

An innovative digital approach to translating clinical practice guidelines of nutrition therapy in primary care: Coronary Heart Effectiveness Assessment of the Portfolio diet in primary Care (CHEAP) trial

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What is the *Portfolio Diet*?

A plant-based, dietary portfolio of cholesterol-lowering foods

1

Nuts

45g/day

Peanuts, tree nuts

2

Viscous Fiber

20g/day

Oats, barley,
psyllium, pulses,
eggplant, okra,
temperate climate
fruit



MUFA oils

Extra virgin olive oil, canola oil, soybean oil

3

Vegetable Protein

45g/day

Soy products,
pulses

4

Plant Sterols

2g/day

Plant sterol
margarine/oil/
supplements



Health
Canada

Santé
Canada



U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION



European Food Safety Authority



CHEAP (Coronary Heart Effectiveness Assessment of the Portfolio Diet in Primary Care)



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Portfolio Diet: From efficacy to effectiveness

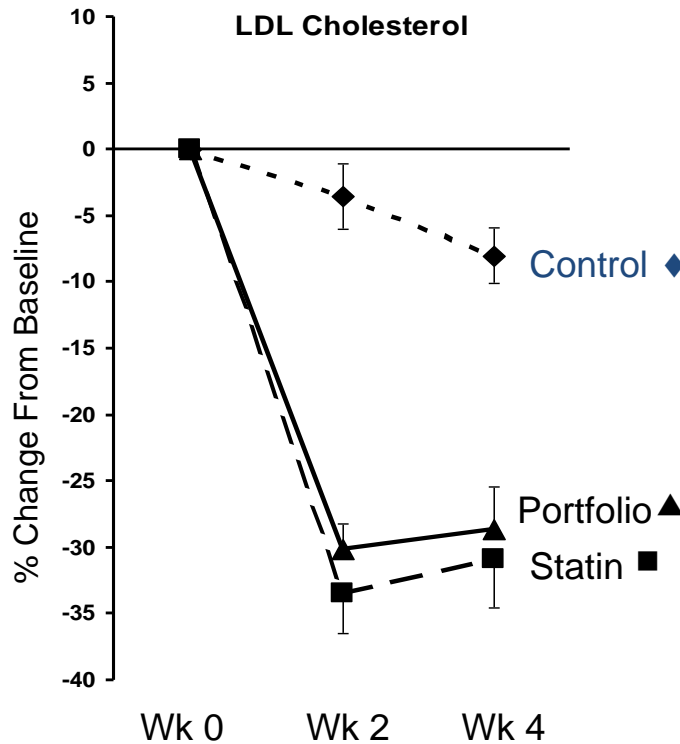


David Jenkins,
OC, MD, PhD, DSc,
FRCP, FRCPC, FRSC



Cyril Kendall, PhD

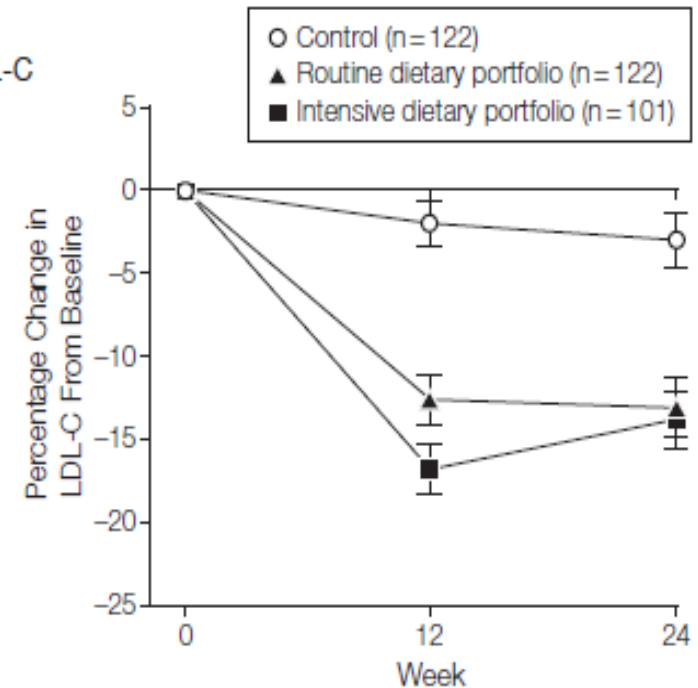
**Single centre trial:
N=46, FU=1 mo**



LDL-C



**Multicentre Canadian trial:
N=345, FU=6 mo**



Jenkins DJ et al. JAMA 2003; 290(4):502-10

Jenkins DJ et al. JAMA 2011;306(8):831-9

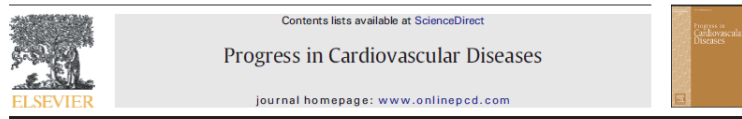


CHEAP (Coronary Heart Effectiveness Assessment of the Portfolio Diet in Primary Care)



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Portfolio Diet and Cardiometabolic risk: SRMA 7 controlled trial, N=439, FU=1-6mo



Portfolio Dietary Pattern and Cardiovascular Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Controlled Trials☆☆☆

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ABSTRACT

Background: The evidence for the Portfolio dietary pattern, a plant-based dietary pattern that combines recognized cholesterol-lowering foods (nuts, plant protein, viscous fibre, plant sterols), has not been summarized. **Objective:** To update the European Association for the Study of Diabetes clinical practice guidelines for nutrition therapy, we conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of controlled trials using GRADE of the effect of the Portfolio dietary pattern on the primary therapeutic lipid target for cardiovascular disease prevention, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), and other established cardiometabolic risk factors. **Methods:** We searched MEDLINE, EMBASE, and the Cochrane Library through April 19, 2018. We included controlled trials ≥ 3-weeks assessing the effect of the Portfolio dietary pattern on cardiometabolic risk factors compared with an energy-matched control diet free of Portfolio dietary pattern components. Two independent reviewers extracted data and assessed risk of bias. The primary outcome was LDL-C. Data were pooled using the generic inverse-variance method and expressed as mean differences (MDs) with 95% confidence intervals (CIs). Heterogeneity was assessed (Cochran Q statistic) and quantified (*F*-statistic). GRADE assessed the certainty of the evidence. **Results:** Eligibility criteria were met by 7 trial comparisons in 439 participants with hyperlipidemia, in which the Portfolio dietary pattern was given on a background of a National Cholesterol Education Program (NCEP) Step II diet. The combination of a portfolio dietary pattern and NCEP Step II diet significantly reduced the primary outcome LDL-C by -17% (MD, -0.73 mmol/L, [95% CI, -0.89 to -0.56 mmol/L]) as well as non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, apolipoprotein B, total cholesterol, triglycerides, systolic and diastolic blood pressure, C-reactive protein, and estimated 10-year coronary heart disease (CHD) risk, compared with an NCEP Step 2 diet alone (*p* < 0.05). There was no effect on high-density lipoprotein cholesterol or body weight. The certainty of the evidence was high for LDL-cholesterol and most lipid outcomes and moderate for all others outcomes.

Abbreviations and Acronyms: ApoB, Apolipoprotein B; BMI, Body mass index; CRP, C-reactive protein; CCS, Canadian Cardiovascular Society; CV, Cardiovascular; CVD, Cardiovascular disease; CTT, Collaboration, Cholesterol Treatment Trialists; CIs, Confidence intervals; CHD, Coronary heart disease; DNSG, Diabetes and Nutrition Study Group; DBP, Diastolic blood pressure; DASH, Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension; EAS, European Atherosclerosis Society; EFSA, European Food Safety Authority; ESC, European Society of Cardiology; EASD, European Association for the Study of Diabetes; FDA, Food and Drug Administration; GRADE, Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development, and Evaluation; non-HDL-C, High-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-C, Low-density lipoprotein; MD, Minimally important difference; MUFAs, Monounsaturated fatty acids; NCEP, National Cholesterol Education Program; non-HDL-C, Non-high density lipoprotein cholesterol; PREMED, Prevention on Diet Mediterranean; PRISMA, Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses; RevMan, Review Manager; SBP, Systolic blood pressure; TC, Total cholesterol; TG, Triglycerides.
* Statement of Conflict of Interest: see page 51.
** Protocol registration: Clinicaltrials.gov identifier, NCT03344144.
* Address reprint requests to Dr. Cyril W.C. Kendall, PhD and Dr. John L. Sievenpiper, MD, PhD, PRCP, Department of Nutritional Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, The Fitzgerald Building, 150 College Street East, Room 432, Toronto, ON M5S 3E2, Canada.
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Laura Chiavaroli, PhD



Diabetes and Nutrition Study Group

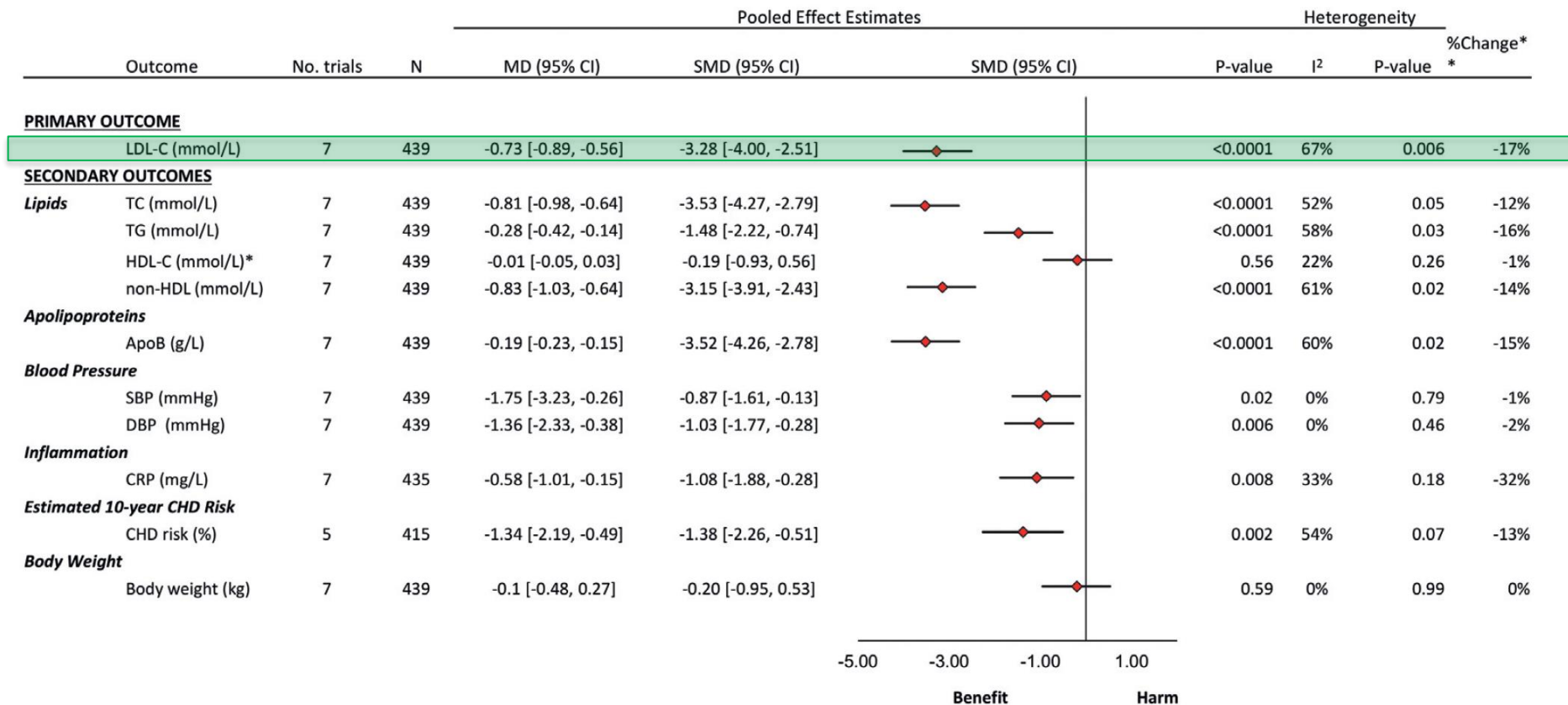


European Association
for the Study of Diabetes

Chiavaroli et al. Prog Cardiovasc Dis 2018;61:43-55



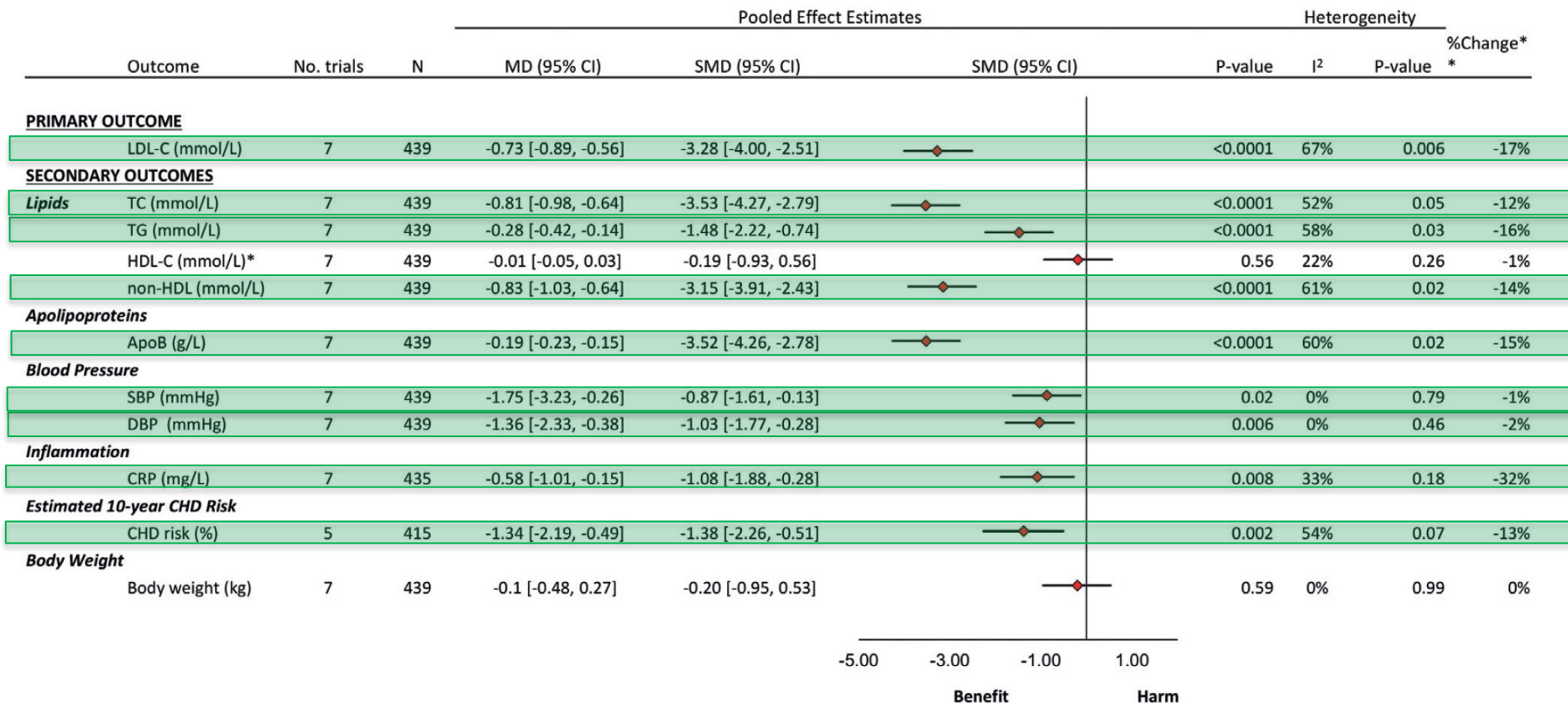
Portfolio Diet and cardiometabolic risk: SRMA 7 controlled trial, N=439, FU=1-6mo



“The **combination** of a **Portfolio dietary pattern** and **NCEP Step II diet** significantly lowered the primary outcome LDL-C by 17% (21% in efficacy and 12% in effectiveness trials)... suggesting that the benefit of the **intended combination**... would result in LDL-C reductions of **~27% (32% in efficacy and 15% in effectiveness trials)** in clinical practice.”

Chiavaroli et al. Prog Cardiovasc Dis 2018;61:43-55

Portfolio Diet and cardiometabolic risk: SRMA 7 controlled trial, N=439, FU=1-6mo



“The **combination** of a **Portfolio dietary pattern** and **NCEP Step II diet** significantly lowered the primary outcome LDL-C by 17% (21% in efficacy and 12% in effectiveness trials)... suggesting that the benefit of the **intended combination**... would result in LDL-C reductions of **~27% (32% in efficacy and 15% in effectiveness trials)** in clinical practice.”

Chiavaroli et al. Prog Cardiovasc Dis 2018;61:43-55

Portfolio diet Lipid-lowering is at the lower limit of efficacy of anti-hyperlipidemic drugs with evidence of cardiovascular risk reduction

Drug Class	LDL-C (% Δ)
PCSK9-inhibitors Evolocumab Alirocumab	↓50-70%
Statins Lovastatin Pravastatin Simvastatin Fluvastatin Atorvastatin Rouvastatin	↓20-60%
Ezetimibe	↓15-22%
Resins Cholesyramine Colesevelam	↓15-30%

[Li et al; Writing Group of 2017 Taiwan Lipid Guidelines for High Risk Patients. J Formos Med Assoc. 2017 Apr;116\(4\):217-248.](#)
[Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Cholesterol in Adults. JAMA. 2001 May 16;285\(19\):2486-97](#)

By analogy with established antihyperlipidemic therapies, the Portfolio diet is associated with decreased CVD events: Women's Health Initiative (WHI), n=123,330 (postmenopausal women), mean FU=15.3y

Journal of the American Heart Association

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Relationship Between a Plant-Based Dietary Portfolio and Risk of Cardiovascular Disease: Findings From the Women's Health Initiative Prospective Cohort Study

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BACKGROUND: The plant-based Dietary Portfolio combines established cholesterol-lowering foods (plant protein, nuts, viscous fiber, and phytosterols), plus monounsaturated fat, and has been shown to improve low-density lipoprotein cholesterol and other cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factors. No studies have evaluated the relation of the Dietary Portfolio with incident CVD events.

METHODS AND RESULTS: We followed 123 330 postmenopausal women initially free of CVD in the Women's Health Initiative from 1993 through 2017. We used Cox proportional-hazard models to estimate adjusted hazard ratios (HRs) and 95% CI of the association of adherence to a Portfolio Diet score with CVD outcomes. Primary outcomes were total CVD, coronary heart disease, and stroke. Secondary outcomes were heart failure and atrial fibrillation. Over a mean follow-up of 15.3 years, 13 365 total CVD, 5640 coronary heart disease, 4440 strokes, 1907 heart failure, and 929 atrial fibrillation events occurred. After multiple adjustments, adherence to the Portfolio Diet score was associated with lower risk of total CVD (HR, 0.89; 95% CI, 0.83–0.94), coronary heart disease (HR, 0.86; 95% CI, 0.78–0.95), and heart failure (HR, 0.83; 95% CI, 0.71–0.99), comparing the highest to lowest quartile of adherence. There was no association with stroke (HR, 0.97; 95% CI, 0.87–1.08) or atrial fibrillation (HR, 1.10; 95% CI, 0.87–1.38). These results remained statistically significant after several sensitivity analyses.

CONCLUSIONS: In this prospective cohort of postmenopausal women in the United States, higher adherence to the Portfolio Diet was associated with a reduction in incident cardiovascular and coronary events, as well as heart failure. These findings warrant further investigation in other populations.

Key Words: cardiovascular disease ■ dietary patterns ■ dietary portfolio ■ plant-based ■ prospective cohort study

The Dietary Portfolio, or Portfolio Diet, is a plant-based dietary pattern that was developed in the early 2000s to lower low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C).^{1–6} The underlying diet is low in saturated fat and cholesterol (National Cholesterol

Education Program Step II diet⁷), with the addition of a “portfolio” of 4 cholesterol-lowering foods and nutrients: nuts, plant protein (soy and pulses), viscous fiber (oats, barley, psyllium, eggplant, okra, apples, oranges, and berries), and phytosterols (originally provided as

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*A. J. Glenn and K. Lo contributed equally.

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For Sources of Funding and Disclosures, see page 11.

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JAHA is available at www.ahajournals.org/journal/jaha



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MSc, RD



Simin Liu,
MD, ScD

OUTCOME	# CASES	Q1 HR [95% CIs]	Q2 HR [95% CIs]	Q3 HR [95% CIs]	Q4 HR [95% CIs]
Total CVD	13,365	1.0 (Ref)	0.97 [0.92-1.02]	0.91 [0.86-0.96]	0.89 [0.83-0.94]
CHD	5,640	1.0 (Ref)	0.92 [0.85-0.99]	0.85 [0.78-0.93]	0.86 [0.78-0.95]
Stroke	4,440	1.0 (Ref)	1.03 [0.95-1.13]	0.97 [0.88-1.07]	0.97 [0.87-1.08]
Heart Failure	1,907	1.0 (Ref)	0.97 [0.85-1.11]	0.86 [0.75-0.99]	0.83 [0.71-0.99]

Glenn AJ et al. J Am Heart Assoc. 2021;10:e021515



International health organizations supporting the Portfolio diet for CV risk reduction



"We suggest that all individuals be encouraged to...adopt a healthy dietary pattern to lower their CVD risk...ii. Portfolio dietary pattern (Conditional Recommendation; Moderate-Quality Evidence)"... We recommend the following dietary components for LDL-C lowering: i. Portfolio dietary pattern (Strong Recommendation; High-Quality Evidence)"
Anderson TJ, et al. *Can J Cardiol.* 2016;32:1263-1282.



"The Portfolio Diet under conditions where all foods were provided has been shown to reduce LDL-C (~30%), hs-CRP (~30%) and calculated 10-year CVD risk by the Framingham Risk Score (~25%) in participants with hypercholesterolemia over 4 weeks"
Sevenpiper JL, et al. *Can j Diabetes* 2018; 2018 Apr;42 Suppl 1:S64-S79.



"The Portfolio Eating plan is a recognised dietary approach to lowering cholesterol."
<https://www.heartuk.org.uk/downloads/healthprofessionals/factsheets/the-portfolio-diet.pdf>



"For people with existing CVD, the Portfolio dietary pattern had the strongest evidence for the reduction in risk factors for CVD, followed by the DASH diet."
https://www.heartfoundation.org.au/images/uploads/main/Eating_for_Heart_Health_-_Position_Statement.pdf



"Good adherence to various LDL lowering diets will reduce LDL-C levels by 10% to >15% (S4.4.3-3)

"S4.4.3-3. Chiavaroli L, Nishi SK, Khan TA, et al. Portfolio dietary pattern and cardiovascular disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis of controlled trials. Prog Cardiovasc Dis. 2018;61:43-53."
Grundy SM, et al. *Circulation.* 2019;139:e1082-e1143.



"The Portfolio diet, incorporating plant sterols, soya protein, viscous fibres, and nuts, has the potential to reduce LDL-C levels by 20-25%.⁵⁴ This Panel believes that these approaches are appropriate either alone or in association with statin or non-statin drug regimens..."
Stroes ES, et al. *Eur Heart J* 2015;36:1012-1022

How do we translate the guidelines into clinical practice?



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30 Bond Street
Toronto, Ontario
M5B 1W8
tel: (416) 360-4000

Date 26 NOV 2015

Name MR SO AND SO

Address 15 SOMEWHERE AVE, TORONTO, ON

Rx PORTFOLIO DIET

1. NUTS - HANDFUL DAILY
(ANY NUTS = PEANUTS, TREE NUTS)
2. PLANT PROTEIN - 1 SERV. DAILY
(SOY PRODUCTS, BEANS, PEAS, CHICKPEAS, LENTILS)
3. VISCIOUS, SOLUBLE FIBRE - 20g DAILY
(OATS/BARLEY/PSYLLIUM - CERERIS, BREADS, "METAMUCIL")
(PECTIN - EGGPLANT, OKRA, APLI, BEAN, BEMEL, ETC.)
4. PLANT STEROLS - 1-2g DAILY.

☐ Do not refill
☒ Refill MARGARINE YOGURT CAPSULES
0 1 2 3 4 times at _____ day intervals

Physician's name - please print

Physician's signature

M.D.

Form No. 68041 Rev. 12/2002



THE PORTFOLIO DIET

An evidence-based eating plan for lower cholesterol

WHAT IS THE PORTFOLIO DIET?

The portfolio diet is a way of eating that evidence has shown can help lower cholesterol and your risk of heart disease. Instead of focusing on what you can't eat, the Portfolio diet is about what you can add to your menu!

The diet includes a "portfolio" of plant foods that you can choose from.

Research shows that medications and diet both work to lower your cholesterol. Medications can be more effective and easier, but some people don't want to take medications, cannot tolerate the side effects, or want to combine a nutritious diet with medications.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Portfolio diet is exactly as it sounds. It takes a few dietary patterns that have been shown to lower cholesterol and puts them together. To lower your cholesterol, you can "invest" in any one pattern, or some of them, or all of them.

WHAT DOES THE PORTFOLIO DIET LOOK LIKE?

Expected LDL-Cholesterol lowering:

- NUTS 45g DAILY**
 All nuts are good for your heart and cholesterol and contrary to concerns do not contribute to weight gain. Add nuts as a snack between meals, adding to salads, cereals, or yogurt. Trying nut butter on your toast is an option. 45g is about a handful of nuts. If allergic to peanuts or tree nuts, try seeds.
 - Mixed Nuts, Almonds, Peanuts, Nut Butters, Pistachios, Walnuts
- PLANT PROTEIN 50g DAILY**
 This is the most challenging component of the Portfolio diet. Start by trying to get 25g daily. Consider replacing milk with soy milk, try tofu, soy nuts and beans.
 - Chickpeas, Peas, Tempeh, Veggie Burger, Tofu, Soy Beans, Lentils, Beans, Veggie Dog, Soy Milk, Soy Deli Slices
- VISCOUS (STICKY) FIBRE 20g DAILY**
 Aim to eat 2 servings of oatmeal, beans, lentils, and chickpeas a day. Replace bread with rye or pumpernickel or oatcakes. Eat at least 5 servings of fruit and vegetables every day. Aim to eat 2 servings per day of oatmeal, barley, or cereals enriched with psyllium or oat bran. Replace white bread with whole grain oat breads. Put oat bran or psyllium into smoothies. Eat at least 5 servings per day of vegetables (eggplant, okra) and fruit (apples, oranges, berries) high in viscous fibre.
 - Apple, Okra, Eggplant, Psyllium, Strawberries, Oatmeal, Oat Bran Cereal, Barley
- PLANT STEROLS 2g DAILY**
 These occur naturally (soyabean, corn, squash, etc.) but to get this amount of sterol you will require fortified foods such as spreads, juices, yogurt, milk and even supplements as part of a meal.
 - Plant Sterol Margarine, Oils, Juices, Yogurt

TOTAL: ~30%
 Statins, the most effective class of cholesterol-lowering medications, reduce cholesterol by 20-60%

IT'S NOT ABOUT ONE BIG CHANGE. IT'S NOT ALL OR NOTHING. JUST START BY INTRODUCING ONE COMPONENT TO YOUR DIET AND BUILD FROM THERE.

THIS PORTFOLIO DIET IS FOR "REAL PEOPLE IN THE REAL WORLD"
 - DR. DAVID JENKINS, CREATOR OF THE PORTFOLIO DIET

David JA Jenkins MD, PhD, DSc, Cyril WC Kendall PhD, Lillisha Burris MSc, RD, John L Sievenpiper MD, PhD, FRCPC, Michael P. Evans MD, CCPC, Emily Nicholas Angl BSc

Canadian Cardiovascular Society
 The Joannah & Brian Lawson Centre for Child Nutrition
 UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
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CCS Portfolio Diet Infographic: Physician education tools



Canadian Cardiovascular
Society
Leadership. Knowledge. Community.

Société canadienne
de cardiologie
Communauté. Connaissances. Leadership.

Heart Failure

Atrial Fibrillation

Antiplatelet Therapy

Dyslipidemia

Search Guidelines



- V. Dietary patterns high in viscous soluble fibre from oats, barley, psyllium, pectin, or konjac mannan (> 10 g/d) (Strong Recommendation; High- Quality Evidence);
- VI. US National Cholesterol Education Program Steps I and II dietary patterns (Strong Recommendation; High-Quality Evidence);
- VII. Recommendation 30: We suggest the following dietary patterns for LDL-C lowering:
- VIII. Dietary patterns high in dietary pulses (> 1 serving per day or > 130 g/d) (beans, peas, chickpeas, and lentils) (Conditional Recommendation; Moderate- Quality Evidence);
- IX. Low GI dietary patterns (Conditional Recommendation; Moderate-Quality Evidence);
- X. DASH dietary pattern (Conditional Recommendation; Moderate-Quality Evidence).

Values and preferences: Individuals might choose to use an LDL-C lowering dietary pattern alone or as an add-on to lipid-lowering therapy to achieve targets. Dietary patterns on the basis of single-food interventions (high plant sterols/stanols, viscous soluble fibre, nuts, soy, dietary pulses) might be considered additive (that is, the approximate 5%-10% LDL-C lowering effect of each food can be summed) on the basis of the evidence from the Portfolio dietary pattern.

5. Health Behaviour Interventions

5.1 Smoking Cessation

5.2 Physical Activity

5.3 Nutrition Therapy

Cite this page content

Figure 9: Portfolio Diet Infographic



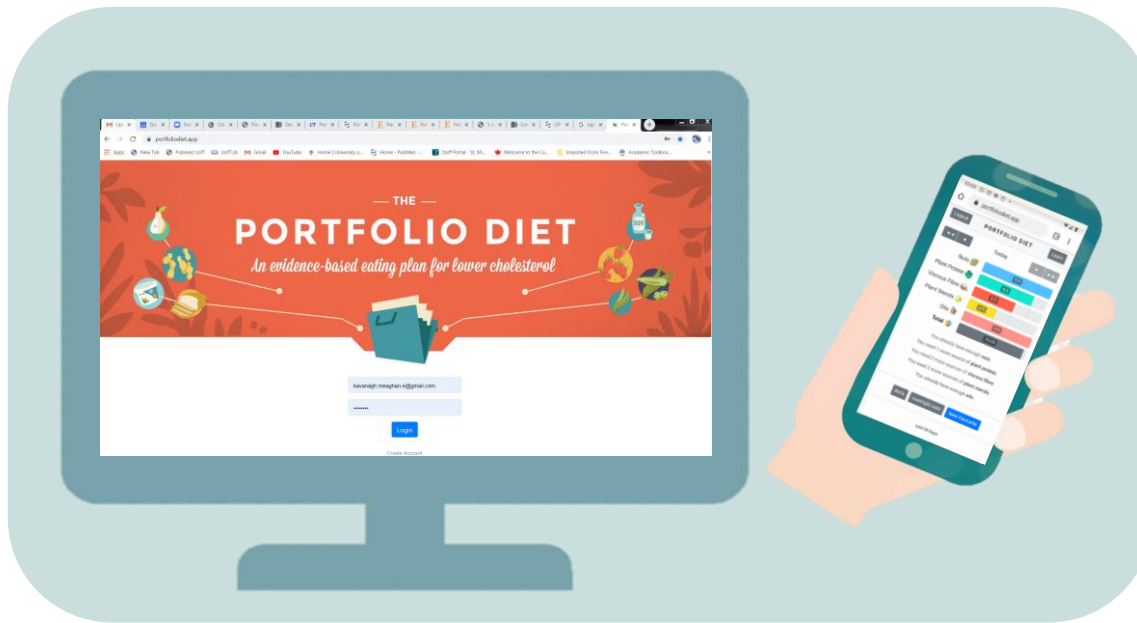
<http://www.ccs.ca/eguidelines/Content/Topics/Dyslipidemia/5.%20Health%20Behaviour%20Interventions.htm>



CHEAP (Coronary Heart Effectiveness Assessment of the Portfolio Diet in Primary Care)



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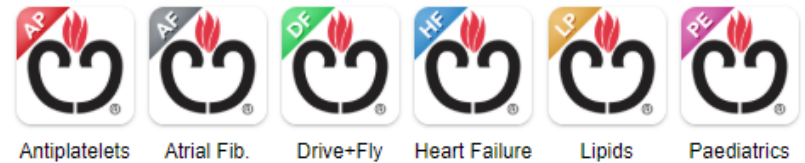
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<http://usquaresoft.com/>



Canadian Diabetes Association Clinical Practice Guidelines 2.0



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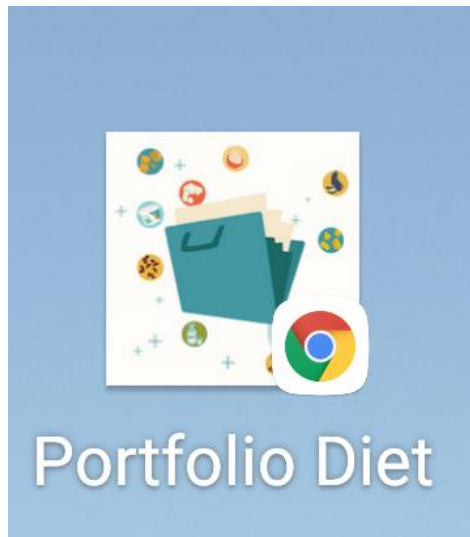


CHEAP (Coronary Heart Effectiveness Assessment of the Portfolio Diet in Primary Care)



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PortfolioDiet.app icon and login page



laura.chiavaroli@alumni.utoronto.ca

....

Login

Create Account

Forgot Password

Français

PortfolioDiet.app scoring

Nuts & Seeds  **5 points**

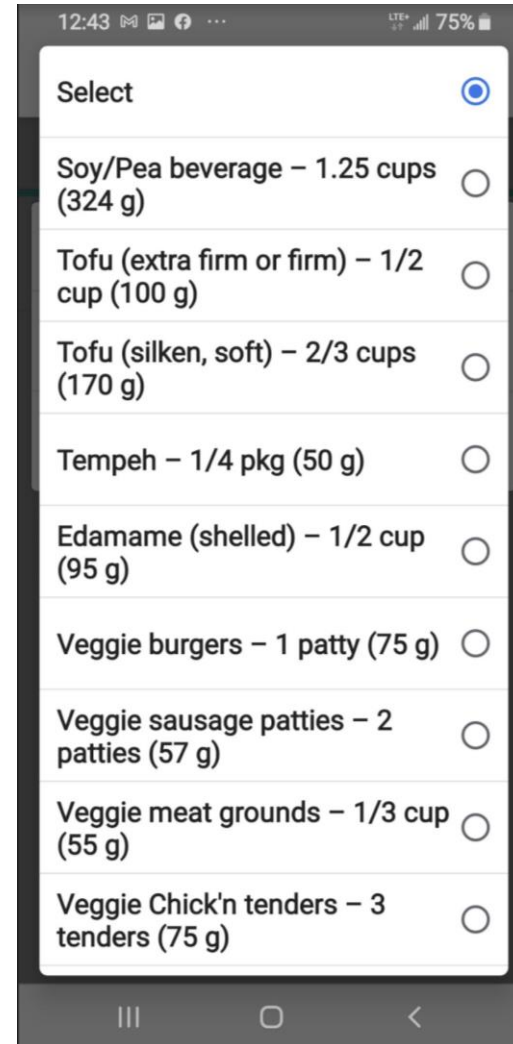
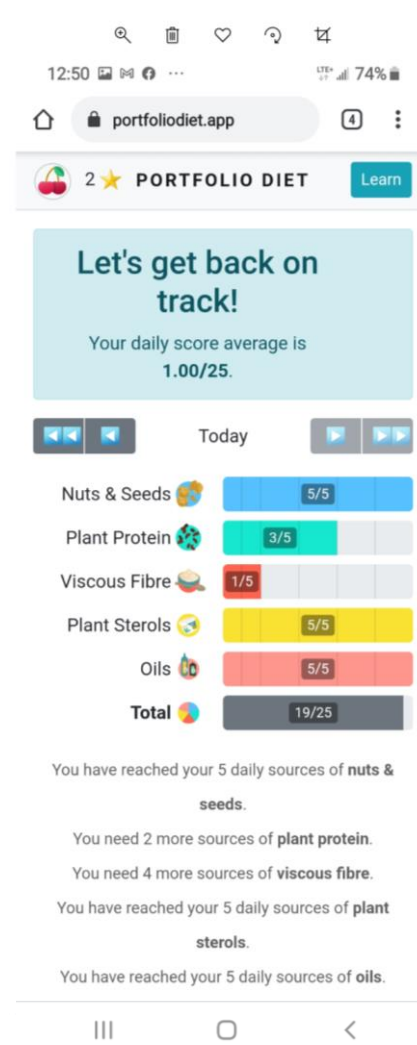
Plant Protein  **5 points**

Viscous Fibre  **5 points**

Plant Sterols  **5 points**

Oils  **5 points**

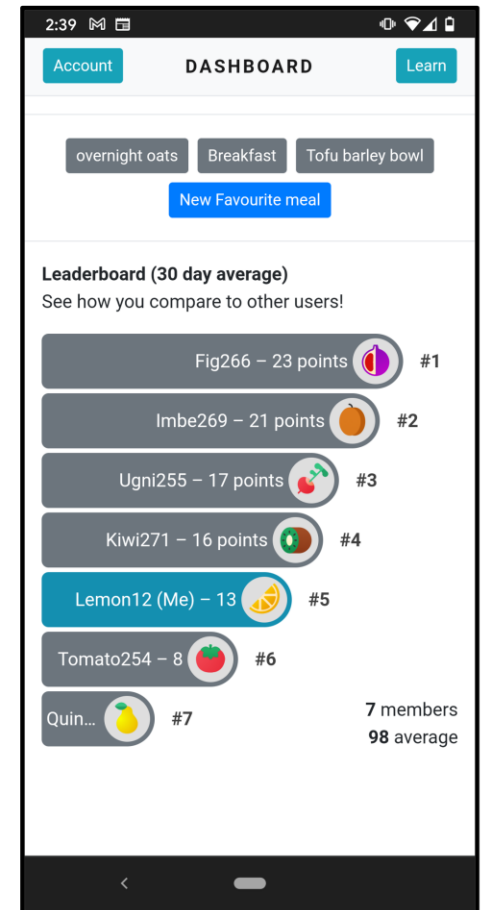
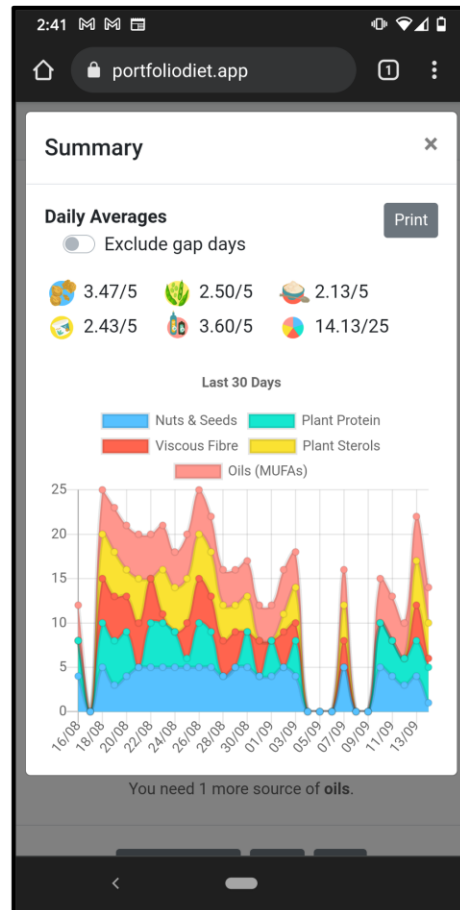
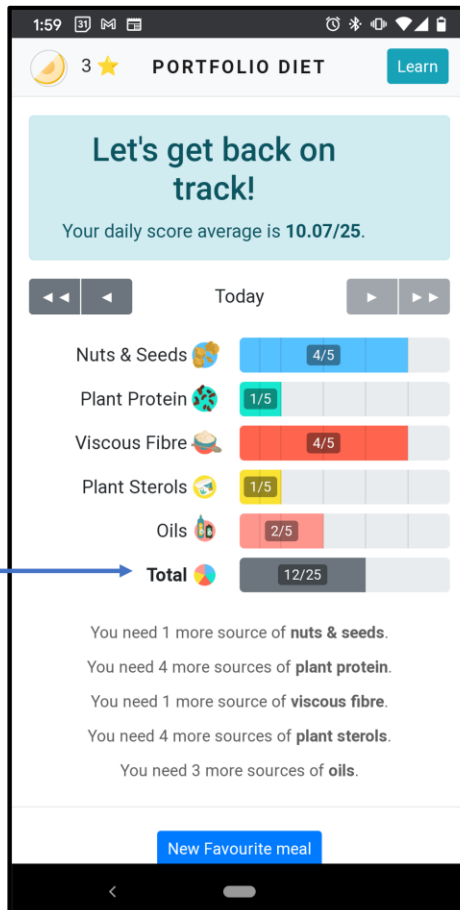
Total  **25 points**



The screenshot shows the 'Select' screen in the PortfolioDiet app. It lists various food items with radio buttons for selection. The items are: Soy/Pea beverage – 1.25 cups (324 g), Tofu (extra firm or firm) – 1/2 cup (100 g), Tofu (silken, soft) – 2/3 cups (170 g), Tempeh – 1/4 pkg (50 g), Edamame (shelled) – 1/2 cup (95 g), Veggie burgers – 1 patty (75 g), Veggie sausage patties – 2 patties (57 g), Veggie meat grounds – 1/3 cup (55 g), and Veggie Chick'n tenders – 3 tenders (75 g).

Food Item	Selection
Soy/Pea beverage – 1.25 cups (324 g)	<input type="radio"/>
Tofu (extra firm or firm) – 1/2 cup (100 g)	<input type="radio"/>
Tofu (silken, soft) – 2/3 cups (170 g)	<input type="radio"/>
Tempeh – 1/4 pkg (50 g)	<input type="radio"/>
Edamame (shelled) – 1/2 cup (95 g)	<input type="radio"/>
Veggie burgers – 1 patty (75 g)	<input type="radio"/>
Veggie sausage patties – 2 patties (57 g)	<input type="radio"/>
Veggie meat grounds – 1/3 cup (55 g)	<input type="radio"/>
Veggie Chick'n tenders – 3 tenders (75 g)	<input type="radio"/>

PortfolioDiet.app dashboard/gamification



B

C

D

Dashboard summary statistics on adherence (A, total score; B, individual component score; C, trend; D, Leaderboard)

PortfolioDiet.app Clinical measurements

8:19 portfoliodiet.app

Framingham Risk Score

The Framingham Risk Score allows you to calculate your risk of a cardiovascular event (e.g. a heart attack or stroke) over the next 10 years. It also estimates your cardiovascular age.

Age 61 Years

Biological Sex Male

TC 1.9 mmol/L

HDL-C 38 mmol/L

Systolic BP 140 mmHg

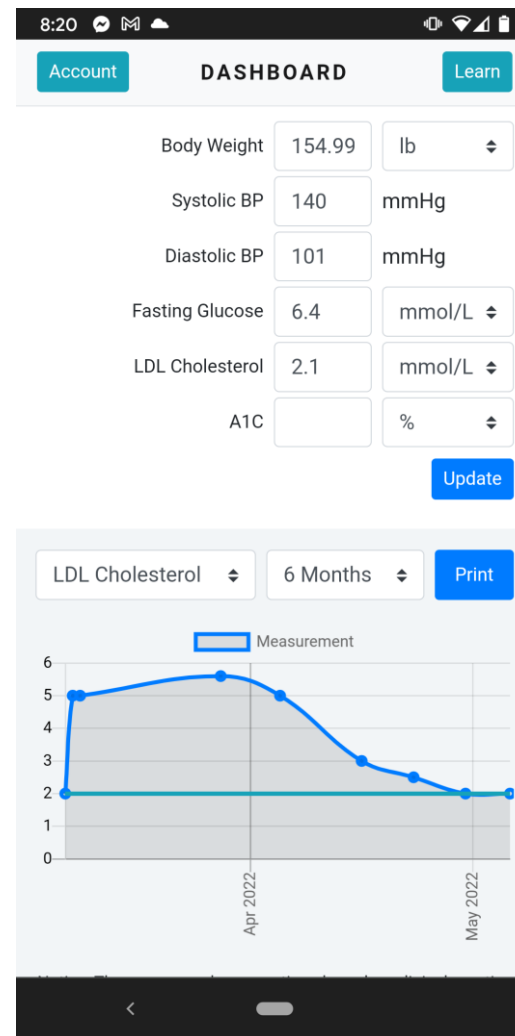
☐ BP treated

☒ Diabetes

☒ Smoker

☐ Fam Hx. of premature CVD

Cancel Save



PortfolioDiet.app cookbook, tip sheets/videos, and infographic development

Blueberry-Orange Smoothie

Prep Time: 5 mins

Cook Time: 0 mins

Makes 750g = 1 serving

Ingredients

- 1 cup soy milk, unsweetened
- 1 cup frozen blueberries
- 1 cup frozen oranges
- 170g soft tofu
- 1 serving plant sterols*
- ¼ tsp ground cardamom

*400mg of plant sterols from supplemental packets, powder, or opened capsules

How To

1 Place all ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth.

Tip: Not a fan of cardamom? Then skip it completely or swap with fresh or ground ginger, cinnamon, orange zest or cocoa powder.

Mix in 1 tsp psyllium husk for an additional viscous fibre point!



You already have enough **nuts**.

You need 1 more source of **plant protein**.

You already have enough **viscous fibre**.

You need 3.5 more sources of **plant sterols**.

You need 2 more sources of **oils**.

Breakfast #1

New Favourite

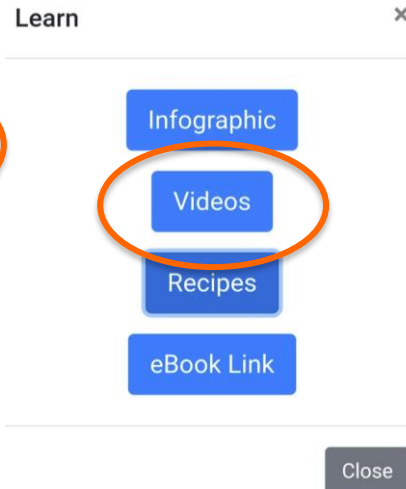
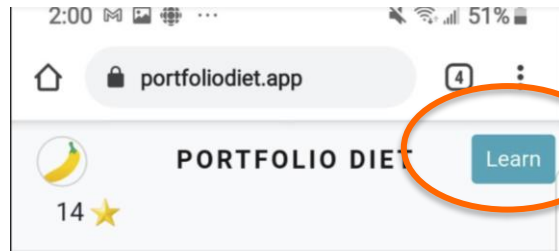
Nutrition Information (1 serving – 750 g): Entire recipe

Calories	344 kcal	Monounsaturated Fat	1.1 g
Protein	19.3 g	Polyunsaturated Fat	2.9 g
Soy Protein	16.9 g	Total Carbohydrate	38.6 g
Fat	10.1 g	Dietary Fibre	9.7 g
Saturated Fat	0.6 g	Viscous Fibre	4.0 g

Portfolio Diet Score: 7.5 points per serving
Plant Protein: 1.5 points
Viscous Fibre: 1 point
Plant Sterols: 5 points



PortfolioDiet.app cookbook, tip sheets/videos, and infographic development



Uploads ▶ PLAY ALL



All about Nuts and Seeds

Nuts and seeds are rich sources of **heart-healthy fats**, protein, vitamins & minerals. They can help **lower LDL-cholesterol**.



Adding nuts to your diet can be quick and simple!

- Take them to go as a snack
- Top your salad or oatmeal with nuts
- Pair 2 tsp of any nut butter with fruits, vegetables or on oat bran bread as a snack

Choosing types of nuts

- Choose a variety of nuts and seeds to benefit from the range of nutrients they provide
- Choose “all natural” or “just the nuts” versions of nut butters
- Choose plain, unsalted nuts
- Choose coated or **flavoured** nuts less often
- If choosing Brazil nuts, limit to 2 - 4 nuts/day among a mix of other nuts as they are very high in selenium

Aim for **5 servings** of nuts each day (45g/d = 1/3 cup)

9 almonds, peanuts & other small nuts (9 g)

5 walnut halves (9 g)

2 tsp nut butter

1 Tbsp seeds (flax, sunflower, chia, pumpkin, hemp)

Limit to 5 Portfolio servings to make room for other Portfolio foods in your diet

Tailoring to your tastes

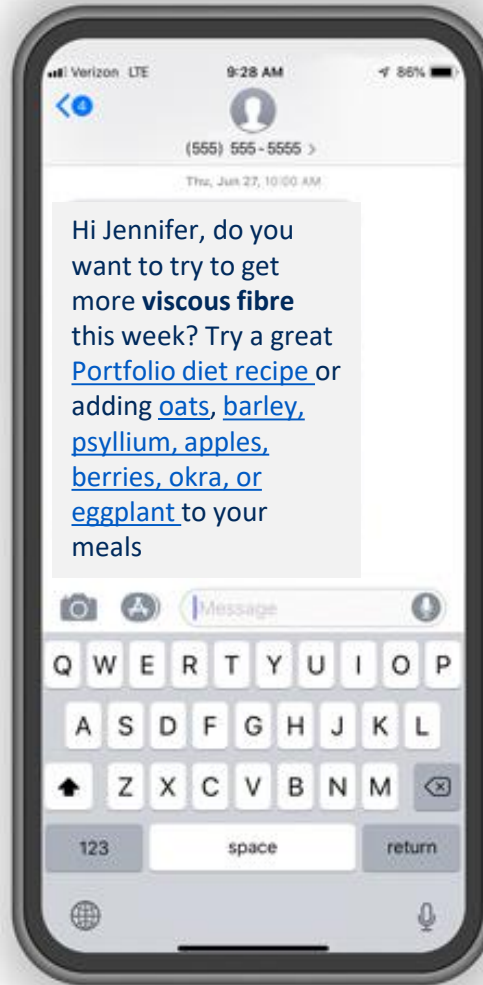
- **Flavour** your own nuts with cumin, garlic or chili powder
- Try different nuts- buy small amounts at a bulk food store

For ideas on including nuts and seeds in your diet, check out our recipe ideas under the recipe tab.

See the **Peanut or Tree Nut Allergy Tip Sheet** for more information if you are allergic to nuts and/or tree nuts.



PortfolioDiet.app: Nudges/coaching!



QI and usability testing of the [PortfolioDiet.app](#)



Meaghan Kavanagh, MSc

JMIR HUMAN FACTORS

Kavanagh et al

Original Paper

A Web-Based Health Application to Translate Nutrition Therapy for Cardiovascular Risk Reduction in Primary Care (PortfolioDiet.app): Quality Improvement and Usability Testing Study

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(page number not for citation purposes)

“The [PortfolioDiet.app](#) educates users on the Portfolio Diet and is considered **acceptable** by users. Although further refinements to the [PortfolioDiet.app](#) will continue to be made before its evaluation in a clinical trial, the result of this QI project is an **improved clinical tool.**”

Kavanagh et al. JMIR Human Factors, in press



Is it effective in the real-world?





Coronary Heart Effectiveness Assessment of the Portfolio diet in primary Care (CHEAP) trial

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CIHR IRSC

Canadian Institutes of Health Research Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada



CHEAP trial power and design:

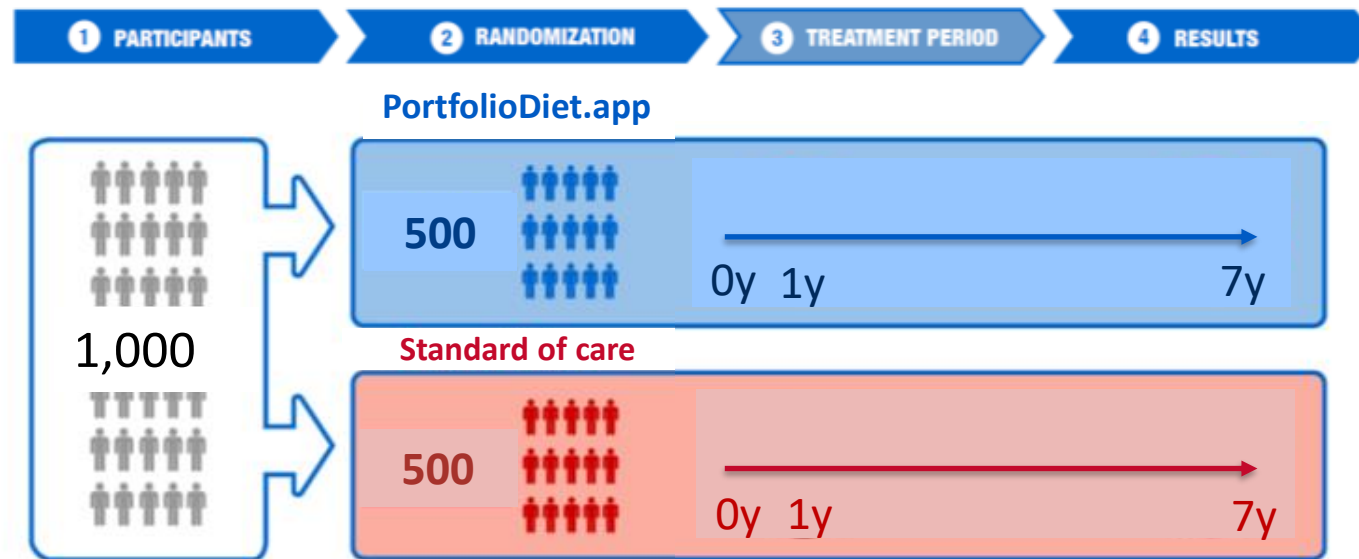
Parallel, 2 group RCT of the effect of standard of care + Portfolio diet ([PortfolioDiet.app](#)) versus standard of care alone on achieving lipid targets at 1y and reducing major CV events at 7y in 1,000 high risk mixed 2° and 1° prevention participants on background statin therapy in primary care

Power

Primary outcomes with stepwise gatekeeper procedure:

1. Proportion achieving $\geq 10\%$ reduction in LDL-C or non-HDL-C at 1y
2. MACE (MI, revascularization, CV hospitalization, CV mortality, stroke) at 7y

Design



CHEAP trial participants:

1° and 2° prevention participants at high CV risk on background statin therapy

Inclusion

1. Statin therapy
2. M >55y, F >65y (postmenopausal)
3. At least one...
 - a) **2° prevention (70%)** – prior ASCVD (MI, PCI, CABG)
 - b) **1° prevention (30%)** – DM2 + 1 risk factor (HTN, smoking, eGFR >30 and <60, or ACR ≥ 3.0)

Exclusion

1. Major disease expected to result in death within 2 years (except CVD)
2. Active severe liver disease or ALT ≥ 3 x ULN
3. HyperCKemia CK > 5 x ULN
4. Malabsorption disorders
5. Drug or alcohol abuse disorders

CHEAP trial recruitment

10 sites

34 physicians

30±4 participants/physician over 2y

1.25 participants/physician/month



CHEAP trial randomization

- Stratified (site), block randomization (individual = unit of randomization)
- Allocation concealment (statistician blinded)
- Randomization by Applied Health Research Centre (AHRC)
- Delivery through Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap)



St. Michael's

Inspired Care.
Inspiring Science.

Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) program



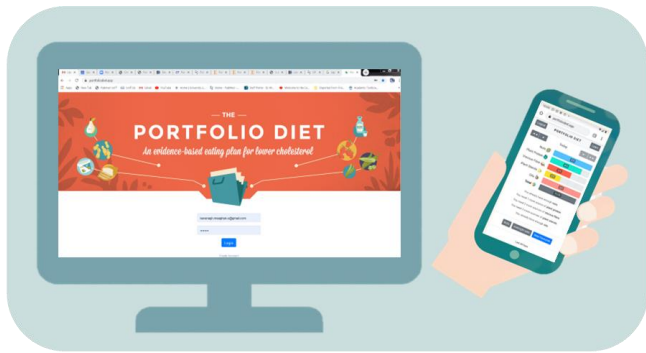
CHEAP trial data/sample collections

- Willett FFQ/questionnaires - REDCap
- Anthropometry/Blood pressure – LifeLabs
- Blood work (lipids, glucose, HbA1c, CRP) – LifeLabs
- Clinical events – IC/ES



CHEAP trial intervention

PortfolioDiet.app



www.PortfolioDiet.app

Nuts & Seeds  **5 points**

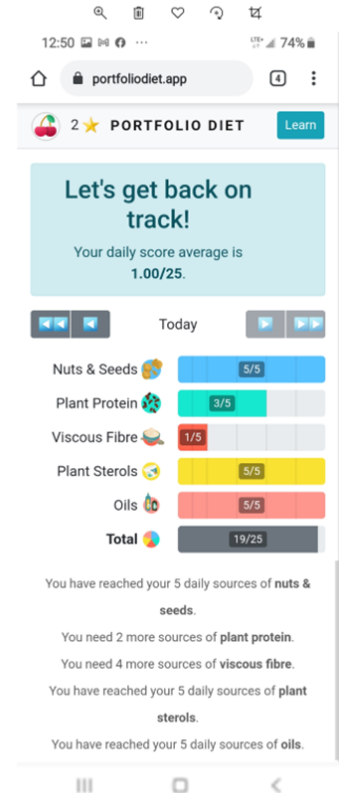
Plant Protein  **5 points**

Viscous Fibre  **5 points**

Plant Sterols  **5 points**

Oils  **5 points**

Total  **25 points**



CHEAP trial Intervention

16 session “DPP-like” program on Zoom

Months 0-1 (weekly)

- week 1 - session 1 - Intro to Portfolio diet and PortfolioDiet.app 1 (getting started and personal motivations)
- week 2 - session 2 - The 5 pillars and PortfolioDiet.app 2 (a deeper dive into the 5 categories)
- week 3 - session 3 – Portfolio Diet Tips and PortfolioDiet.app 3 (optimizing features, nudges)
- week 4 - session 4 - Goal setting (based on $\geq 10\%$ LDL-C/non-HDL-C, $\geq 12/25$ PDS, individual portfolio food goals)

Months 1-3 (2-weekly)

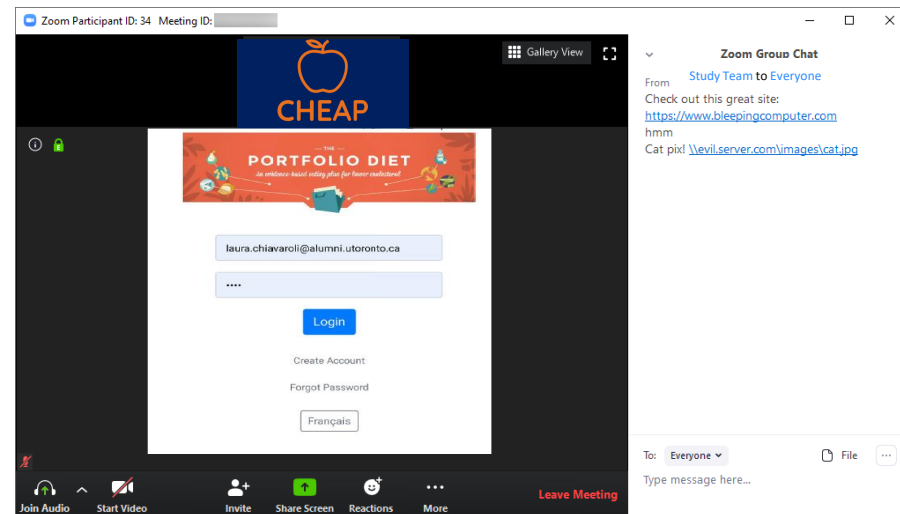
- Week 6 - session 5 - Problem solving 1 (5-step approach)
- Week 8 - session 6 - Self-monitoring (leveraging PDS score and measurements)
- Week 10 - session 7 - Problem solving 2 (managing stress and social cues)
- Week 12 - session 8 - Taking charge of change

Months 4-6 (4-weekly)

- Week 16- session 9 - Portfolio meal replacements for weight loss
- Week 20 - session 10 - Talking Back to Negative Thoughts
- Week 24 - session 11 - Cooking with nuts

Months 7-12 (6-weekly)

- Week 28 - session 12 - Cooking with plant-protein
- Week 34 - session 13 - Cooking with viscous fibre
- Week 40 - session 14 - Cooking with plant sterols
- Week 46 - session 15 - Favourite high-yield recipes
- Week 52 - session 16- How to stay motivated



CHEAP *trial* intervention

Coupons/vouchers program to drive adherence

1	2	3	4	
Nuts	Viscous fibre	Plant Protein	Plant sterols	Healthy oils
<p>Almond Board of California</p>  <p>California Walnut Commission</p>  <p>Peanut Institute</p>  <p>KIND</p> 	<p>Loblaws</p>  <p>Kellogg</p>  <p>KIND</p>  <p>Shoppers Drug Mart</p> 	<p>Danone</p>  <p>Loblaws</p>  <p>Unico/Primo</p> 	<p>Nutrartis</p> 	<p>Loblaws</p> 

CHEAP trial outcomes

Primary outcomes:

≥10% reduction in LDL-C or non-HDL-C at 1y

MACE (MI, revascularization, CV hospitalization, CV mortality, stroke) at 7y

Secondary outcomes:

≥12/25 *Portfolio Diet Score* at 1y and 7y

CCS targets (LDL-C <1.8/<2.0, non-HDL-C <2.4/2.6 mmol/L) at 1y and 7y

Change in medications at 1y and 7y

Cost effectiveness at 1y and 7y

Participant satisfaction and quality of life (EQ5D) at 1y and 7y

Provider satisfaction at 1y and 7y

Other outcomes:

Changes in lipids, BP, FPG, HbA1c, CRP, body weight at 1y and 7y

Metabolic syndrome, diabetes at 1y and 7y

CHEAP trial analysis plan

- Unit of inference = the individual.
- Primary analysis by intention-to-treat (ITT) principle at 1y
- Inverse probability weighting (IPW) for missing data
- Logistic regression models for the proportion achieving the lipid targets and Portfolio diet score targets at 1y (ORs with 95% CI)
- Mixed models for continuous data at 1y (mean differences with 95% CI)
- Cox proportional-hazards models for clinical events at 7y (HR with 95% CI)
- Completers analyses, per protocol analyses and analyses adjusted for changes in background statin medication
- Subgroup analyses by age, sex/gender, prevention type, diabetes, statin intensity, baseline LDL-C, educational attainment, ethnicity, and site

Please join us!

