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1 **Title:** Postpartum diet quality in Australian women following a gestational diabetes
2 pregnancy

3 **Running title:** Postpartum diet quality in GDM

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23

24

25 **Abstract**

26 **Background/Objectives:** To describe the diet quality of a national sample of Australian
27 women with a recent history of GDM and determine factors associated with adherence to
28 national dietary recommendations.

29 **Subjects/Methods:** A postpartum lifestyle survey with 1499 Australian women
30 diagnosed with GDM ≤ 3 years previously. Diet quality was measured using the
31 Australian Recommended Food Score (ARFS) and weighted by demographic and
32 diabetes management characteristics. Multinomial logistic regression analysis was used
33 to determine the association between diet quality and demographic characteristics, health
34 seeking behaviours and diabetes related risk factors.

35 **Results:** Mean (\pm SD) ARFS was 30.9 ± 8.1 from a possible maximum score of 74.
36 Subscale component scores demonstrated that the nuts/legumes, grains and fruits were the
37 most poorly scored. Factors associated with being in the highest compared with the lowest
38 ARFS quintile included age (OR 5 year increase =1.40; 95% CI:1.16-1.68), tertiary
39 education (OR=2.19; 95% CI:1.52-3.17), speaking only English (OR=1.92; 95% CI:1.19-
40 3.08), being sufficiently physically active (OR=2.11; 95% CI:1.46-3.05), returning for
41 postpartum blood glucose testing (OR=1.75; 95% CI:1.23-2.50) and receiving risk
42 reduction advice from a health professional (OR=1.80; 95% CI:1.24-2.60).

43 **Conclusions:** Despite an increased risk of type 2 diabetes, women in this study had an
44 overall poor diet quality as measured by the ARFS. Women with GDM should be
45 targeted for interventions aimed at achieving a postpartum diet consistent with guidelines
46 for chronic disease prevention. Encouraging women to return for follow-up and providing

47 risk reduction advice may be positive initial steps to improve diet quality, but additional
48 strategies need to be identified.

49 **Keywords:** Gestational diabetes, diet quality, women

50

51 Gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) is a form of glucose intolerance diagnosed during
52 pregnancy.¹ It affects an estimated 5% of Australian women, increasing up to 14% in
53 some high risk groups.² GDM is associated with increased perinatal risks, while longer
54 term consequences include development of type 2 diabetes and increased cardiovascular
55 risk.³ Although research to date has varied in estimates of future type 2 diabetes risk, one
56 recent Australian study reported a 9.6 times greater risk of type 2 diabetes in women with
57 previous GDM and a cumulative risk of 25% after 15 years.⁴

58

59 Research demonstrates that intensive lifestyle interventions are effective in the prevention
60 of type 2 diabetes,⁵ so the diagnosis of GDM provides an opportunity for early
61 intervention in an at risk group. Despite this, there is some evidence to suggest that
62 women diagnosed with GDM have postpartum lifestyle behaviours that are not consistent
63 with guidelines for prevention of type 2 diabetes, including suboptimal physical activity
64 levels,^{6,7} poor intakes of fruit and vegetables and high fat diets.^{8,9,10} However, to date
65 there has been little published data on the postpartum dietary intakes of Australian
66 women with prior GDM.

67

68 Recent studies examining whole diets, as opposed to single nutrients or dietary
69 components, have highlighted the important role of dietary patterns and overall diet
70 quality in the prevention of type 2 diabetes.^{11,12,13,14} Healthful dietary patterns
71 characterised by high consumption of fruit and vegetables, whole grains, fish, and poultry
72 may delay the progression to type 2 diabetes,^{13,15} while Western dietary patterns have
73 been demonstrated to increase risk.¹⁶ Likewise a variety of diet quality tools which

74 measure adherence to dietary guidelines have demonstrated that a high diet quality,
75 representing alignment with national dietary guidelines, is inversely associated with
76 obesity, blood lipids, hyperglycaemia and hyperinsulinaemia, as well as all-cause
77 mortality and indices of self-rated health.^{17,18} In prospective studies, overall diet quality
78 has also been inversely associated with type 2 diabetes risk in women, independent of
79 BMI.¹⁹ Diet quality may therefore play an important role in mediating the development of
80 chronic disease in a group known to be at high risk of type 2 diabetes.

81

82 The aim of this study was to describe the diet quality of a national sample of Australian
83 women with a recent history of GDM and determine factors associated with adherence to
84 national dietary recommendations.

85

86 **Materials and methods**

87 This was a cross-sectional study of Australian women with a recent history of GDM.
88 Participants were recruited from the National Diabetes Service Scheme (NDSS) database.
89 The NDSS is an initiative of the Australian Government that provides subsidised blood
90 glucose testing strips and free syringes to residents diagnosed with diabetes. Registrants
91 also have the option of nominating whether or not they consent to being contacted for
92 research purposes. Study inclusion criteria were: diagnosed with GDM ≤ 3 years
93 previously, registered with the NDSS and consented to be contacted for research
94 purposes. Women were excluded if they were aged < 18 years at time of registration.
95 Eligible women were invited to participate by mail. Additional women were recruited
96 from two major maternity clinics in Brisbane, Australia. Women from the clinics were

97 pregnant at time of recruitment, but surveyed 6-months postpartum. This additional
98 sampling was to recruit women with very recent GDM, who may be missed in the NDSS
99 database due to status update delay. The University of Newcastle Human Research Ethics
100 Committee, The University of Queensland, Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital and Mater
101 Health Services approved the study and Diabetes Australia Ltd. approved the NDSS
102 database search.

103

104 *Survey design*

105 The survey was administered by two methods. Firstly, a self-administered written
106 questionnaire and secondly a telephone interview conducted in parallel by trained
107 interviewers using Computer-Assisted-Telephone-Interviewing for Windows (WinCati,
108 Version 4.2) full details of which have been described elsewhere.^{6,20} Briefly, the survey
109 questions addressed demographics, educational attainment, language spoken at home and
110 occupation using standard items from the 2001 Australian census.²¹ Information
111 regarding GDM management, lifestyle related risk factors, family and medical history
112 and postpartum follow-up were collected by self-report. Data on respondent's height and
113 pre and postpartum weight were self-reported and used to calculate body mass index
114 (BMI) as weight (kg)/height (m)². Physical activity was assessed using the validated
115 Active Australia Questionnaire (AAQ) which involves recall of frequency and duration
116 of physical activity in the past week. The AAQ is a widely used reliable and valid
117 measure of physical activity.^{22,23} Physical activity levels were defined according to AAQ
118 criteria,²⁴ whereby 'sufficient' physical activity was defined as the accumulation of at
119 least 150 min of moderate or equivalent weighted vigorous activity over at least five

120 sessions in the past week. Physical activity over-reporters were re-coded according to
121 AAQ guidelines.²⁴ The self-administered questionnaire was pilot tested with a
122 convenience sample of women (n=23) from the Diabetes Australia-NSW membership
123 database. The telephone questionnaire was pilot tested with six women who had a recent
124 GDM (<3 years) pregnancy using a snowball sampling method.

125

126 *Australian Recommended Food Score*

127 Diet quality was assessed using the Australian Recommended Food Score (ARFS). The
128 ARFS is a diet quality score modelled on the Recommended Food Score developed by
129 Kant and Thompson²⁵ and derived from the Victorian Cancer Council's Dietary
130 Questionnaire for Epidemiological Studies (DQES) food frequency questionnaire
131 (FFQ).²⁶ The DQES was originally developed for use in an ethnically diverse cohort,²⁶
132 and has been validated against 7 day weighed food records in young Australian women
133 and found to an accurate estimate of usual dietary intake.²⁷ The ARFS is an index of
134 dietary variety and nutritional quality with higher scores reflecting greater adherence to
135 the Dietary Guidelines for Australians²⁸ and food variety within core food groups of the
136 Australian Guide to Healthy Eating.²⁹ It has been validated in a nationally representative
137 sample of Australian women,¹⁸ with a higher ARFS associated with a lower percentage
138 of energy from total and saturated fat, a higher percentage of energy from carbohydrates
139 and protein, and higher intakes of micronutrients.¹⁸

140

141 The ARFS requires respondents to report their usual consumption of foods over the
142 preceding 12 months. It includes nine questions regarding frequency of consumption of

143 core foods and details of usual food choices within each group. These questions are
144 closed ended with multiple response categories. This is followed by a 48 item FFQ with
145 dichotomised response categories. The FFQ includes only foods from the original DQES
146 FFQ that make a healthful contribution to dietary intake. The ARFS scoring is mostly
147 independent of reported quantities of food, rather is based on frequency of consumption
148 of core food items. Items from the 48 question FFQ consumed less than once a week
149 scored zero and those consumed once a week or more scored one. An additional score of
150 one was allocated for each of the following: consuming two or more fruit serves per day,
151 four or more vegetables per day, the use of reduced fat or skim milk or soy milk,
152 consuming at least 500mL of milk per day, using high fibre, wholemeal, rye or multigrain
153 breads, consuming at least four slices of bread per day, using polyunsaturated or
154 monounsaturated spreads or no fat spread, having one or two eggs per week, using ricotta
155 or cottage cheese and using low fat cheese, consuming ice cream and cheese each less
156 than once a week, yoghurt more than once a week. Frequency of alcohol consumption
157 between 1-2 days/month and 4 days per week was allocated one point and one point was
158 allocated for quantity of between one or two standard drinks. Zero points were added for
159 alcohol consumed outside of these ranges. Further details are provided in Table 1. The
160 maximum ARFS which indicates greater adherence to the recommendations in both the
161 Dietary Guidelines for Australians and the AGHE is 74.

162

163 For analysis, ARFS was divided into quintiles to create a categorical variable with
164 quintile one representing the lowest category of dietary quality and quintile five the
165 highest dietary quality. Those with more than four missing items were excluded from

166 analysis and missing values were re-coded as zero for those with up to four items
167 missing.

168

169 *Statistical analysis*

170 To correct for potential sampling bias, descriptive statistics, ARFS and component scores
171 were adjusted for age, country of birth, state of residence and insulin usage using weights
172 from 15880 women with complete data in the NDSS dataset. Unweighted analyses were
173 used to examine the predictors of ARFS. Univariate chi-square analyses were performed
174 to determine variables associated with ARFS quintiles. Statistically significant variables
175 ($p \leq 0.05$), as well as age and BMI, were included in a multiple variable multinomial
176 logistic regression analysis. Likelihood ratio tests were used to assess significance of
177 effects in the logistic regression model and used as the basis for retaining a variable in the
178 model. The Pearson Chi-Square was used to check the goodness of fit of the model. The
179 multiple variable model provides OR estimates adjusted for other variables in the model.
180 Odds ratios for quintiles 2 to 5 were referenced to quintile 1 and 95% confidence
181 intervals were calculated for each of these quintiles. Analyses were completed using
182 SPSS version 18.0 (IBM Corp., Somers, NY, USA).

183

184 **Results**

185 Of the 15893 women registered on the NDSS with gestational diabetes, invitations were
186 sent to 5147 women who met the inclusion criteria, with 302 women unable to be
187 contacted. Of those invited, 1736 women consented to participate (36% response rate).
188 Ineligible respondents who were currently pregnant (n=189), diagnosed with other forms

189 of diabetes (n=9) or those with missing demographic data required for sample weighting
190 (n=39) were excluded from analyses. Final data were available for 1499 respondents.

191

192 Using weighted data the mean age \pm SD was 34.2 \pm 5.1. Approximately two thirds were
193 Australian born (64.5%) or currently employed (67.4%). Less than half (40.1%) were
194 tertiary educated, 22.6% spoke a language other than English, and 1.7% were from an
195 Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background. A previous diagnosis of GDM (prior to
196 the index pregnancy) was reported by 13.1% of respondents, 25.7% used insulin during
197 the index pregnancy, 29.0% were overweight and 26.3% were obese with a mean (\pm SD)
198 self-reported BMI of 27.1 \pm 6.5.

199

200 The ARFS was calculated for 1447 women (52 women had more than four missing items,
201 so were excluded from the analyses). Mean (\pm SD) diet quality score was 30.9 \pm 8.1 from a
202 possible maximum score of 74. Subscale component scores are reported in Table 1 and
203 demonstrate that the meat, alcohol and vegetable components were the most highly
204 scored groups relative to the other components with nuts/legumes, grains and fruits the
205 most poorly scored. f

206

207 Table 2 reports the demographic characteristics, health seeking behaviours and diabetes
208 related risk factors of women with GDM by ARFS quintile. Independent variables found
209 to be significant ($P\leq 0.05$) in univariate analyses included region of birth, speaking only
210 English, being tertiary educated, returning for postpartum follow-up blood glucose (BG)
211 testing, being sufficiently physically active and receiving risk reduction advice from a
212 health professional. When these variables (as well as age and BMI) were included in

213 multinomial logistic regression analyses, they remained significant, with the exception
214 of region of birth which was excluded from the final model, see Table 3. The Pearson
215 Chi-Square was not significant ($\text{ChiSq}(5116)=5116, p=0.499$) indicating a satisfactory fit
216 of the model to the data.

217

218 Table 3 contains all the significant effects in the multiple variable multinomial logistic
219 regression model expressed as odds ratios (OR) and 95% confidence intervals for ARFS
220 quintiles 2 to 5, using the lowest quintile as the reference group for each OR. The
221 reference groups for the categorical explanatory variables are indicated by OR's = 1.
222 Interpretation of the effects is similar for all variables in the model as they have a positive
223 relationship with dietary score. The relative impact of the six significant factors can be
224 assessed by comparing the OR's for ARFS quintile 5. Factors associated with being in
225 the highest compared with the lowest ARFS quintile included age (OR 5 year increase
226 =1.40; 95% CI:1.16-1.68), tertiary education (OR=2.19; 95% CI:1.52-3.17), speaking
227 only English (OR=1.92; 95% CI:1.19-3.08), being sufficiently physically active
228 (OR=2.11; 95% CI:1.46-3.05), returning for postpartum blood glucose testing (OR=1.75;
229 95% CI:1.23-2.50) and receiving risk reduction advice from a health professional
230 (OR=1.80; 95% CI:1.24-2.60). There was a trend such that as BMI increased women
231 were less likely to be in the highest compared with the lowest ARFS quintile (reference
232 group). However this failed to reach significance in the likelihood ratio test ($p=0.078$)
233 and was excluded from the final model. Table 3 also provides OR estimates for the other
234 three quintiles of diet quality to show the overall pattern across quintiles.

235

236 **Discussion**

237 This is the first Australian study to date investigating diet quality in a national sample of
238 women with a history of GDM. Despite their increased risk of developing type 2
239 diabetes, women in this study had an overall poor diet quality as measured by the ARFS,
240 indicating suboptimal intakes of key food groups and eating patterns not aligned with
241 national guidelines.²⁸ These findings are consistent with research done with
242 representative samples of young and mid-aged Australian women whereby poor diet
243 quality and disparities between national food group recommendations and dietary intakes
244 have been reported.^{18,30,31}

245

246 Analysis by component sub-scores indicated that nuts/legumes, fruit and grains were the
247 food groups most poorly scored by women with previous GDM. To achieve a higher
248 score in these food categories women would need to consume a variety of high fibre and
249 wholegrain breads and cereals, legumes and increase the amount and variety of fruit
250 consumed each week. Despite an already elevated risk of type 2 diabetes in this group, it
251 is plausible that poor diet quality as found in this study, may further increase their risk for
252 longer term chronic disease risk including both type 2 diabetes^{14,32,33} and cardiovascular
253 disease.³⁴ This highlights a need to target specific dietary changes for women with
254 previous GDM to prevent subsequent chronic disease.

255

256 Consistent with other studies, we found that tertiary educated³⁵ and older women had
257 better diet quality. These results are consistent with the findings of Collins et al (2008)
258 who found the same relationship in a nationally representative sample of mid-aged
259 Australian women.¹⁸ In the current study we also found that those who spoke only

260 English were almost twice as likely to have an ARFS in the upper quintile after
261 adjustment for education and other significant variables, indicating that language or
262 cultural barriers influence an individual's ability to achieve a high quality diet.
263 Considering that the risk of developing GDM in Australia is greater among women from
264 non-English speaking backgrounds,^{2,36} this is an important finding and indicates that this
265 group may require additional support and/or targeted interventions.

266

267 As may be expected, the current study confirms that women who practise other
268 preventative health behaviours are more likely to report better quality dietary intakes. In
269 the present study, women who met the guidelines for physical activity were more than
270 twice as likely to be in the upper compared to the lower quintile for diet quality. Women
271 who sought postpartum testing for diabetes also reported better diet quality. While
272 previous studies have shown low rates of postpartum testing for diabetes following a
273 GDM pregnancy,^{37,38,39} this finding suggests that either they are the more motivated
274 group to improve their lifestyle following GDM or that being advised to return for
275 follow-up acts as a motivating factor for improved diet quality.

276

277 The finding that women who received risk reduction advice from a health professional
278 were more likely to have better diet quality highlights the importance of providing
279 lifestyle interventions targeting postpartum risk reduction. Despite this, we have
280 previously demonstrated poor follow-up and limited provision of postpartum dietary
281 advice for this high-risk group.⁴¹ With diabetes prevention studies providing evidence of
282 the benefit of intensive lifestyle interventions for reducing the incidence of type 2

283 diabetes in those at highest risk,^{42,43,44} these results support the need for additional
284 resources to address postpartum lifestyle management.

285

286 The association between BMI and diet quality has been reported in previous studies.^{45,46}
287 Although we found a trend towards women with a lower BMI having better diet quality,
288 these results did not reach statistical significance in logistic regression analysis.
289 Postpartum weight retention may have confounded this relationship between weight and
290 diet quality. The use of self-reported weight may also have biased BMI calculations.
291 Studies using postal survey methodology have demonstrated that self-report
292 underestimates weight in women by an average of 0.95kg, with those in overweight and
293 obese categories underestimating by up to 2.5kg.⁴⁷ With both body weight and dietary
294 patterns being important determinants of type 2 diabetes risk,¹⁹ this trend warrants further
295 investigation in particular with women with a longer postpartum duration.

296

297 This study has several limitations; most notable is the low (36%) response rate. It is also
298 possible that a response bias towards potentially more health conscious women may
299 present an optimistic assessment of postpartum diet quality. As with any tool used to
300 measure dietary intake, the ARFS has a number of limitations. Respondents are asked to
301 report their usual consumption of foods over the preceding 12 months, therefore results
302 may be influenced by the season in which the questionnaire was administered or be more
303 likely to emphasise recently consumed foods. It is possible that our findings are also
304 influenced by under or over-reporting. However, as the ARFS focuses on frequency of
305 consumption of core foods and the variety of food choices within those groups, the

306 scoring is independent of reported amounts of food items which would have limited the
307 associated measurement error. Further, we did not collect longitudinal data to determine
308 associations between diet quality and long-term chronic disease risk. Despite these
309 limitations, our study did have a large sample size drawn from a population-based
310 registry as opposed to a hospital or insurance-based data set, strengthening the
311 applicability of the study to a larger population of women with prior GDM.

312

313 **Conclusion**

314 Women with previous GDM should be targeted for dietary interventions aimed at
315 improving overall diet quality in the postpartum period. In particular, barriers to healthy
316 eating may need to be addressed in those at highest risk of poor diet quality including
317 younger women, those with a lower level of education, women who speak a language
318 other than English and those who do not seek postpartum follow-up. Our study suggests
319 that health professionals could play an important role in providing postpartum risk
320 reduction advice which may improve overall diet quality, and further research is needed
321 to assess the impact of health professional advice on preventative behaviours and
322 subsequent chronic disease risk among women with GDM. A systematic approach to
323 follow-up is urgently needed to ensure that all women diagnosed with GDM receive
324 adequate information and support to achieve a diet consistent with the guidelines for
325 chronic disease prevention.

326

327 **Conflict of interest**

328 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

329

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528 Table 1: The Australian Recommended Food Score (ARFS): Scoring method, component
 529 scores (mean and standard deviation (SD)) and total ARFS for women with previous
 530 GDM

Food Group	Items allocated one point	Maximum Score	Mean	SD
Vegetables	≥4 vegetables/day; potatoes; tomato sauce/paste/dried; tomatoes fresh/canned; capsicum; lettuce/endive/salad greens; cucumber; celery; beetroot; carrots; cabbage/brussels sprouts; cauliflower; broccoli; silverbeet/spinach; peas; green beans; bean/alfalfa sprouts; pumpkin; onions/leeks; garlic; mushrooms; zucchini	22	11.7	4.4
Fruit	≥2 serves fruit/day; ≥1/week of each fruit or vegetable juice; canned or frozen fruit; oranges or other citrus; apples; pears; bananas; melons; pineapple; strawberries; apricots; peach/nectarine; mango/pawpaw; avocado	14	4.8	3.1
Grains	≥4 slices bread/day; ≥1/week of each bread type – white high fibre; wholemeal; rye; multigrain; wholemeal; ≥1/week Allbran; Sultana Bran/Fibre Plus/Branflakes; Weet-Bix/VitaBrits/Weeties; rice; pasta/noodles; vegemite/marmite/promite; porridge; muesli; Cornflakes/Nutrigrain/Special K;	14	4.3	1.7
Dairy	>500ml milk/day; reduced fat or skim; ≤1/week cheese, ice cream; ≥ 1 week yoghurt; ricotta/ cottage cheese; low fat cheese	7	2.7	1.1
Nuts/legumes	Nuts; peanut butter; ≥1/week of each baked beans; soy beans/tofu; soya milk; other beans (chickpeas, lentils)	7	1.7	1.1
Meat, eggs, poultry	1-4/week of beef; veal; lamb; pork; chicken; up to 2 eggs/week	5	2.8	1.2
Fish	1-4/week of fish (steamed, baked, grilled); canned fish (salmon, tuna, sardines)	2	1.0	0.8
Fats	Use polyunsaturated/monounsaturated spread or nil margarine	1	0.5	0.5
Alcohol	<1/month up to 4 days/week beer/wine/spirits; maximum/day 1-2 standard drinks	2	1.1	0.8
Total ARFS		74	30.9	8.1

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533 Table 2: Percentage (%) of Women in Each Quintile of the Australian Recommended
 534 Food Score (ARFS) by demographic characteristics, health seeking behaviours and
 535 diabetes related risk factors

	Quintiles of ARFS						χ^2
	Unweighted Mean \pm SD ARFS	1=lowest, 5= highest (ARFS score)					
		1 (\leq 24) n=312 %	2 (25-29) n=304 %	3 (30-33) n=256 %	4 (34-38) n=321 %	5 (39+) n=254 %	
	31.1 \pm 8.0	20.6	22.0	18.9	21.5	17.0	χ^2 (20) =30.32, p=0.07*
	29.7 \pm 9.0	31.3	17.4	16.7	16.7	18.1	
	33.0 \pm 6.9	10.2	22.0	15.3	35.6	16.9	
	31.4 \pm 8.5	24.1	18.0	12.8	24.8	20.3	
	29.0 \pm 9.3	35.0	20.0	5.0	20.0	20.0	
	33.1 \pm 7.8	14.6	17.1	17.1	31.7	19.5	
Language							
- English only	31.3 \pm 8.1	19.7	21.7	18.4	22.4	17.9	χ^2 (4) =14.38, p=0.006*
- Other	30.1 \pm 8.5	30.6	17.5	14.4	21.4	16.2	
Tertiary educated							
- Yes	32.3 \pm 7.8	16.0	21.0	17.2	24.6	21.2	χ^2 (4) =22.22, p <0.001*
- No	30.3 \pm 8.3	25.0	21.0	18.0	20.6	15.3	
Employed							
- Yes	31.3 \pm 8.1	20.6	21.0	18.2	22.7	17.5	χ^2 (4) =1.91, p=0.75
- No	30.8 \pm 8.3	23.5	21.0	16.8	21.2	17.5	
Insulin requiring							
- Yes	31.1 \pm 7.9	22.3	21.6	18.0	19.2	18.9	χ^2 (4) =3.29, p=0.51
- No	31.0 \pm 8.7	21.3	20.8	17.6	23.4	17.0	
Previous GDM							
- Yes	31.0 \pm 8.1	19.2	17.7	19.2	25.1	18.7	χ^2 (4) =3.29, p=0.51
- No	31.7 \pm 8.2	22.0	21.6	17.5	21.7	17.3	
Return for follow-up BGL							
- Yes	31.9 \pm 8.4	18.5	20.5	17.5	23.3	20.2	χ^2 (4) =13.52, p=0.009*
- No	30.3 \pm 7.8	24.7	21.5	17.9	21.1	14.8	
Sufficiently active							
- Yes	32.6 \pm 8.1	16.6	18.4	18.2	24.2	22.8	χ^2 (4) =23.64, p<0.001*
- No	30.4 \pm 8.1	23.7	22.9	17.6	20.9	14.9	
Risk reduction advice							
- Yes	31.7 \pm 8.0	19.4	21.0	16.9	23.2	19.4	χ^2 (4) =12.41, p=0.02*
- No	30.0 \pm 8.3	25.3	20.9	19.1	20.4	14.3	
Hyperlipidaemia							
- Yes	31.5 \pm 8.0	17.9	21.4	17.9	27.9	15.0	χ^2 (4) =3.83, p=0.43
- No	31.1 \pm 8.2	22.0	21.0	17.7	21.6	17.8	
Hypertension							
- Yes	30.5 \pm 8.8	25.4	21.8	16.2	18.8	17.8	χ^2 (4) =3.08, p=0.54
- No	31.2 \pm 8.1	21.0	20.9	17.9	22.7	17.5	
Type 2 diabetes							
- Yes	31.1 \pm 7.2	12.1	30.3	21.2	18.2	18.2	χ^2 (4) =3.72, p=0.51
- No	30.1 \pm 8.2	21.8	20.8	17.6	22.3	17.5	

536 * Statistically significant at $p \leq 0.05$

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538 Table 3: Effect sizes for the multinomial logistic regression model of variables associated
 539 with diet quality[^]

	Quintiles of ARFS				<i>p</i> [*]
	1=lowest [#] , 5= highest (ARFS score)				
	Quintile 2 (25-29)	Quintile 3 (30-33)	Quintile 4 (34-38)	Quintile 5 (39+)	
	<i>Adjusted OR</i> <i>95%CI</i>	<i>Adjusted OR</i> <i>95%CI</i>	<i>Adjusted OR</i> <i>95%CI</i>	<i>Adjusted OR</i> <i>95%CI</i>	
Age (5 year increase)	0.91(0.77-1.08)	1.15(0.96-1.37)	1.29(1.09-1.53)	1.40(1.16-1.68)	<.001
Tertiary educated					
- Yes	1.74(1.22-2.47)	1.55(1.07-2.24)	1.93(1.36-2.74)	2.19(1.52-3.17)	<.001
- No	1	1	1	1	
Sufficiently active					
- Yes	1.12(0.78-1.61)	1.43(0.99-2.07)	1.60(1.12-2.27)	2.11(1.46-3.05)	<.001
- No	1	1	1	1	
Follow-up BG testing					
- Yes	1.24(0.89-1.72)	1.31(0.93-1.85)	1.44(1.03-1.99)	1.75(1.23-2.50)	.03
- No	1	1	1	1	
Language					
- English only	2.11(1.35-3.32)	2.10(1.30-3.38)	1.67(1.09-2.57)	1.92(1.19-3.08)	.005
- Other	1	1	1	1	
Risk reduction advice					
- Yes	1.31(0.93-1.83)	1.19(0.84-1.70)	1.55(1.10-2.18)	1.80(1.24-2.60)	.02
- No	1	1	1	1	

540 [^] Diet quality was the response variable in the model and was measured using ARFS quintiles, the
 541 significant effects related to diet quality are the six variables listed in the table.

542 [#] Quintile 1 is the reference group (scores ≤ 24)

543 ^{*} Significance of the effect of each variable by the Likelihood Ratio Test