

Higher intake of linoleic acid may reduce type 2 diabetes risk

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(HealthDay)—Intake of linoleic acid (LA) is inversely associated with



the risk for type 2 diabetes, according to a study published in the June issue of *Diabetes Care*.

Geng Zong, Ph.D., from the Chinese Academy of Sciences in China, and colleagues used data from 83,648 women participating in the Nurses' Health Study (NHS; 1980-2012), 88,610 women from NHSII (1991-2013), and 41,771 men from the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study (1986-2012) to examine the association between intakes of n-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) and type 2 diabetes risk. There were 18,442 type 2 diabetes cases during 4.93 million person-years of follow-up.

Dietary n-6 PUFAs accounted for an average of 4.4 percent to 6.8 percent of <u>total energy</u> and consisted primarily of linoleic acid (at least 98 percent). When extreme n-6 PUFA quintiles (highest versus lowest) were compared in multivariate-adjusted models, the hazard ratio for type 2 diabetes risk was 0.91 ($P_{trend} = 0.002$) for total n-6 PUFAs and 0.92 ($P_{trend} = 0.01$) for LA. In a model allowing for isocaloric substitution, type 2 diabetes risk was 14 percent lower when LA isocalorically replaced saturated fats (5 percent of energy; P = 0.002), 17 percent lower when substituting for trans fats (2 percent energy; P = 0.002) diabetes risk when n-3 PUFAs or monounsaturated fats were replaced with LA.

"Our study provides additional evidence that LA intake is inversely associated with risk of type 2 diabetes, especially when replacing saturated fatty acids, <u>trans fats</u>, or carbohydrates," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed ties to Unilever, and one disclosed ties to the California Walnut Commission.

More information: <u>Abstract/Full Text (subscription or payment may be required)</u>



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