or high-protein diets have become popular in the fight against obesity, MS, and CVD [3]. A statement from the American Heart Association points to the influence of risk factors for CVD as early as in childhood, including obesity, hypertension, and type 2 diabetes mellitus [4]. CVD continues to be the leading cause of death among women in the United States [5]. Obesity reaches epidemic proportions and affects all socioeconomic and ethnic groups. Increased fat mass is considered an important risk factor for CVD and type 2 diabetes. However, there is variation in predicting cardio-metabolic diseases (CMD) risks for fat mass. Adipose tissue mass is important for visceral fat mass, a determinant of CMD [6-8]. The high prevalence of vitamin D deficiency in the population and the identification of the vitamin D receptor in the heart and blood vessels had generated interest in the potential cardiovascular effects of vitamin D. However, vitamin D supplementation has not been associated with a lower risk of CVD [9-15]. The economic status and accessibility of medical services are important in the incidence and mortality of CVD [16-19].

Purpose

Study of quality of life, including dietary patterns and predictors of metabolic syndrome, in two groups of countries (25 countries per group) with minimal and maximal burden of CVD.

Material and Method

Research design: observation statistical analysis.

For the purpose of this work, a database of the total burden of infectious diseases (ID), non-communicable diseases (NCD), and cardiovascular diseases: coronary heart disease, cerebrovascular heart disease, hypertensive heart disease, rheumatoid heart disease, and inflammatory heart disease (ICD-10 codes) was formed for 25 countries with a minimum morbidity, and for 25 countries with a maximum morbidity. In addition, premorbid diseases were examined: diabetes mellitus and liver cirrhosis. Disease burden (DALY) data for men (all ages) in 25 countries, standardized by sex and age per 100,000 population, were selected from the GBD 2004 database [20]. A number of indicators were used to characterize "quality of life" (QOL) in countries: per capita income or gross domestic product (GDP) in 2008 (US dollars per person per day) [21]; geographical location of countries by latitude

and the level of ultraviolet radiation in the capital (UV) (J/m2 2004) [22]; life expectancy for men (LE) [23]; access to good health care, clean water and clean air [24]; Index of Happiness (IH), or the Internal Gross Happiness in 20s [25]. Body Mass Index (BMI) \geq 25 kg / m2 and \geq 30 kg / m2 have been studied as predictors of metabolic syndrome (MSP) — the percentage of men in the country with overweight and obesity; and the percentage of men with blood cholesterol (Chol \geq 5.0 mmol / l and \geq 6.2 mmol / l); blood glucose (Glu \geq 7.0 mmol / l); blood pressure (BP \geq 140/90 mmHg); with low physical activity (LPA) \leq 60 min/day walking [26]. Daily Food Consumption Level (TDC) (g / person / day) (47 types of products) for each country was selected from the FAO database for 2003-2005. [27].

The nutrition structure (NS) of the countries is presented in the form of 4 blocks in absolute and in percentage of (NS): 1—products of animal origin (AP); 2—cereals and vegetables (CV); 3—fruits and sweeteners (FS); 4—alcoholic beverages (AB); 5—vegetable oils (VO); 6—fish (F). The composition of macro-elements was also analyzed [27].

Statistical analysis of the study results was performed using Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon U-criterion and Multiple Linear Regression Analysis for Independent Samples (MRA). U is the numerical value of the Mann-Whitney Criterion. The central trend in data distribution in the sample was represented by the mediana.

The dispersion of data in the samples was estimated by means of the quartile range (QR) between the first and the third quartiles, that is between the 25th and 75th percentiles. Level of statistical significance that reflects the degree of confidence in the conclusion about the differences between indicators of 1 and 2 groups of countries. Two levels of accuracy were assessed: (1) $p \le 0.01$ — error probability 1%; (2) $p \le 0.05$ — error probability 5%.

Result

Quality of life

Group 1 had 6 times higher per capita income (p \leq 0.0001) compared to Group 2. There were no statistically significant differences between Group 1 and Group 2 for geographic latitude (p \geq 0.7), longitude (p \geq 0.4), and ultraviolet level (UV) (p \geq 0.3) Table 1. The level of prosperity and peacefulness was 3 times higher in Group 1 (p \leq 0.0001). The level of corruption was 5 times lower in Group 1 (p \leq 0.0001). Group 1 had 1.3 times higher Human Development Index (HDI) and Environmental Efficiency (EE) (p \leq 0.0001). Group 1 had 15% better health care, access to clean water and clean air (p \leq 0.0001) Table 1. Group 1 had 12 years higher life expectancy (LE) for men and 9 years higher for women (p \leq 0.0001). Consequently, Group 1 had a 3-year lower gender difference between male and female life expectancy Table 1. The Happiness Index in Group 1 increased from 12% to 25% from

2006 to 2016 compared to Group 2 (p \leq 0.008) and (p \leq 0.0001), respectively Table 1. Thus, countries in Group 1 were more successful than in Group 2.

The burden of cardiovascular and premorbid diseases

Group 1 had an 11-fold lower total burden of infectious diseases (ID) than Group 2 (p \leq 0.0001) Table 1 & Figure 1. Group 1 had 1.8 times lower total burden of non-communicable diseases (NCD) (p \leq 0.0001). Group 1 had a 4-fold lower overall burden of cardiovascular diseases (p \leq 0.0001) compared to Group 2 Table 1. Group 1 had 4 times lower burden of coronary heart disease

(p≤0.0001); 4.5 times lower burden of cerebrovascular heart diseases (p≤0.0001); 6 times lower burden of hypertensive heart disease (p≤0.0001); 7 times lower burden of rheumatoid heart disease (p≤0.0001) and 4 times lower burden of inflammatory heart disease (p≤0.0001) compared to Group 2. Diabetes mellitus and liver cirrhosis were chosen as the pre-morbid conditions Table 1. The burden of diabetes mellitus was not statistically different in Group 1 and Group 2 (p≥0.2). Group 1 had a 2.5-fold lower burden of cirrhosis (p≤0.0008) Table 1. Thus, the burden of CVD and premorbid conditions in Group 1 was 2-4 times lower than in Group 2.

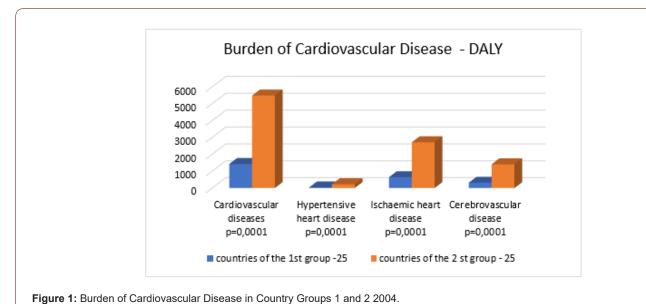


Table 1: Comparative analysis of quality of life and the burden of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes mellitus, liver cirrhosis and MS predictors groups 1 and 2 of countries differing (Manna Whitney U-criterion).

Variable	U	Z	p-value	Median 1	Quartile 1	Median 2	Quartile 2
Dietary Patterns - Food Structure							
Total Daily food consumption -TDC							
TDC g/p/d	213,50	1,91	0,0560	2080	729	1703	924
Components of TDC							
AP - Animal products	195,00	2,27	0,0232	652	318	503	218
CV - Grains vegetables	238,00	- 1,44	0,1511	727	255	939	618
FS - Fruit, sweeteners	55,00	4,99	0,0000	267	128	116	82
AB - Alcoholic beverages	96,50	4,18	0,0000	202	157	58	86
VO - Vegetable oils	199,00	2,19	0,0283	20	10	11	17
F - Fish	138,50	3,37	0,0008	56	34	23	36
Percentage structure of TDC							
% AP	248,00	1,24	0,2143	33	7	31	11
% CV	111,00	- 3,90	0,0001	41	13	55	12
% FS	43,00	5,22	0,0000	14	4	7	3
% AB	95,00	4,21	0,0000	10	6	3	5
% Oil	203,00	2,11	0,0344	1	1	1	1

% Fish	189,00	2,39	0,0170	3	1	1	3
Community Nutrients							
Energy kcal / person / day	148,50	3,17	0,0015	3190	770	2820	720
Carboh% E	152,50	- 3,09	0,0020	51	15	64	8
Proteins%E	249,50	1,21	0,2253	12	2	12	1
Fats%E	142,50	3,29	0,0010	36	13	25	7
Nutrients in animal products							
AP Energy %	170,00	2,76	0,0059	26	13	18	8
AP Protein %	106,50	3,99	0,0001	56	15	39	17
AP Fat %	285,00	0,52	0,6004	51	17	52	15
Micronutrients							
animal origin	135,50	3,42	0,0006	3	1	2	1
vit A	267,00	0,87	0,3826	6	1	6	3
vegetal origin	239,00	1,42	0,1567	11	4	9	3
Diversification of nutrients							
DEnergy%	73,50	4,63	0,0000	67	19	47	11
DProteins%	67,00	4,75	0,0000	72	11	51	14
DFats%	144,50	3,25	0,0012	96	4	93	5
Nutritional deficiencies	63,00	- 4,83	0,0000	51	111	364	167
Protein-energy malnutrition	129,00	- 3,55	0,0004	11	45	69	87
Iodine deficiency	66,00	- 4,77	0,0000	0	2	79	164
Vitamin A deficiency	163,50	- 2,88	0,0040	0	0	0	1
Iron-deficiency anaemia	70,00	- 4,70	0,0000	46	45	132	155
mDailyAge	63,50	- 3,52	0,0004	26	11	44	14

Legend
The quality of life
IPC - Per capita income
UV rad Ultraviolet radiation
RE - Education Rating
RPF - Personal freedom
RPC - Personal capital security
CR - Corruption Rank
PR - Peacefulness Rank
HDI - Human Development Index
IE - Environmental Performance Index
ASM - Availability of medicine,
ACW - clean water
ACA - clean air
IHD - Happiness index
IPD - Burden of Infectious Disease (DALY)
NCD - Burden of noncommunicable diseases (DALYs)
MS - Metabolic syndrome (predictors)% in the population
BMI - Body mass index

Chol Hyperlipidemia
Glu Hyperglycemia
LPA - Low physical activity

Metabolic syndrome

There were 1.2 times higher proportion (%) of overweight men in Group 1 compared with Group 2: (BMI \geq 25) (p \leq 0.004); 1.4 times higher proportion (%) of men with obesity: (BMI \geq 30) (p \leq 0.01); 1.6 times and 2.0 times higher proportion (%) of men with hyperlipidemia: (Chol. \geq 5.0) (p \leq 0.0001) and (Chol. \geq 6.2) (p \leq 0.0001). Group 1 had a 1.6-fold higher proportion (%) of men with low physical activity: (LPA \leq 60 min) (p \leq 0.01) Table 1, Figure

2. However, the proportion (%) of men with hyperglycemia (Glu \geq 7.0) and elevated BP (BP \geq 140/90 mm/Hg) were not statistically different in Group 1 and Group 2 (p \geq 0.8) and (p \geq 0.2), respectively Table 1. So, predictors of MS were mostly higher in Group 1: BMI, hyperlipidemia, and LPA. However, BP and hyperglycemia predictors were statistically similar in the 1st and the 2nd country groups Table 1.

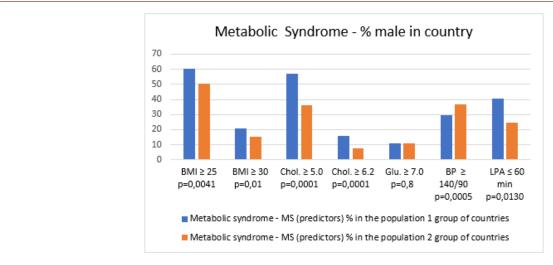


Figure 2: Predictors of Metabolic Syndrome in Groups 1 and 2.

Dietary patterns

Consumption levels

There was no statistically significant difference in TDC (p \geq 0.06) in Group 1 compared to Group 2 Table 2 & Figure 3. Group 1 compared to Group 2 had 1.2 times higher consumption of animal products (AP) (p \leq 0.02); 1.3 times lower consumption of cereals and vegetables (CV), but statistically insignificant (p \geq 0.2); 2.3 times higher consumption of fruits and sweeteners (FS) (p \leq 0.0001); 3.5 times higher consumption of alcoholic beverages (AB); 1.8

times higher consumption of vegetable oils (VO) (p \leq 0.03); 2.4 times higher fish consumption (F) (p \leq 0.0008) Table 2. Thus, the consumption of AP, FS, AB, VO and F was higher in Group 1. At the same time, TDC and CV were the same in Group 1 and Group 2. The percentage of TDC was significantly different in Group 1 compared to Group 2, with the exception of % of AP, which was not statistically different between two groups of countries. Group 1 had 1.5-fold lower consumption of cereals and vegetables and 2 times higher consumption of fruits and alcoholic beverages.

Table 2: Comparative analysis of dietary patterns, levels of food and nutrient consumption in groups 1 and 2 of countries (Manna Whitney U-criterion).

Variable	U	Z	p-value	Median 1	Quartile 1	Median 2	Quartile 2
Dietary Patterns - Food Structure							
Total Daily food consumption -TDC							
TDC g/p/d	213,50	1,91	0,0560	2080	729	1703	924
Components of TDC							
AP - Animal products	195,00	2,27	0,0232	652	318	503	218
CV - Grains vegetables	238,00	- 1,44	0,1511	727	255	939	618
FS - Fruit, sweeteners	55,00	4,99	0,0000	267	128	116	82

AB - Alcoholic beverages	96,50	4,18	0,0000	202	157	58	86
VO - Vegetable oils	199,00	2,19	0,0283	20	10	11	17
F - Fish	138,50	3,37	0,0008	56	34	23	36
Percentage structure of TDC							
% AP	248,00	1,24	0,2143	33	7	31	11
% CV	111,00	- 3,90	0,0001	41	13	55	12
% FS	43,00	5,22	0,0000	14	4	7	3
% AB	95,00	4,21	0,0000	10	6	3	5
% Oil	203,00	2,11	0,0344	1	1	1	1
% Fish	189,00	2,39	0,0170	3	1	1	3
Community Nutrients							
Energy kcal / person / day	148,50	3,17	0,0015	3190	770	2820	720
Carboh% E	152,50	- 3,09	0,0020	51	15	64	8
Proteins%E	249,50	1,21	0,2253	12	2	12	1
Fats%E	142,50	3,29	0,0010	36	13	25	7
Nutrients in animal products							
AP Energy %	170,00	2,76	0,0059	26	13	18	8
AP Protein %	106,50	3,99	0,0001	56	15	39	17
AP Fat %	285,00	0,52	0,6004	51	17	52	15
Micronutrients							
animal origin	135,50	3,42	0,0006	3	1	2	1
vit A	267,00	0,87	0,3826	6	1	6	3
vegetal origin	239,00	1,42	0,1567	11	4	9	3
Diversification of nutrients							
DEnergy%	73,50	4,63	0,0000	67	19	47	11
DProteins%	67,00	4,75	0,0000	72	11	51	14
DFats%	144,50	3,25	0,0012	96	4	93	5
Nutritional deficiencies	63,00	- 4,83	0,0000	51	111	364	167
Protein-energy malnutrition	129,00	- 3,55	0,0004	11	45	69	87
Iodine deficiency	66,00	- 4,77	0,0000	0	2	79	164
Vitamin A deficiency	163,50	- 2,88	0,0040	0	0	0	1
Iron-deficiency anaemia	70,00	- 4,70	0,0000	46	45	132	155
mDailyAge	63,50	- 3,52	0,0004	26	11	44	14

Legends
Food Structure
TDC - Total Daily food consumption -TDC
AP - Animal products
GV - Grains vegetables
FS - Fruit, sweeteners
AB - Alcoholic beverages
VO - Vegetable oils
F - Fish

Nutrients in animal products						
Community Nutrients						
Total energy						
Total carbohydrates						
Total proteins						
Micronutrients						
Diversification of nutrients						
Smoking - number of cigarettes per day						
Components of TDC						
Percentage structure of TDC						
gram / person / day						
kcal / person / day						

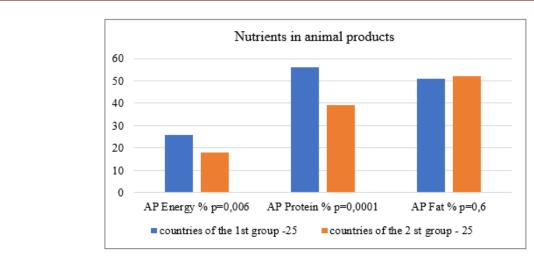


Figure 3: Animal Nutrients (% of Total Energy).

Nutrients

Group 1 had 1.13 times higher total energy (p \leq 0.002); 1.25 times lower total carbohydrate (p \leq 0.002); no statistically different total protein level (p \geq 0.05); and 1.44 times higher total fat level (p \leq 0.001) Table 2 & Table 3. Group 1 had 1.4 times higher level of animal product's energy (p \leq 0.006); 1.5 times higher level of animal proteins (p \leq 0.0001) and no statistically different level of animal fats (p \geq 0.5) compared to Group 2. Group 1 had 1.6 times higher level of iron of animal products (p \leq 0.0006). Group 1 had 1.3 times higher level of diversification of total energy, proteins and

fats (p \leq 0.01). Group 1 had 1.6 times higher level of iron of animal products (p \leq 0.001). So, Group 1 compared to Group 2 had the same total daily consumption (TDC) and the level of consumption of grains and vegetables (CV). However, all other parts of TDC (AP, FS, AB, VO, F) was higher than in Group 2 by 2 times in average. The percentages of TDC parts were different between Group 1 and Group 2. The greatest difference between country groups was in alcohol consumption (AB). In Group 1 consumption of AB was 3.5 times higher than in Group 2.

Table 3: Diet structure - Consumption levels of selected food items in country groups 1 and 2 (Manna Whitney U-criterion).

Variable	U	Z	p-value	Median 1	Quartile 1	Median 2	Quartile 2
Food consumption levels - gram / person / day							
TDC - Total Daily food consumption -TDC	213,50	1,91	0,0560	2080	729	1703	924
AP - Animal products							
Bovine Meat	151,00	3,12	0,0018	53	31	27	25
Poultry Meat	90,50	4,30	0,0000	53	37	22	31

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Mutton & Goat Meat	243,50	- 1,12	0,2627	3	4	6	20
Pigmeat	127,50	3,58	0,0003	58	67	11	32
Meat, Other	152,50	3,09	0,0020	45	17	32	12
Offals, Edible	301,00	0,21	0,8310	7	9	8	8
Milk, Whole	221,00	- 1,77	0,0775	167	136	306	282
Milk, Skimmed	211,50	1,95	0,0512	22	81	14	19
Eggs	131,00	3,51	0,0004	28	12	12	17
Cheese	134,50	3,44	0,0006	29	42	4	11
Butter, Ghee	212,50	1,74	0,0819	4	8	3	5
Fats, Animals,	147,50	3,04	0,0024	9	7	4	5
Freshwater Fish	164,50	2,86	0,0042	7	9	2	5
Demersal Fish	110,50	3,91	0,0001	21	23	3	5
Pelagic Fish	206,50	2,05	0,0407	13	18	11	18
Marine Fish, Other	299,00	- 0,25	0,8009	2	4	2	4
Molluscs, Other	45,50	5,08	0,0000	7	11	0	0
Fish amount	138,50	3,37	0,0008	56	34	23	36
% Fish	189,00	2,39	0,0170	3	1	1	3
AP amount	195,00	2,27	0,0232	652	318	503	218
% AP	248,00	1,24	0,2143	33	7	31	11
GV - Grains vegetables							
Wheat	187,50	- 2,42	0,0157	209	133	325	245
Rice	245,50	1,29	0,1970	19	14	14	32
Maize	238,00	0,31	0,7587	32	45	28	52
Barley	249,50	- 1,21	0,2253	1	4	3	8
Beans	197,50	2,22	0,0263	4	3	1	6
Rye	194,00	0,14	0,8923	1	3	1	7
Nuts	138,00	3,38	0,0007	9	12	2	4
Potatoes	274,50	- 0,50	0,6171	140	134	123	208
Tomatoes	243,50	- 0,90	0,3693	47	39	69	88
Onions	247,00	- 1,26	0,2072	18	19	27	31
Vegetables, Other	287,50	0,48	0,6345	179	140	178	154
Soyabean Oil	112,00	3,88	0,0001	12	8	2	5
Sunflowerseed Oil	290,00	- 0,43	0,6695	3	6	5	15
Olive Oil	114,00	3,84	0,0001	2	3	0	0
Oil amount	199,00	2,19	0,0283	20	10	11	17
% Oil	203,00	2,11	0,0344	1	1	1	1
CV amount	238,00	- 1,44	0,1511	727	255	939	618
% CV	111,00	- 3,90	0,0001	41	13	55	12
FS - Fruit, sweeteners							
Oranges	33,00	5,15	0,0000	60	65	13	11
Lemons, Limes	132,50	3,34	0,0008	5	14	2	3
Apples	206,50	2,05	0,0407	47	54	29	30
Honey	230,50	1,38	0,1676	1	1	1	1
Sugar	124,00	3,65	0,0003	107	34	65	44
Coffee	85,00	4,40	0,0000	107	13	2	2
Tea	286,50	- 0,49	0,6208	2	2	2	2
ica	200,30	0,77	0,0200				

FS amount	55,00	4,99	0,0000	267	128	116	82
% FS	43,00	5,22	0,0000	14	4	7	3
AB - Alcoholic beverages							
Beverages, Alcoholic	260,50	1,00	0,3177	7	5	7	14
Wine	145,00	2,94	0,0033	34	77	4	13
Beer	105,00	4,02	0,0001	143	140	35	57
AB amount	96,50	4,18	0,0000	202	157	58	86
% AB	95,00	4,21	0,0000	10	6	3	5

Legend
TDC - Total Daily food consumption -TDC
AP - Animal products
GV - Grains vegetables
FS - Fruit, sweeteners
AB - Alcoholic beverages
VO - Vegetable oils
F - Fish

Discussion

Obesity is taking over the world like a pandemic and it is a risk factor for many non-communicable chronic diseases (NCD). NCDs and NCD-related deaths cause large financial losses in high-, middle-, and low-income countries. Health care costs associated with NCD vary by country, region, and type of NCD. The cost of treatment increases with the severity of the disease. Little information is available on the true economic burden of NCD in low- and middle-income countries (LMI) [28, 29]. Recent population-based studies demonstrate an increasing burden of cardiovascular diseases (CVD) and related risk factors in sub-Saharan Africa [30]. Weight changes are accompanied by an imbalance between caloric intake and expenditure. The different components of energy balance are dynamically linked. Weight loss is counteracted by equilibrium of physiological processes.

Low-carbohydrate diets have been proposed to increase energy expenditure and promote fat loss. Energy expenditure (26 kcal/day) and fat loss (16 g/day) were higher with low-fat diets [31]. The results of ketogenic diets regarding the effect of diets on CVD risk factors are inconsistent [3]. Circadian rhythms have been noted in the prevalence of some cardiac and cerebrovascular events [32-39]. Mediterranean diet and intermittent fasting reduce CVD and increase control of body weight and dyslipidemia [40]. Studying the role of melatonin opens new ways to reduce obesity and risk of CVD [41-43]. The discovery of the genetic basis (14 genes) of circadian rhythms (Nobel Prize 2017) has expanded the knowledge and possibilities of their regulation [44-52].

Our results showed that the burden of overweight, obesity and hyperlipidemia was $1.4\,\mathrm{times}$ higher in countries with a high quality

of life than in countries with 6 times lower income. Consumption of animal products (AP), fruits (FS), vegetable oils (VO), including olive oil, and alcoholic beverages (AB) was 2.5 times higher in high-income countries. In addition, the ratio of parts of daily consumption (TDC) was different in the two groups of countries. However, the burden of CVD was 2-4 times lower in Group 1 than in Group 2 (low-income countries). Despite high rates of overweight and obesity, the burden of CVD and cirrhosis was 4 times higher in lower-income countries. And the burden of diabetes was not statistically different between Group 1 and Group 2. We observed that samples of 30 to 10 countries in the groups with minimum and maximum burden of CVD are always statistically different in income, but do not differ in latitude, longitude, or UV. The burden of diabetes mellitus, regardless of the number of countries in these samples is always not statistically different between the 1st and the 2nd country groups.

Conclusion

Despite high rates of income and obesity in Group 1, the burden of CVD and cirrhosis was 4 times higher in low-income countries. The burden of diabetes mellitus was not statistically different between Groups 1 and 2.

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Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest.

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