Barriers to Healthy Eating Impact Dietary Intake and Weight in a 24-Month Weight Loss Trial

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Background

- Weight loss maintenance remains a challenge
- There is a need for more effective behavioral strategies to support long-term weight loss
- Current studies on perceived barriers in obesity research primarily focused on qualitative inquiries



Purpose

To examine longitudinal relationships between perceptions of barriers to healthy eating and dietary intake, and their impact on weight loss over 24 months





<u>Self-Monitoring And Recording</u> using Technology (SMART) (N=210)

| Time | Time | Food or Beverage Amount | | Fat |
|----------|----------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| 830 | 111001000 | | 1.5.17.15. | gms |
| u | 5 qu | Joguert | 180 | 2 |
| | | | 950 | 2 |
| 100 | 100p | Chicken (Veggie) | 150 | 6 |
| | | Hamburger bun | 180 | 3 |
| - | | Mustard | 0 | 0 |
| | | | 580 | 11 |
| N 70 700 | PIZZA ZILICES. | 80 | 18 | |
| - | v | | | _ |
| | Pepsi (8 03) | 190 | 0 | |
| - | | | | |
| | | Eat Rec | Time Time Food or Beverage Amount and Description 82 82 Mixed Fruit Cup Voguert | Time Time Food or Beverage Amount Eat The Food or Beverage Amount Sa 8% Hixed Fruit Cup 70 Joguert 180 10° 10° Chucken (Veggic) 150 Hamburger bun 180 Musturd 0 7° 7° Pizza 2 slices 580 Chelse 4 Mush |

Traditional PD (n=72)



PDA with dietary & exercise software (n=68)



PDA + daily feedback message (PDA+FB) , diet & exercise (n=70)

SMART Trial

Inclusion criteria:

- 18–59 years of age
- BMI of 27 to 43 kg/m²
- Completion of a 5-day food diary at screening
- Exclusion criteria:
 - Serious medical or mental health disorders
 - Recent weight loss treatment
 - Pregnancy





CONSORT Diagram



SMART Intervention Protocol (1)

- Same standard intervention in 3 groups
- 39 cognitive-behavioral group sessions in first 21 months
 - 16 weekly sessions: months 1 4

- 16 biweekly sessions: months 5 12
- 6 monthly sessions: months 13 18
- One maintenance session at 21 months (i.e., 84 weeks)
- Self-monitoring dietary intake and physical activity
- The groups only differed in the mode of selfmonitoring

SMART Intervention Protocol (2)

Dietary Goals: Daily Energy and Fat Intake

| Baseline body weight | <200 lb | ≥200lb | |
|-------------------------|---------|----------|--------------|
| Gender | Energy | y (Kcal) | Fat (% kcal) |
| Female | 1200 | 1500 | 25 |
| Male | 1500 | 1800 | 25 |



Measures (1)

- Barriers to Healthy Eating (BHE)
 - Barriers to Healthy Eating Scale
 - 22-item scale (score range: 22-110)
 - 3 subscales:
 - Emotions
 - Daily mechanics of following a healthy eating plan
 - Social support
 - Response:
 - 1 (no problem) to 5 (a very important problem)



Measures (2)

- Dietary intake: total energy and fat intake
 - Two unannounced 24-hr dietary recalls
 - Average of the two used for analysis
 - Recall interview guided by the Nutrition Data System Research (NDSR) software program
- Weight
 - Measured using a digital scale after an overnight fast and wearing light clothing and no shoes



Data Analysis

- Assessments were conducted at baseline, 6, 12, 18, and 24 months
- Longitudinal mixed regression modeling



Demographic Characteristics

- ▶ N=210
- White 78.6%
- Female 84.8%
- Age 46.8 ± 9.0 years
- BMI 34.0 \pm 4.5 kg/m²
- Married 68.6%
- Employed full-time 82.9%
- Education 15.7 ± 3.0 years



Mean Energy Intake and BHE





Mean Fat Intake and BHE





Mean Weight and Energy Intake





Mean Weight and Fat Intake





Discussion (1)

- Significant association between perceived barriers to healthy eating and dietary intake over 24 months
- Looking at the data over 24 months, we found a significant association between dietary intake and weight changes
- The weight increase that occurred while the self-reported energy and fat increase remained flat suggests that participants were under-reporting their dietary intake in the 2nd half of the 2-year study.

Discussion (2)

- Limitations
 - 14% male representation
- Strengths
 - 85.7% retention at 24 months
 - Validated measure of perceived barrier to healthy eating
 - Longitudinal relationships over 24 months



Conclusion

- Despite reductions in BHE and dietary intake, weight regain began to occur after 12 months
- Maximizing efforts to reduce barriers to healthy eating has potential to impact weight loss maintenance



Funding Sources

- NIH NIDDK R01–DK71817; NIH NINR K24– 0742, LE Burke K24 NR10742
- Data Management Core of the Center for Research in Chronic Disorders NIH-NINR P30-NR03924
- General Clinical Research Center, NIH-NCRR-GCRC 5M01-RR00056
- Clinical Translational Research Center, NIH/NCRR/CTSA Grant UL1 RR024153 at the University of Pittsburgh

THANK YOU



Demographic Characteristics

| Variable | PD (n=72) | PDA (n=68) | PDA+FB (n=70) | Total (N=210) |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Age, years (SD) | 47.4 (8.5) | 46.7 (9.2) | 46.4 (9.5) | 46.8 (9.0) |
| Female, n (%) | 61 (84.7) | 58 (85.3) | 59 (84.3) | 178 (84.8) |
| White, n (%) | 55 (76.4) | 55 (80.9) | 55 (78.6) | 165 (78.6) |
| Married, n (%) | 55 (76.4) | 42 (61.8) | 47 (67.1) | 144 (68.6) |
| Employed full time, n (%) | 62 (86.1) | 58 (85.3) | 54 (77.1) | 174 (82.9) |
| Education , years (SD) | 15.9 (3.1) | 15.5 (2.9) | 15.5 (3.0) | 15.7 (3.0) |
| BMI, kg/m ² (SD) | 33.8 (4.6) | 33.9 (4.2) | 34.4 (4.8) | 34.0 (4.5) |

