

Diet and exercise interventions improve health markers in individuals with an increased risk of disease

Submission date 04/04/2018	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
Registration date 18/04/2018	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Last Edited 18/04/2018	Condition category Nutritional, Metabolic, Endocrine	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Results
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
		<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

The purpose of this study was to examine whether lifestyle patterns mimicking those of our ancestors, such as food and movement patterns, would influence health markers for those individuals at an increased risk for disease.

Who can participate?

Individuals between the ages of 18-65 years, with an increased risk of cardiovascular and metabolic disease (i.e. Metabolic Syndrome) were recruited for this study.

What does the study involve?

Subjects consumed a Paleolithic diet for 4 weeks with sedentary activity, returned to their habitual dietary patterns and sedentary activity for 4 weeks, and then consumed the Paleolithic diet with high intensity exercise for 4 weeks.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

There were no known benefits or high risks to the trial.

Where is the study run from? (what are the approximate number and names of centres taking part in this trial, if there is a lead centre, which one is it?)

This study took place at Grand Valley State University Exercise Physiology Testing Laboratory.

When is study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

Recruitment for the trial began April 20, 2016.

Who is funding the study?

No outside funding supported this trial.

Who is the main contact?

Amy Gyorkos, gyorkosa@gvsu.edu

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

Dr Amy Gyorkos

Contact details

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49401

Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

13

Study information

Scientific Title

Carbohydrate-restricted diet and HIIT exercise improves cardio-metabolic, inflammatory profiles, and cognition in metabolic syndrome: a randomized crossover trial

Study objectives

Diet and exercise patterns that more closely resemble those of our evolutionary past will favorably affect inflammatory, cardio-metabolic, and cognitive profiles in individuals characterized as having metabolic syndrome.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Institutional Review Board at Grand Valley State University, 20/04/2016, ref: 16-105-H

Study design

Randomized two-phase crossover trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Prevention

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Metabolic syndrome, according to the National Cholesterol Education Program-Adult Treatment Panel III

Interventions

The two phases of the crossover design included a carbohydrate-restricted Paleolithic-based diet with sedentary behavior (CRPD-Sed) and a carbohydrate-restricted Paleolithic-based diet with high intensity interval training (CRPD-Ex). Both phases were 4 weeks in duration and separated by a 4-week washout period during which subjects returned to baseline behaviors.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)

Cardiovascular and metabolic health were assessed following 4 weeks of diet or diet and exercise intervention. Blood was collected at 0, 4, 8, and 12 weeks. Assessments included lipoprotein markers (Cholestech LDX® system), adiposity (hydrostatic weighing), metabolic markers (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) and VO2max (peak exercise test).

Key secondary outcome(s)

Cognition functioning was assessed using Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor protein content (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay), performance on the Stroop Test, as well as a self-reported measure of cognitive symptoms and function (Medical Outcomes Study Cognitive Functional Scale).

Completion date

20/08/2017

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Aged 18-60 years
2. Metabolic syndrome (MetS), according to the National Cholesterol Education Program-Adult Treatment Panel III.
3. Stable weight for at least 3 months
4. Relatively sedentary (defined as engaged in exercise <30 min/day or VO2 peak <45 ml/kg/min)

Participant type(s)

Other

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 years

Upper age limit

60 years

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Special diets
2. Medications for chronic disease
3. Cardiovascular, metabolic, pulmonary, or osteoarticular disease

Date of first enrolment

20/04/2016

Date of final enrolment

20/08/2017

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

United States of America

Study participating centre

Grand Valley State University

United States of America

49401

Sponsor information**Organisation**

Grand Valley State University

ROR

<https://ror.org/001m1hv61>

Funder(s)**Funder type**

University/education

Funder Name

Grand Valley State University

Alternative Name(s)

Grand Valley State College, Grand Valley, Grand Valley State Colleges, GVSU, GV

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype
Universities (academic only)

Location
United States of America

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan
The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study during this study will be included in the subsequent results publication.

IPD sharing plan summary
Other

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes