

Higher dietary intakes of choline and betaine are associated with a lower risk of primary liver cancer: a case-control study

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Supplemental Table S1. Top five contributors of food sources of total choline, main choline containing compounds and betaine among all subjects

Nutrients intake	Food source	Proportion (%)	
Total choline (273.5 mg/d)	Eggs	21.5	
	Streaky Pork	13.0	
	Lean Hogs	10.8	
	Chinese flowering cabbage, mustard greens, collard greens and broccoli	8.7	
	Poultry	4.0	
Phosphatidylcholine (167.9 mg/d)	Eggs	32.7	
	Streaky Pork	16.1	
	Lean Hogs	11.0	
	Chinese flowering cabbage, mustard greens, collard greens and broccoli	7.3	
	Freshwater fishes	4.4	
Sphingomyelin (13.5 mg/d)	Streaky Pork	20.9	
	Lean Hogs	18.7	
	Eggs	18.1	
	Poultry	14.2	
	Regular front feet	6.2	
Free choline (46.0 mg/d)	Chinese flowering cabbage, mustard greens, collard greens and broccoli	10.8	
	Chinese cabbage, cauliflower, celery	8.1	
	Chinese cabbage, leaf lettuce, and lettuce	7.6	
	Rice	6.9	
	Soymilk	5.1	
	Glycerophosphocholine (26.7 mg/d)	Lean Hogs	24.8
		Rice	15.3
Streaky Pork		10.6	
Whole milk		9.9	
Porridge		5.7	
Phosphocholine (13.1 mg/d)	Chinese flowering cabbage, mustard greens, collard greens and broccoli	40.5	
	Chinese cabbage, leaf lettuce, and lettuce	6.5	
	Whole milk	4.9	
	Wax gourd, cucumber and zucchini	4.8	
	Soymilk	4.7	
Betaine (85.4 mg/d)	Noodles	26.1	
	Spinach	23.4	
	Steamed buns	14.9	
	Whole-wheat bread	9.5	
	Freshwater fishes	6.0	

Methionine	Rice	34.4
(1904 mg/d)	Porridge	12.9
	Lean hogs	10.9
	Freshwater fishes	5.5
	Eggs	4.4

Supplemental Table S2. Associations between tertiles of total choline, betaine, methionine intake and primary liver cancer risk according to lifestyle behaviors¹

	n (cases/controls)	OR (95% CI)	n (cases/controls)	OR (95% CI)
Smoking		No		Yes
Tertile of total choline				
T1	161/120	1.00	155/94	1.00
T2	78/121	0.48 (0.32, 0.73)	104/95	0.64 (0.42, 0.97)
T3	60/120	0.38 (0.25, 0.59)	86/94	0.47 (0.30, 0.72)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.406	
Tertile of betaine				
T1	133/120	1.00	171/94	1.00
T2	90/121	0.84 (0.56, 1.27)	79/95	0.48 (0.31, 0.73)
T3	76/120	0.76 (0.50, 1.16)	95/94	0.54 (0.35, 0.83)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.199		0.003
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.259	
Tertile of methionine				
T1	81/120	1.00	99/94	1.00
T2	68/121	0.77 (0.49, 1.20)	96/95	1.01 (0.65, 1.55)
T3	150/120	1.65 (1.10, 2.47)	150/94	1.25 (0.83, 1.90)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.008		0.276
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.218	
Score *				
0	62/27	1.00	70/32	1.00
1	116/112	0.39 (0.22, 0.71)	145/81	0.72 (0.42, 1.24)
2	86/136	0.26 (0.14, 0.47)	105/124	0.34 (0.20, 0.59)
3	35/86	0.19 (0.10, 0.38)	25/46	0.23 (0.11, 0.48)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.790	
Alcohol use		No		Yes
Tertile of total choline				
T1	210/173	1.00	127/41	1.00
T2	132/173	0.63 (0.45, 0.87)	42/42	0.34 (0.18, 0.62)
T3	94/173	0.45 (0.32, 0.65)	39/42	0.31 (0.17, 0.57)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.070	
Tertile of betaine				
T1	207/173	1.00	94/41	1.00
T2	114/173	0.62 (0.44, 0.86)	70/42	0.82 (0.46, 1.47)
T3	115/173	0.61 (0.44, 0.87)	44/42	0.55 (0.30, 1.03)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.004		0.064
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.918	

Tertile of methionine

T1	117/173	1.00	68/41	1.00
T2	108/173	0.93 (0.65, 1.32)	61/42	0.91 (0.49, 1.68)
T3	211/173	1.73 (1.24, 2.42)	79/42	1.04 (0.58, 1.86)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.001		0.894
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.179	

Score

0	93/45	1.00	39/14	1.00
1	176/167	0.44 (0.28, 0.69)	85/26	1.12 (0.50, 2.49)
2	127/210	0.26 (0.16, 0.41)	64/50	0.48 (0.22, 1.04)
3	40/97	0.20 (0.11, 0.36)	20/35	0.26 (0.10, 0.63)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.669	

Drink tea**No****Yes****Tertile of total choline**

T1	139/82	1.00	176/132	1.00
T2	80/82	0.56 (0.36, 0.89)	115/133	0.62 (0.43, 0.90)
T3	72/82	0.42 (0.26, 0.67)	62/133	0.35 (0.23, 0.54)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.360	

Tertile of betaine

T1	115/82	1.00	167/132	1.00
T2	97/82	0.88 (0.56, 1.37)	97/133	0.80 (0.54, 1.17)
T3	79/82	0.64 (0.41, 1.02)	89/133	0.66 (0.44, 0.98)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.062		0.038
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.399	

Tertile of methionine

T1	76/82	1.00	106/132	1.00
T2	71/82	0.96 (0.60, 1.55)	90/133	0.75 (0.50, 1.13)
T3	144/82	1.96 (1.25, 3.06)	157/133	1.16 (0.79, 1.71)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.002		0.385
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.401	

Score

0	63/28	1.00	69/31	1.00
1	127/91	0.52 (0.29, 0.92)	134/102	0.57 (0.33, 0.99)
2	79/92	0.31 (0.17, 0.57)	112/168	0.30 (0.17, 0.51)
3	22/35	0.18 (0.08, 0.40)	38/97	0.23 (0.12, 0.43)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.686	

BMI(kg/m²)**<25****≥25****Tertile of total choline**

T1		1.00		1.00
T2	252/157	0.58 (0.41, 0.80)	69/57	0.51 (0.28, 0.91)

T3	141/157	0.39 (0.27, 0.56)	43/58	0.37 (0.20, 0.70)
<i>P</i> -trend	107/157	<0.001	32/58	0.002
<i>P</i> -interaction				0.929
Tertile of betaine				
T1	247/157	1.00	54/57	1.00
T2	131/157	0.61 (0.44, 0.85)	46/58	0.94 (0.52, 1.71)
T3	122/157	0.51 (0.36, 0.73)	44/58	1.03 (0.57, 1.88)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		0.920
<i>P</i> -interaction				0.044
Tertile of methionine				
T1	150/157	1.00	40/57	1.00
T2	119/157	0.82 (0.58, 1.17)	27/58	0.77 (0.40, 1.48)
T3	231/157	1.47 (1.06, 2.03)	77/58	1.80 (1.00, 3.23)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.016		0.034
<i>P</i> -interaction				0.547
Score				
0	106/41	1.00	26/18	1.00
1	205/140	0.52 (0.33, 0.81)	56/53	0.73 (0.33, 1.63)
2	145/195	0.27 (0.17, 0.43)	46/65	0.49 (0.22, 1.08)
3	44/95	0.19 (0.11, 0.33)	16/37	0.35 (0.14, 0.88)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		0.009
<i>P</i> -interaction				0.228
Age (years)				
		≤54		>54
Tertile of total choline				
T1	161/108	1.00	166/106	1.00
T2	98/109	0.55 (0.37, 0.82)	79/107	0.53 (0.34, 0.82)
T3	66/108	0.31 (0.20, 0.49)	74/106	0.51 (0.33, 0.80)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		0.002
<i>P</i> -interaction				0.486
Tertile of betaine				
T1	119/108	1.00	181/106	1.00
T2	101/109	0.82 (0.55, 1.24)	64/107	0.46 (0.29, 0.71)
T3	105/108	0.88 (0.58, 1.32)	74/106	0.49 (0.32, 0.76)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.541		0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction				0.019
Tertile of methionine				
T1	124/108	1.00	65/106	1.00
T2	76/109	0.61 (0.40, 0.92)	69/107	0.95 (0.58, 1.55)
T3	125/108	0.93 (0.63, 1.37)	185/106	2.74 (1.75, 4.28)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.707		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction				<0.001
Score				
0	68/40	1.00	64/19	1.00

1	136/109	0.71 (0.43, 1.17)	125/84	0.39 (0.20, 0.75)
2	95/131	0.39 (0.23, 0.65)	96/129	0.22 (0.11, 0.42)
3	26/45	0.29 (0.15, 0.57)	34/87	0.15 (0.07, 0.31)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.155	
Physical activity		≤33.3		>33.3
(MET· h per day)				
Tertile of total choline				
T1	210/71	1.00	125/143	1.00
T2	127/72	0.45 (0.27, 0.75)	57/143	0.50 (0.32, 0.77)
T3	92/72	0.42 (0.24, 0.73)	33/143	0.27 (0.16, 0.44)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.047	
Tertile of betaine				
T1	192/71	1.00	112/143	1.00
T2	122/72	0.94 (0.56, 1.56)	55/143	0.61 (0.40, 0.95)
T3	115/72	0.88 (0.52, 1.51)	48/143	0.51 (0.32, 0.80)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.643		0.003
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.225	
Tertile of methionine				
T1	109/71	1.00	69/143	1.00
T2	102/72	0.93 (0.54, 1.62)	53/143	0.79 (0.50, 1.25)
T3	218/72	1.52 (0.90, 2.54)	93/143	1.28 (0.84, 1.97)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.091		0.225
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.245	
Score				
0	81/11	1.00	51/48	1.00
1	167/67	0.31 (0.14, 0.70)	94/126	0.76 (0.45, 1.27)
2	138/91	0.22 (0.10, 0.51)	53/169	0.36 (0.21, 0.62)
3	43/46	0.16 (0.07, 0.41)	17/86	0.25 (0.12, 0.51)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.831	
Education level		Low		High
Tertile of total choline				
T1	178/87	1.00	138/127	1.00
T2	105/87	0.54 (0.35, 0.83)	87/128	0.53 (0.35, 0.81)
T3	66/87	0.31 (0.20, 0.49)	70/128	0.42 (0.27, 0.66)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.327	
Tertile of betaine				
T1	161/87	1.00	130/127	1.00
T2	96/87	0.65 (0.43, 1.01)	81/128	0.75 (0.49, 1.13)
T3	92/87	0.56 (0.36, 0.86)	84/128	0.78 (0.51, 1.18)

<i>P</i> -trend		0.008		0.216
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.359	
Tertile of methionine				
T1	116/87	1.00	74/127	1.00
T2	80/87	0.64 (0.41, 0.99)	73/128	0.98 (0.62, 1.53)
T3	153/87	1.16 (0.77, 1.76)	148/128	1.79 (1.17, 2.72)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.429		0.004
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.139	
Score				
0	84/32	1.00	48/27	1.00
1	157/101	0.55 (0.33, 0.93)	104/92	0.64 (0.34, 1.20)
2	89/100	0.31 (0.18, 0.53)	102/160	0.38 (0.20, 0.69)
3	19/28	0.21 (0.09, 0.46)	41/104	0.25 (0.13, 0.50)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
<i>P</i> -interaction			0.702	
HBV infectious				
		No		Yes
Tertile of total choline				
T1	61/214	1.00	266/214	1.00
T2	29/215	0.47 (0.27, 0.80)	148/215	0.53 (0.39, 0.72)
T3	31/215	0.37 (0.21, 0.64)	109/215	0.37 (0.27, 0.52)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
Tertile of betaine				
T1	63/214	1.00	239/214	1.00
T2	32/215	0.55 (0.33, 0.92)	141/215	0.68 (0.50, 0.92)
T3	26/215	0.42 (0.24, 0.73)	143/215	0.66 (0.48, 0.89)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.002		0.006
Tertile of methionine				
T1	35/214	1.00	148/214	1.00
T2	26/215	0.72 (0.40, 1.30)	136/215	0.91 (0.66, 1.25)
T3	60/215	1.43 (0.86, 2.38)	239/215	1.55 (1.14, 2.09)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.128		0.003
Score				
0	29/59	1.00	103/59	1.00
1	48/193	0.48 (0.26, 0.90)	213/193	0.59 (0.39, 0.89)
2	33/260	0.23 (0.12, 0.45)	158/260	0.33 (0.22, 0.49)
3	11/132	0.17 (0.07, 0.40)	49/132	0.22 (0.13, 0.36)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001
Diagnosis				
		Tissue evaluation		MRI imaging
Tertile of total choline				
T1	124/214	1.00	203/214	1.00
T2	57/215	0.43 (0.28, 0.64)	120/215	0.60 (0.43, 0.83)
T3	46/215	0.33 (0.21, 0.51)	94/215	0.41 (0.29, 0.58)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001

Tertile of betaine				
T1	112/214	1.00	190/214	1.00
T2	69/215	0.71 (0.48, 1.04)	104/215	0.63 (0.45, 0.88)
T3	46/215	0.46 (0.30, 0.70)	123/215	0.71 (0.51, 0.99)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		0.032
Tertile of methionine				
T1	62/214	1.00	121/214	1.00
T2	72/215	1.15 (0.76, 1.74)	90/215	0.72 (0.50, 1.02)
T3	93/215	1.36 (0.91, 2.04)	206/215	1.54 (1.12, 2.13)
<i>P</i> -trend		0.135		0.004
Score				
0	47/59	1.00	85/59	1.00
1	96/193	0.54 (0.33, 0.91)	165/193	0.55 (0.36, 0.85)
2	65/260	0.28 (0.16, 0.47)	126/260	0.32 (0.21, 0.49)
3	19/132	0.17 (0.09, 0.34)	41/132	0.22 (0.13, 0.38)
<i>P</i> -trend		<0.001		<0.001

ORs (95% CI): from multivariate unconditional logistic regression models.

¹adjusted for sex, age, daily energy intake (ln-transformed), BMI, education level, occupation, household income, smoking, alcohol consumption, drink tea, physical activity.

P-trend: α for *p*-trends = 0.05/6(tests) = 0.0083

Abbreviation: CI=confidence interval

*: summing the scores of each nutrient of choline (0= < median, 1= ≥ median), betaine (0= < median, 1= ≥ median), and methionine (0 = quartile 1 and 4, 1= quartile 2 and 3)

Supplemental Table S 3 . Odds ratios (OR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI) of primary liver cancer according to tertiles of total choline, betaine, methionine intake in men

	Amount (mg/d)	n (cases/controls)	Model1 OR (95% CI)	Model2 OR (95% CI)
Tertile of choline				
T1	<253	269/186	1.00	1.00
T2	253-315	161/186	0.61 (0.46, 0.81)	0.59 (0.44, 0.80)
T3	>315	129/187	0.48 (0.36, 0.64)	0.44 (0.32, 0.62)
<i>P</i> -trend			<0.001	<0.001
Tertile of betaine				
T1	<72	259/186	1.00	1.00
T2	72-117	149/186	0.57 (0.42, 0.75)	0.64 (0.47, 0.87)
T3	>117	151/187	0.57 (0.43, 0.76)	0.64 (0.47, 0.88)
<i>P</i> -trend			<0.001	0.005
Tertile of methionine				
T1	<1757	169/186	1.00	1.00
T2	1757-2004	136/186	0.81 (0.60, 1.10)	0.92 (0.66, 1.28)

T3	>2004	254/187	1.51 (1.14, 2.00)	1.71 (1.22, 2.39)
<i>P</i> -trend			0.002	0.001

Tertile of folate ($\mu\text{g/d}$)

T1	<309	199/186	1.00	1.00
T2	309-360	160/186	0.81 (0.60, 1.09)	1.31 (0.91, 1.89)
T3	>360	200/187	1.02 (0.76, 1.35)	2.66 (1.57, 4.51)
<i>P</i> -trend			0.915	<0.001

Models 1 and 2: from conditional logistic model.

Model 1: adjusted for daily energy intake (ln-transformed), besides matched by sex and age.

Model 2: Model 1 +, BMI, education level, occupation, household income, smoking, drinking, drink tea, physical activity and dietary folate intake.