

Association of the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension, Physical Activity and Their Combination with Semen Quality: A Cross-Sectional Study

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Table S1. List of components of the DASH score and their description.

| Score component | Maximum score | Standard for maximum score | Standard for minimum score of 0 | Food groups' description |
|---------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Grains | | | | |
| Total | 5 | ≥6 servings per day | 0 servings per day | light wheat, rye, wheat-rye bread, toasted bread, bread rolls, butter rolls and croissants, French croissants, pastries, pasta, rice, highly cleaned cereals, uncooked milk additives (e.g. muesli, cornflakes) |
| High fiber | 5 | ≥50% of daily servings | 0% of daily servings | wholemeal rye bread, with grains, pumpnickel, graham, buckwheat |
| Vegetables | 10 | ≥4 servings per day | 0 servings per day | broccoli, Brussels sprouts, fresh and sour cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, peppers, various salads, leeks, tomatoes, tomato and vegetable juice, red beets, onions, fresh and pickled cucumbers, root celery, sweetcorn, radish, mixed salad and mixed vegetable salad, potatoes and potato dishes |
| Fruit | 10 | ≥4 servings per day | 0 servings per day | apples, pears, plums, strawberries, cherries, bananas, oranges, grapefruits, kiwi, peaches, grapes, currants, berry fruits, juices: apple, orange, grapefruit, currant, other juices, multi-fruit |
| Dairy | | | | |
| Total | 5 | ≥2 servings per day | 0 servings per day | milk, milk soups, milk drinks, yogurt, kefir, buttermilk, various creams, various cottage cheese, flavored and natural cottage cheese, rennet and processed cheese, spreads |
| Low-fat | 5 | ≥75% of daily servings | 0% of daily servings | low-fat milk, low-fat milk drinks, yogurt, kefir, buttermilk, various cottage cheese, flavored and natural cottage cheese, spreads |
| Meat, poultry, fish, eggs | 10 | ≤2 servings per day | ≥4 servings per day | sausages, luncheon meat, frankfurters, high-quality poultry and pork-beef sausages, liver, black pudding, headcheese, pates, bacon, pork, beef, veal, chicken meat from chicken, chicken, duck, turkey, fish (smoked, marinated, with sour cream, in oil, canned, fried, cooked), seafood, eggs mixed meat dishes with additives (e.g. bigos, stuffed cabbage rolls, hot dogs) |
| Nuts, seeds, legumes | 10 | ≥4 servings per week | 0 servings per week | nuts and seeds (various), peanut butter, chocolate-nut cream, green beans, green peas, beans, peas, lentils, broad beans |
| Fats, oils | 10 | ≤3 servings per day | ≥6 servings per day | butter, soft and hard margarine, oil, mayonnaise, dressings, lard, fat added to dishes |
| Sweets | 10 | ≤5 servings per week | ≥10 servings per week | sugar, honey, biscuits, cream cakes, shortbread, shortbread, with fruit, yeast dough, cheesecakes, donuts, poppy seed cake, chocolate, ice cream, pudding |

Servings were presented for 2000 kcal/d. DASH - Diet Approaches to Stop Hypertension. Food groups description was based on Polish FFQ [18, 19].

Scheme S1. Matrix of the DASH diet and physical activity tertile (T) distribution.

| | | DASH diet | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | T1 (low) | T2 (moderate) | T3 (high) |
| Physical Activity | T1 (low) | low | low | moderate |
| | T2 (moderate) | low | moderate | moderate |
| | T3 (high) | moderate | moderate | high |

Table S2. Diet and physical activity characteristics among tertiles of DASH score and physical activity.

| Variable | Total | DASH | | | P | Physical activity | | | P |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| | | T1 | T2 | T3 | | T1 | T2 | T3 | |
| <i>n</i> | 207 | 62 | 75 | 70 | | 68 | 68 | 71 | |
| Dietary intake (servings/day)¹ | | | | | | | | | |
| Total grains | 2.9 (2.2; 4.0) | 2.9 (1.8; 4.0) | 2.8 (2.1; 3.7) | 3.1 (2.6; 4.6) | 0.050 | 3.2 (2.3; 4.4) | 3.0 (2.1; 4.1) | 2.8 (2.1; 3.6) | 0.157 |
| High-fiber grains ² | 17.5 (4.9; 37.3) | 7.3 (2.5; 20.9) | 13.8 (6.3; 38.2) | 32.5 (16.3; 56) | <0.001 | 17.1 (6.4; 37.6) | 17.6 (4.7; 35.7) | 18.2 (4.5; 40.4) | 0.930 |
| Vegetables | 2.6 (1.5; 3.6) | 1.6 (0.9; 2.8) ^a | 2.2 (1.5; 2.8) ^b | 3.8 (2.8; 5.2) ^{ab} | <0.001 | 2.4 (1.3; 3.5) | 2.5 (1.5; 3.6) | 2.7 (1.7; 3.8) | 0.582 |
| Fruit | 1.1 (0.6; 1.9) | 0.6 (0.4; 1.4) ^a | 1.0 (0.6; 1.6) ^b | 1.8 (1.1; 2.6) ^{ab} | <0.001 | 0.9 (0.5; 1.4) | 1.2 (0.6; 2.1) | 1.2 (0.6; 1.9) | 0.087 |
| Total dairy | 3.0 (1.8; 5.1) | 2.5 (1.6; 4.3) | 2.9 (1.8; 4.9) | 3.5 (2.1; 5.2) | 0.267 | 3.4 (2.2; 5.2) | 2.6 (1.4; 4.9) | 2.9 (1.8; 5.0) | 0.149 |
| Low-fat dairy ² | 76.2 (58.9; 87.2) | 69.3 (50.7; 83.8) ^a | 74.3 (59.3; 85.1) | 80.7 (66.6; 89.4) ^a | 0.044 | 76.5 (56.4; 89.6) | 72.7 (53.5; 83.9) | 77.3 (62.5; 89.5) | 0.193 |
| Meat, fish, eggs | 3.4 (2.5; 4.5) | 3.8 (2.6; 5.1) | 3.2 (2.4; 3.9) | 3.5 (2.9; 4.7) | 0.045 | 3.7 (2.8; 4.7) | 3.0 (2.4; 4.2) | 3.5 (2.5; 4.5) | 0.056 |
| Nuts, seeds legumes | 1.5 (0.6; 3.1) | 0.8 (0.4; 1.6) ^a | 0.9 (0.4; 1.8) ^b | 3.7 (1.7; 5.7) ^{ab} | <0.001 | 1.3 (0.6; 3.0) | 1.5 (0.7; 3.4) | 1.6 (0.6; 3.0) | 0.823 |
| Fats, oils | 2.2 (1.3; 3.0) | 2.7 (2.0; 3.7) ^{ab} | 2.1 (1.3; 2.8) ^a | 1.9 (1.2; 2.9) ^b | 0.001 | 2.4 (1.5; 3.3) | 2.2 (1.4; 3.0) | 2.1 (1.3; 2.9) | 0.508 |
| Sweets | 4.9 (2.3; 7.9) | 7.2 (4.3; 10.9) ^{ab} | 3.9 (2.1; 6.5) ^a | 4.9 (2.2; 6.7) ^b | <0.001 | 5.3 (2.6; 8.0) | 4.6 (1.8; 7.3) | 4.9 (2.9; 8.2) | 0.386 |
| Physical activity | | | | | | | | | |
| Total (MET-min/wk) | 6827 (4198; 10032) | 7185 (4575; 10860) | 6075 (3540; 9530) | 6942.3 (4323; 10350) | 0.598 | 3109 (2055; 4178) | 6732 (5865; 7656) | 12258 (9996; 15264) | <0.001 |
| Total time (min/wk) | 153 (75; 342) | 153 (63; 291) | 116 (61; 287) ^a | 205 (100; 432) ^a | 0.026 | 77 (44; 124) | 153 (90; 265) | 291 (160; 486) | <0.001 |
| Vigorous (min/wk) | 12 (0; 42) | 15 (1; 36) | 11 (0; 36) | 17 (2; 53) | 0.167 | 1.5 (0; 15) | 6 (0; 19.5) ^a | 48 (18; 117) ^a | <0.001 |
| Moderate (min/wk) | 42 (15; 124) | 36 (12; 116) | 36 (12; 99) ^a | 72 (25; 188) ^a | 0.037 | 16.5 (6; 40) ^{ab} | 70 (24; 134) ^a | 81 (33; 192) ^b | <0.001 |
| Walking (min/wk) | 48 (15; 129) | 45.5 (15; 92) | 36 (14; 93) | 53.5 (23; 168) | 0.185 | 32 (10; 65) ^a | 53 (25; 92) | 48 (18; 117) ^a | 0.001 |
| Sedentary time (h/d) | 2.5 (1.4; 4.1) | 2.9 (1.8; 4.5) ^a | 2.8 (1.5; 4.3) | 1.8 (1.1; 3.9) ^a | 0.035 | 3.0 (1.3; 4.8) | 2.7 (1.5; 3.8) | 2.2 (1.4; 3.9) | 0.454 |
| Sleeping (h/d) | 7.0 (6.0; 8.0) | 7.0 (6.5; 8.0) | 7.0 (6.0; 8.0) | 7.0 (6.0; 7.5) | 0.069 | 7.0 (6.0; 8.0) | 7.0 (6.8; 8.0) | 7.0 (6.0; 8.0) | 0.363 |

Data are presented as median and interquartile range (IQR). Dash- diet Approaches to Stop Hypertension, MET – metabolic equivalent of task. ¹ servings per day adjusted for 2000 kcal. ² percentage of daily servings. *P* for continuous variables were derived from Kruskal–Wallis test (^{a,b} Dunn post-hoc test presented differences between pairs of tertiles).