

# Food, Obesity and Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)

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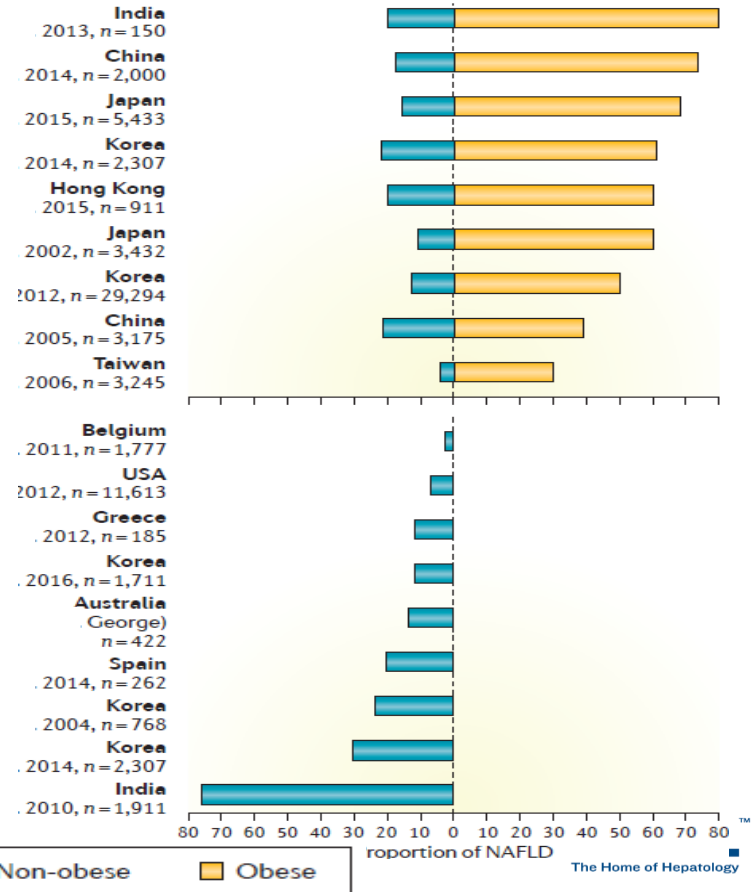
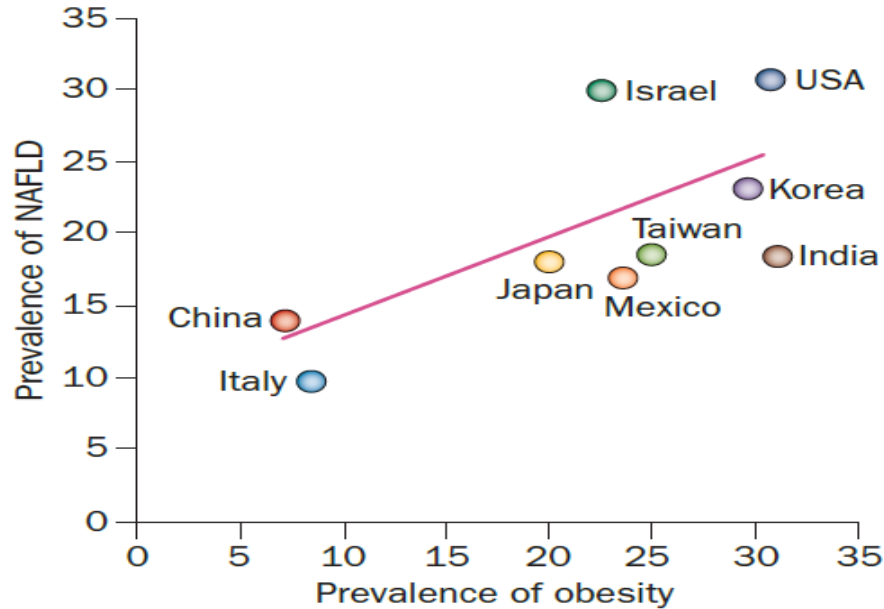
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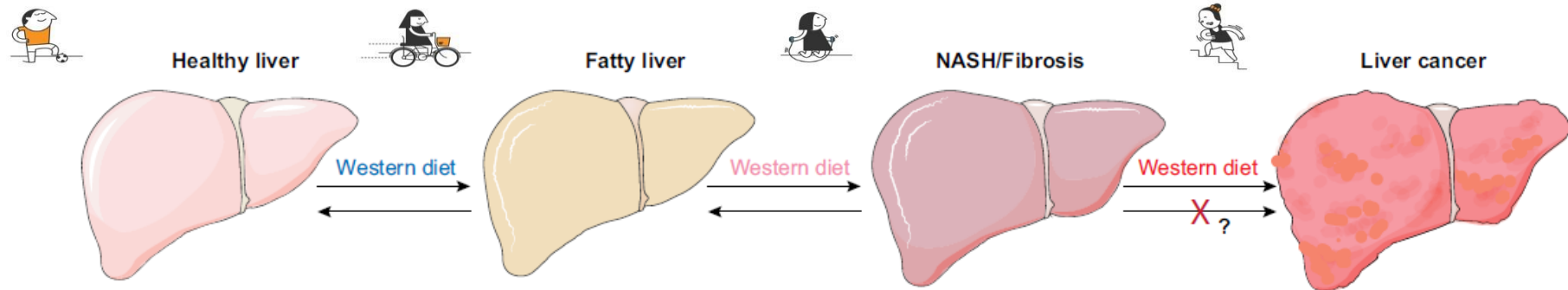
# The prevalence of NAFLD as a function of the prevalence of obesity in various countries



Younossi Z., Nat. Rev. Gastroenterol. Hepatol 2018

Loomba R., Nat. Rev. Gastroenterol. Hepatol 2013

# NAFLD is a lifestyle oriented and treated disease



Hypocaloric or isocaloric - Mediterranean diet

Aerobic or resistance exercise  
(Clinical trials)

≥7-10% Weight reduction

by energy deficit of 500-750 kcal/day through either diet:

- low fat
- low carb
- Mediterranean (Clinical trials)

Dietary composition modification

Reduced fructose

Mediterranean diet

(Observational studies)

Mediterranean diet

- High fibres
- High fish
- High vegetables
- Low cholesterol
- Low sugar

Drinks

- Coffee ≥2-3 cups/day
- No alcohol in cirrhotics (Observational studies)

# The challenge of maintaining a healthy diet in face of a toxic environment



## Mediterranean lifestyle

White meat & fish

MUFA & n-3 PUFA, nuts, olive oil

Whole grains, vegetables, fiber

Family meals & homemade cooking



## 'NAFLD' lifestyle

Snacking, fast food

Refined grains, added sugar

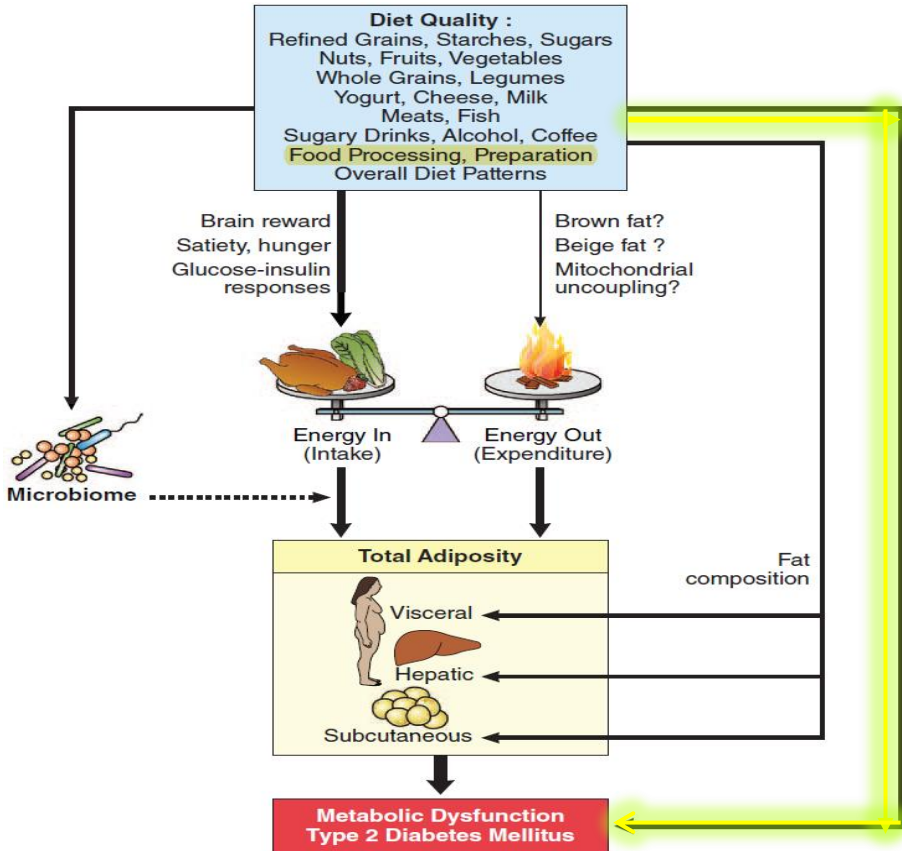
Saturate fat, trans fat

Red processed meat



- **Sicily 2009-** moving away from traditional patterns observed in younger and low educated people  
*Grosso G., Public Health Nutrition 2013*
- **Spain-** drifting away from the MD, mostly among the socially disadvantaged  
*Leon-Munoz LM., J Nutr 2012*

# Diet and metabolic risk



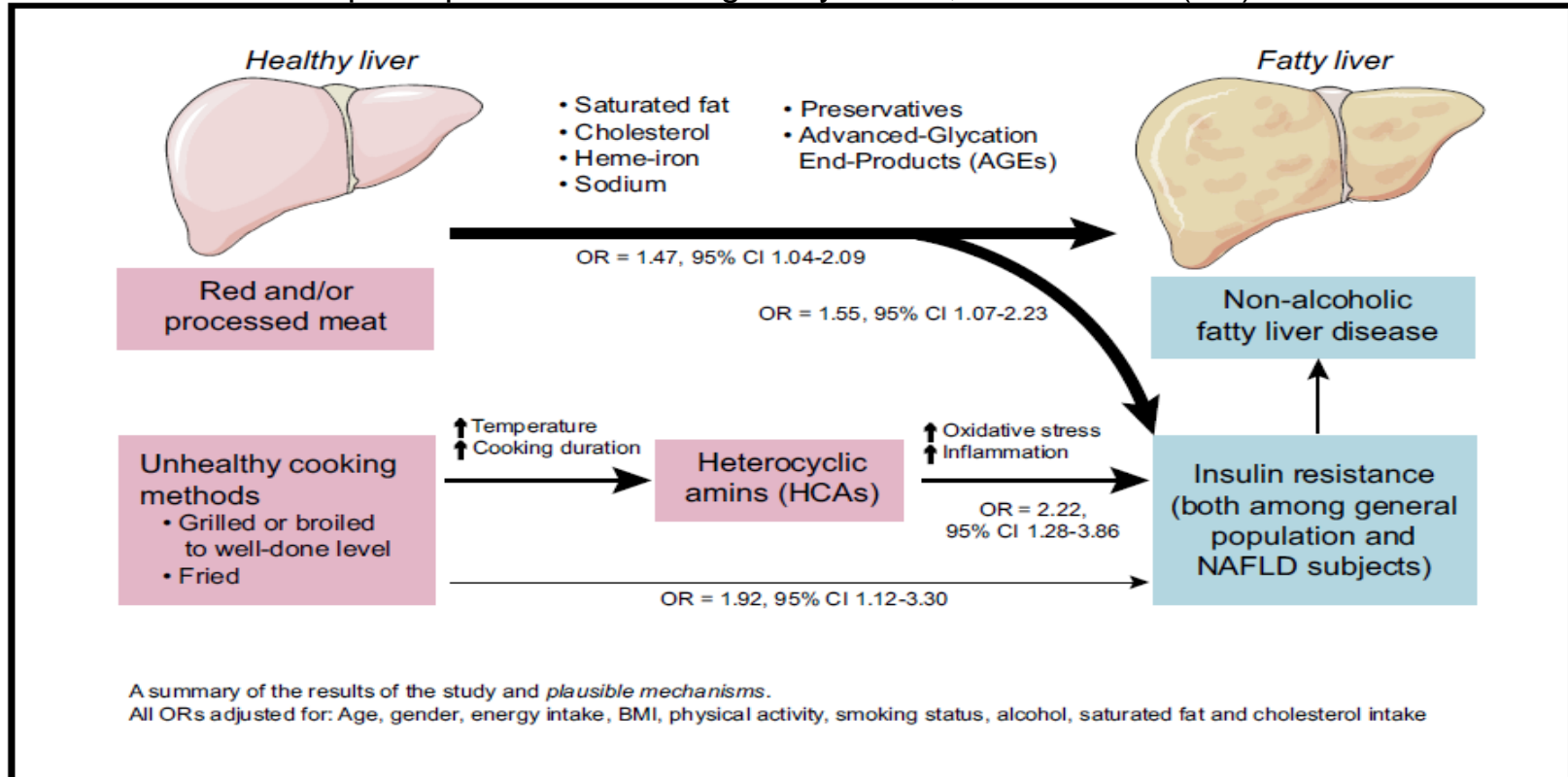
- Obesity
- Blood pressure
- Glucose-insulin homeostasis
- Liver fat & fibrosis
- Blood lipids
- Endothelial function
- Inflammation
- Adipocyte function
- Thrombosis



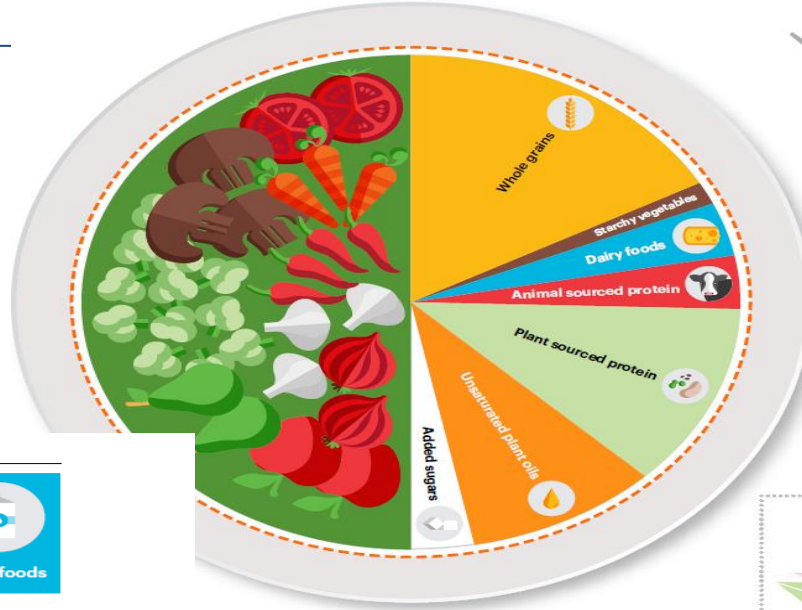
# High red and processed meat consumption is associated with NAFLD and insulin resistance



- Volunteers who participated in screening study n=789, 39% NAFLD (US)



# A human & planetary healthy plate



## Limited intake



Red meat



Starchy vegetables

## Optional foods



Eggs



Poultry



Dairy foods

## Emphasized foods



Fish



Vegetables



Fruit



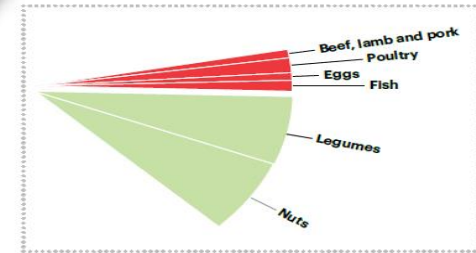
Legumes



Whole grains



Nuts



# Fructose consumption independently associated with NASH



## Adjusted association between fructose consumption and NASH

- 271 children with NAFLD
- Liver biopsy

	Odds ratio (95% CI)	p
<b>Fructose, g/day</b>	<b>1.6 (1.3,1.9)</b>	<b>0.001</b>
Uric acid, mg/dl	2.5 (1.9,2.8)	0.004
WC, cm	1.8 (1.1,1.9)	0.03
HOMA-IR	3.2 (1.9, 5.7)	0.024
Triglyceride, mg/dl	1.2 (1.1,1.6)	0.048





- **The aim is to inform politicians, policy-makers and the general population across Europe about NAFLD and the measures required for prevention and treatment**
- Addressing obesity in Europe which will then impact on the levels of NAFLD

Measures include

- Infrastructure changes that encourage physical activity
- Water consumption instead of SSBs
- Restrict advertising and marketing of SSBs and industrially processed foods
- Fiscal measures to improve the composition (reformulation) of processed foods
- Nutritional labeling



### Targets for NAFLD

- **Educating the public & policymakers and politicians**
- **Educating primary care practitioners** on the high prevalence of NAFLD and the potential liver-related morbidities
- **Expanding the knowledge and skills of medical care providers** about nutrition screening and counseling
- **Establishing clinical networks** between general practitioners, endocrinologists, cardiologists, nutritionists and hepatologists in order to provide a comprehensive management of cardio-metabolic and hepatic comorbidities
- **Engaging patients** in appropriate strategies for behavioral modification



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