

## Supplemental Online Content

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This supplemental material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

## **eAppendix. Supplementary Methods**

We followed relevant sections of the Meta-analysis of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (MOOSE) guidelines.

Umbrella reviews are useful tools that provide a comprehensive overview of evidence of published systematic reviews and meta-analyses on a specific topic. They can elucidate the strength of evidence and the precision of the estimates, and evaluate risk of bias of the published reports. Our objective in this study is to grade the evidence from published meta-analyses of prospective observational studies that assessed the association between dietary patterns, specific foods, food groups, beverages (including alcohol), macronutrients, and micronutrients and incidence of colorectal cancer (CRC). Definition of different dietary patterns is provided below:

**Research questions:** 1) Which dietary factors are associated with the incidence of colorectal cancer in the general adult population? 2) How credible is the evidence behind these associations in published meta-analyses of prospective observational studies?

**Eligibility criteria:** PICO characteristics: population-adults of any age; exposure-any dietary patterns, pre-specified diet quality indices, specific foods, food groups, beverages (including alcohol), macronutrients (i.e., carbohydrate, fat, protein), and micronutrients (vitamins, minerals, antioxidants, polyphenols); comparison of this study-1) exposed group to any of the aforementioned factors versus the non-exposed group and 2) high intake of any of the aforementioned diet groups versus a low intake group; and primary outcome-incidence of colorectal cancer.

Studies were included that met the following criteria: 1) meta-analysis of prospective observational studies (i.e., cohort design) among adults with multivariable-adjusted summary risk estimates and corresponding 95% confidence intervals; and 2) investigated the association of dietary factor(s) with the incidence of CRC. Studies were excluded if they were primary studies, or if no summary estimate was reported (e.g., systematic reviews without meta-analysis). We also excluded (1) meta-analyses of studies with other study designs; and (2) meta-analyses that provided insufficient or inadequate data for quantitative synthesis. We also excluded meta-analyses published in languages other than English. When more than one meta-analysis on the same research question was eligible, only one meta-analysis was selected for each exposure to avoid the inclusion of duplicate studies. In that case, the meta-analysis with the largest number of primary studies was selected. If more than one published meta-analysis on the same exposure included an equal number of studies, the one with the largest number of CRC cases was chosen. If more than one published meta-analysis fulfilled both criteria, the one with more comprehensive information on primary studies was selected.

**Search strategy:** We searched Medline, Embase and the Cochrane Library from database inception to September 2019. We also manually searched the cited references of the retrieved articles and reviews.

**Data extraction:** Data were extracted by two authors (Y.S. and T.Y.) and double-checked by a third author (S.V.). From each eligible article, we recorded the following: name of the first author, publication year, diet exposure, number of included studies, the total number of CRC cases and participants, type of comparison (e.g., high versus low), study-specific summary risk estimates (i.e., risk ratio (RR), odds ratio (OR), hazard ratio (HR), or incident rate ratio (IRR)) together with the corresponding confidence intervals, and estimates of publication bias. For each primary study included in the published meta-analysis, we noted whether relevant confounders were accounted for in adjusted summary estimates and reported. We communicated with authors to obtain data for evidence synthesis if it was not clearly reported in the published meta-analysis.

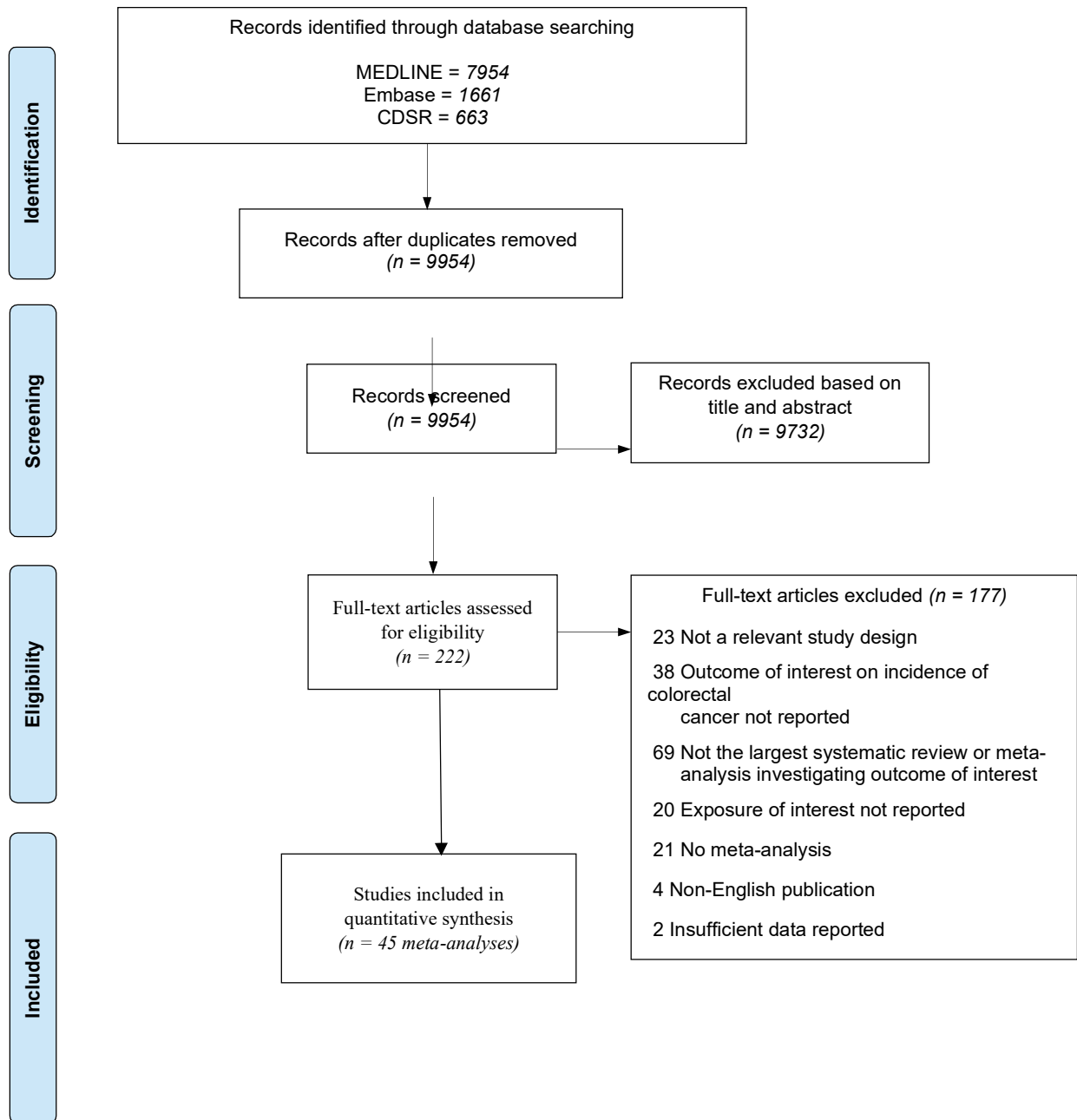
**Definition of important dietary patterns:**

Dietary pattern	Study	Exposure definition
Dietary calcium	Meng 2019 <sup>(218)</sup>	The comparison of elemental intake of dietary calcium from each study included in the meta-analysis classified as highest categories (Q3, Q4, and Q5 [up to 2057 mg/day]) and the lowest categories (Q1 and Q2 [ $<228$ mg/day]).
Dietary glyceemic load	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	Based on WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group
Dietary glyceemic load	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	Based on WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group
Healthy diet	Feng 2017 <sup>(179)</sup>	High intakes of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, olive oil, fish, soy, poultry, and low-fat dairy
Heavy alcohol drinking	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	Consumption of $\geq 4$ drinks/day ( $\geq 50$ g/day of ethanol)
Light alcohol drinking	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	Consumption of $\leq 1$ drink/day ( $\leq 12.5$ g/day of ethanol)
Mediterranean diet	Schwingshackl 2017 <sup>(178)</sup>	High consumption of plant-based foods, especially whole grain products, vegetables, fruits, nuts, and legumes with regular intake of fish and seafood. Eggs, red and processed meat as well as high-fat dairy products are consumed in low amounts
Moderate alcohol drinking	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	Consumption of 2–3 drinks/day (12.6–49.9 g/day of ethanol)
Western diet	Feng 2017	High consumption of red and/or processed meat, refined grains, sweets, high-fat dairy products, butter, potatoes and high-fat gravy, and low intake of fruits and vegetables
Non-vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	Eating meat more than once per week
Pesco-vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	Consumption of fish more than once per month in those following vegetarian diet
Semi-vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	Low consumption of meat (more than once per month but less than once per week)
Supplemental calcium	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	Use of calcium in supplement form. Mean level of intake: 145 mg/day to 1,130 mg/day
Unhealthy diet	Grosso 2017 <sup>(180)</sup>	High intakes of red and processed meat, sugary drinks and salty snacks, starchy foods, and refined carbohydrates
Vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	Eating meat less than once per month

**eTable 1. Search Strategy**

No.	Search term	Search results		
		Embase 1974	CDSR	MEDLINE
1	exp Systematic Review/ *CDSR: systematic review.mp.	219179	7127	112213
2	systematic review.ti,ab.	170483	794	130108
3	exp Meta Analysis/ *CDSR: meta analysis.mp.	171779	8406	104669
4	meta-analysis.ti,ab.	174319	1843	127415
5	exp Colorectal Neoplasms/ *CDSR: Colorectal Neoplasms.mp.	27509	60	192528
6	exp Colonic Neoplasms/ *CDSR: Colonic Neoplasms.mp.	304714	12	72783
7	exp Rectal Neoplasms/ *CDSR: Rectal Neoplasms.mp.	240553	27	45779
8	exp Adenomatous Polyps/ *CDSR: Adenomatous Polyps.mp.	8868	19	7822
9	exp Adenocarcinoma/ *CDSR: Adenocarcinoma.mp.	208037	286	365492
10	exp Intestinal Polyps/ *CDSR: Intestinal Polyps.mp.	30058	3	14332
11	exp Colonic Polyps/ *CDSR: Colonic Polyps.mp.	19381	9	8126
12	colorectal cancer\$.tw.	143433	280	92873
13	colorectal tumor\$.tw.	9331	18	6648
14	colorectal neoplas\$.tw.	5617	64	3574
15	colon cancer\$.tw.	65894	103	44261
16	colon tumor\$.tw.	6699	11	4907
17	colon neoplas\$.tw.	599	5	380
18	colonic cancer\$.tw.	3567	10	2808
19	colonic tumor\$.tw.	2450	1	1759
20	colonic neoplas\$.tw.	1679	19	1183
21	rectal cancer\$.tw.	34633	70	21678
22	rectal tumor\$.tw.	3399	11	2160
23	rectal neoplas\$.tw.	560	31	370
24	rectum cancer\$.tw.	929	18	520
25	rectum tumor\$.tw.	171	11	92
26	rectum neoplas\$.tw.	23	0	13
27	polyps\$.tw.	39414	110	268025
28	adenoma\$.tw.	106700	129	80009
29	adenomatous\$.tw.	19048	40	13997
30	exp Adenoma/ *CDSR: Adenoma.mp.	110273	79	98362
31	or/1-4	377143	9104	236427
32	or/5-30	667370	689	898844
33	31 and 32	12909	663	8899
34	Limit "33" to humans	1661 (exclude MEDLINE journals)	-	7954

**eFigure. Study Flow Diagram**



**eTable 2. Excluded Studies**

<b>Reason</b>	<b>References</b>
Outcome of interest on incidence of colorectal cancer not reported	(1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(7)(8)(9)(10)(11)(12)(13)(14)(15)(16)(17)(18)(19)(20)(21)(22)(23)(24)(25)(26)(27)(28)(29)(30)(31)(32)(33)(34)(35)(36)(37)(38)
Not a relevant study design	(39)(40)(41)(42)(43)(44)(45)(46)(47)(48)(49)(50)(51)(52)(53)(54)(55)(56)(57)(58)(59)(60)(61)
No meta-analysis	(62)(63)(64)(65)(66)(67)(68)(69)(70)(71)(72)(73)(74)(75)(76)(77)(78)(79)(80)(81)(82)
Exposure of interest not reported	(83)(84)(85)(86)(87)(88)(89)(90)(91)(92)(93)(94)(95)(96)(97)(98)(99)(100)(101)(102)
Non-English publication	(103)(104)(105)(106)
Not the largest systematic review or meta-analysis investigating outcome of interest	(107)(108)(109)(110)(111)(112)(113)(114)(115)(116)(117)(118)(119)(120)(121)(122)(123)(124)(125)(126)(127)(128)(129)(130)(131)(132)(133)(134)(135)(136)(137)(138)(139)(140)(141)(142)(143)(144)(145)(146)(147)(148)(149)(150)(151)(152)(153)(154)(155)(156)(157)(158)(159)(160)(161)(162)(163)(164)(165)(166)(167)(168)(169)(170)(171)(172)(173)(174)(175)
Insufficient data reported	(176)(177)

**eTable 3. Descriptive Characteristics of Included Meta-analyses**

Exposure	Author; publication year	No. of primary studies	No. of participants	No. of cases	Duration of follow-up (range in years; mean in years)	Adjustment for confounding variables
<b>Dietary behaviours or diet quality indices</b>						
Adherence to Mediterranean diet	Schwingshackl 2017 <sup>(178)</sup>	6	1410030	16102	5 - 26; 15.5	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, physical activity, educational level, socioeconomic status, smoking status, alcohol intake, family history of CRC, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, colonoscopy, history of polyps, multivitamin use, energy intake, menopausal status, HRT use
Adherence to healthy diet	Feng 2017 <sup>(179)</sup>	15	1182930	11537	1.7 - 14; 8.5	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, educational level, occupation, diabetes, BMI, smoking status, alcohol intake, physical activity, colorectal adenoma history, extent of colon resection, family history of CRC, energy intake, use of aspirin, use of HRT, multivitamin use, endoscopy
Adherence to unhealthy diet	Grosso 2017 <sup>(180)</sup>	7	979243	9104	5 - 14; 9.5	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, energy intake, diabetes, educational level, smoking status, alcohol intake, occupation, physical activity, family history of CRC, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, use of HRT
Adherence to Western diet	Feng 2017 <sup>(179)</sup>	15	1182930	11537	1.7 - 14; 8.5	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, diabetes, smoking status, colorectal adenoma history, extent of colon resection, alcohol intake, educational level, occupation, physical activity, family history of CRC, energy intake, use of aspirin, menopausal status, use of HRT, multivitamin use, endoscopy
Adherence to alcohol drinking	Feng 2017 <sup>(179)</sup>	9	718248	3965	5 - 16; 9.7	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, family history of CRC, educational level, smoking status, energy intake, physical activity, meat intake (red or processed meat), consumption of vegetables, fruit intake, use of aspirin, multivitamin use including dietary folate, total milk intake; intakes of fibre, fat, calcium
Vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	3	149516	1506	7.3 - 20.3; 14.2	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, educational level, smoking status, alcohol intake, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of peptic ulcer, history of inflammatory bowel disease, treatment for diabetes mellitus within the past year, aspirin use, statin therapy, prior colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy, supplemental calcium consumption, supplemental vitamin D, energy intake, use of HRT, fibre intake
Pesco-vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	3	149516	1506	7.3 - 20.3; 14.2	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, educational level, smoking status, alcohol intake, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of peptic ulcer, history of inflammatory bowel disease, treatment for diabetes mellitus within the past year, aspirin use, statin therapy,

						prior colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy, supplemental calcium consumption, supplemental vitamin D, energy intake, use of HRT, fibre intake
Semi-vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	3	580175	4062	5 - 20.3; 10.9	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, total energy intake, smoking status, alcohol intake, BMI, physical activity, educational level, family history of CRC, history of peptic ulcer, history of inflammatory bowel disease, treatment for diabetes mellitus within the past year, aspirin use, statin therapy, prior colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy, supplemental calcium consumption, supplemental vitamin D, HRT use, intake of fibre
Dietary glycaemic index	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	10	941652	1121 9	6.9 - 15.7; 11.2	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, educational level, alcohol consumption, smoking status, BMI, use of NSAIDs, history of diabetes, colorectal screening, family history of any cancer, physical activity, energy intake, menopausal status, HRT use, multivitamin use, waist:hip ratio, calcium
Dietary glycaemic load	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	12	1181780	1421 4	6.9 - 16.5; 11.4	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, educational level, alcohol consumption, smoking status, BMI, history of diabetes, family history of any cancer, history of colorectal polyp, physical activity, colorectal screening, menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), parity, energy intake, use of NSAIDs, multivitamin use including folic acid, waist:hip ratio, calcium, red meat
Eating frequency (3 vs <3 daily meals)	Liu 2014 <sup>(183)</sup>	2	77641	550	5.8 - 10; 7.9	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, educational level, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, energy intake, calcium intake, vitamin D intake, alcohol intake, fruit intake, vegetable intake, red/processed meat intake, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, family history of CRC, history of sigmoidoscopy/colonoscopy, total fat
Eating frequency (4 vs <3 daily meals)	Liu 2014 <sup>(183)</sup>	3	112609	1133	5.8 - 14; 9.9	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, educational level, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, energy intake, calcium intake, alcohol intake, fruit intake, vegetable intake, meat intake (red or processed meat), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, family history of CRC, history of sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, total fat, use of supplements containing antioxidants, vitamin intake (dietary folate, vitamin D), dietary approaches to stop hypertension (DASH) score
Eating frequency (≥5 vs <3 daily meals)	Liu 2014 <sup>(183)</sup>	2	77641	550	5.8 - 10; 7.9	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, educational level, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, energy intake, calcium intake, vitamin D intake, alcohol intake, fruit intake, vegetable intake, meat intake (red or processed meat), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, family history of CRC, history of sigmoidoscopy/ colonoscopy, total fat

**Food groups or foods**



Red meat	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	21	2154027	2132 6	4.8 - 32; 11.3	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, energy intake, educational level, BMI, waist circumference, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, diabetes, smoking status, alcohol intake, physical activity, screening and examinations, multivitamin use (vitamin B6, folate, vitamin D), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, use of hormone therapy (OC or HRT), menopausal status, fruits, vegetables, grain foods including cereal, fibre intake, dietary calcium, dietary fat intake, tea consumption, intake of dried and salted fish
Processed meat	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	15	1910983	1864 6	4.8 - 20; 10.2	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, waist circumference, diabetes, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, screening and examinations, educational level, smoking status, physical activity, energy intake, alcohol intake, vegetable intake, multivitamin use (vitamin B6, folate, vitamin D), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, use of HRT, fruits, grain foods including cereal, intake of fibre, calcium, dietary fat intake, intake of dried and salted fish
Beef	Carr 2016 <sup>(185)</sup>	4	654521	3937	4.8 - 13.4; 10.1	Age, sex, BMI, alcohol intake, smoking status, physical activity, energy intake, fibre intake, education, family history of cancer, consumption of fat, calcium, waist circumference, meat subtypes, HRT use, use of NSAIDs, diabetes and medication use, screening examinations, vitamin intake (vitamin B6, folate, vitamin D), dried and salted fish
Pork	Carr 2016 <sup>(185)</sup>	4	654521	3937	4.8 - 13.4; 10.1	Age, sex, BMI, alcohol intake, smoking status, physical activity, energy intake, fibre intake, education, family history of cancer, consumption of fat, calcium, waist circumference, meat subtypes, HRT use, use of NSAIDs, diabetes and medication use, screening examinations, vitamin intake (vitamin B6, folate, vitamin D), dried and salted fish
Poultry	Carr 2016 <sup>(185)</sup>	13	1492358	1371 6	4.8 - 32; 11.3	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, total energy intake, educational level, smoking status, BMI, alcohol intake, physical activity, calcium intake, occupation, geographical area; consumption of fruits, vegetables, cereals; use of NSAIDs, fat intake, family history of CRC or other cancers, history of colorectal polyps, HRT use, whole grain foods, fish intake including dried and salted fish, fibre intake, income, tea consumption, diabetes and medication use, vitamin intake (vitamin B6, folate, vitamin D), screening examinations, meat intake (red meat and other meat subtypes), waist circumference
Fish	Wu 2012 <sup>(186)</sup>	18	1083264	6143	4.8 - 24; 11.5	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, family history of CRC or other cancers; history of stroke, hypertension, diabetes, myocardial infarction; smoking status, educational level, health screening, energy intake, parity; intakes of fish liver, fruits, vegetables, fibre, fats, sauces; multivitamin use including vitamin A, vitamin E, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, physical activity, alcohol intake, meat intake including red meat and poultry, calcium intake, consumption of whole-grain foods and cereal, tea consumption, occupation, income, cholecystectomy

Fruits and vegetables	Aune 2011 <sup>(187)</sup>	9	1522363	1154 3	4.3 - 16; 9.5	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, menopausal status, HRT use, energy intake, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, alcohol consumption, meat intake (red and processed meat), fish intake, dietary fibre from cereal sources, educational level, dietary calcium, aspirin use, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), consumption of dairy products, sigmoidoscopy
Fruits	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	17	1924385	1911 4	5 - 26; 11	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, diabetes, BMI, smoking status, alcohol intake, educational level, physical activity, energy intake, family history of CRC, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, intake of grains and cereal, meat intake including red and processed meat, calcium, screening and examinations, history of polyps or adenoma, menopausal status, HRT use, vegetable intake, intake of dairy products, fish intake, year of follow-up
Vegetables	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	17	1924385	1911 4	5 - 26; 11	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, diabetes, BMI, smoking status, alcohol intake, educational level, physical activity, energy intake, family history of CRC, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, intake of grains and cereal, meat intake including red and processed meat, calcium, screening and examinations, history of polyps or adenoma, menopausal status, HRT use, vegetable intake, intake of dairy products, fish intake, year of follow-up
Cruciferous vegetables	Wu 2013 <sup>(188)</sup>	9	1117353	8021	4.3 - 20; 9	Age, race/ethnicity, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyp, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), menopausal status, HRT use, energy intake, alcohol consumption, red meat, calcium, educational level, CRC screening, intake of fruits, consumption of grains
Broccoli	Wu 2013 <sup>(188)</sup>	3	278338	2807	5 - 8.5; 6.9	Age, race/ethnicity, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyp, BMI, smoking status, physical activity, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), HRT use, energy intake, alcohol consumption, red meat, calcium, intake of fruits, grain intake, educational level
Allium vegetables	Zhu 2014 <sup>(189)</sup>	6	552180	5458	3.3 - 24; 14	Age, sex, energy intake, occupation, income, history of colorectal polyps, diabetes, BMI, physical activity, alcohol intake, smoking status, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, HRT use, intake of calcium, fruits, vegetables, meat intake (including red or processed meat), family history of CRC or intestinal cancers, educational level, history of chronic intestinal disease or cholecystectomy, screening and examinations, fibre intake, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin C, vitamin D)
Garlic	Chiavarini 2016 <sup>(190)</sup>	5	330731	4141	5 - 24; 12.3	Age, sex, BMI, smoking status, family history, endoscopy, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, physical activity, HRT use, meat intake (red or processed meat), alcohol consumption, calcium, energy intake, consumption of fruits, vegetable intake, previous polyps, vitamin intake (including folate, vitamin D)

Onion	Turati 2014 <sup>(191)</sup>	2	110524	1321	4 - 10; 7	Age, educational level, BMI, smoking status, alcohol intake, beta-carotene; history of cholecystectomy, chronic intestinal disease, colorectal polyps; family history of CRC, physical activity, energy intake, red meat, calcium, fibre, multivitamin use including vitamin C, aspirin use, sigmoidoscopy, HRT use
Legumes	Zhu 2015 <sup>(192)</sup>	13	1782607	1135 1	5 - 16; 8.9	Age, sex, BMI, energy intake, history of colorectal polyps, physical activity, family history of CRC, smoking status, alcohol consumption, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, sigmoidoscopy, menopausal status, HRT use, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), meat intake (red or processed meat, pork), educational level; intakes of fruits, grains, calcium, dairy products, vegetables, fish, fibre; coffee intake, income, diabetes
Nuts	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	6	1152672	7283	4.8 - 30; 13.1	Age, sex, BMI, alcohol intake, family history of CRC, physical activity, aspirin use, history of colorectal polyps, smoking status, energy intake, multivitamin use, fruit intake, intake of dietary fibre, HRT use, screening and examinations, history of ulcerative colitis, cholesterol and triglyceride
Soy products	Lu 2017 <sup>(193)</sup>	5	281425	5615	8 - 13; 10	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, educational level, household income, physical activity, BMI, menopausal status, HRT use, family history of CRC, energy intake; intakes of fruits, vegetables, non-soy calcium, non-soy fibre; vitamin use (non-soy folic acid, vitamin D), dairy products, meat intake including red meat, fish intake, smoking status, alcohol consumption, diabetes, coffee intake
Whole grains	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	9	970927	9223	5 - 26; 14.1	Age, sex, BMI, smoking status, educational level, alcohol consumption, fibres from foods other than whole-grain bread, calcium, energy intake, HRT use, family history of CRC, physical activity, aspirin use, colonoscopy, history of polyps, multivitamin use including folate; intakes of saturated fats, fruits, vegetables; meat intake (red or processed meat)
Refined grains	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	2	72431	900	14 - 14.8; 14.4	Age, race/ethnicity, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, educational level, energy intake; intakes of saturated fat, calcium, red meat, fruits, vegetables; family history of CRC, endoscopy, aspirin use
Eggs	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	3	94181	598	7.4 - 32; 18.8	Age, sex, BMI, educational level, occupation, smoking status, geographic region, energy intake; intakes of vegetables, fruits, cereals; tea consumption, use of NSAIDs, fibre intake, alcohol consumption
Dairy products	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	17	1629366	1691 0	3.3 - 26; 11.7	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, occupation, geographical area, diabetes at baseline, smoking status, BMI, alcohol intake, educational level, physical activity, family history of CRC, energy intake, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, colonoscopy, history of polyps, multivitamin use (including vitamin B6, folate, vitamin D), history of gallbladder surgery, intake of fat, dietary fibre, meat intake (red or processed meat), intake of fruits, vegetable intake, tea consumption, menopausal status, use of hormone therapy (OC or HRT)
Cheese	Aune 2012 <sup>(194)</sup>	7	234759	2121	3.3 - 19.6; 11.2	Age, sex, BMI, occupation, smoking status, geographical area, energy intake, family history of CRC, fat intake, dietary fibre, gallbladder surgery, alcohol intake, physical activity, educational level, red meat, history of colon polyps, multivitamin use (including vitamin B6, folate), HRT use, menopausal status, diabetes, aspirin use, intake of fruits, vegetable intake

Yogurt	Zhang 2019 <sup>(195)</sup>	5	698366	5432	3.3 - 12; 7.7	Age, sex, family history of CRC or other cancers, previous polyp, screening, smoking status, alcohol intake, aspirin use, physical activity, BMI, meat intake (including red or processed meat), fat intake, dietary fibre, gallbladder surgery, energy intake, educational level, menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), dietary calcium, simple sugars, history of diabetes, vegetables, fruits, nuts and legumes, cereals, fish
<b>Beverages</b>						
Tea	Chen 2017 <sup>(196)</sup>	15	1208316	1458 2	1 - 15; 8.6	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, family history of CRC, BMI, intake of fibre, coffee intake, alcohol intake, diabetes, educational level, smoking status, physical activity, intake of fruits, vegetable intake, calcium, energy intake, meat intake (including red meat and pork), radiation exposure, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, fat intake, vitamin supplement intake, menopausal status, HRT use, household income, history of colorectal polyps and chronic ulcerative colitis, occupation, colorectal screening
Green tea	Wang 2012 <sup>(197)</sup>	5	352275	1675	6 - 15; 9.2	Age, sex, family history of CRC, smoking status, alcohol intake, BMI, meat consumption including red meat, intake of black tea, intake of fruits, vegetable intake, coffee consumption, radiation exposure, menopausal status, use of NSAIDs, vitamin supplement use, history of colorectal polyps and chronic ulcerative colitis, energy intake
Black tea	Sun 2006 <sup>(198)</sup>	6	274975	2847	8 - 20; 13	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, educational level, family history of CRC, history of sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, BMI, smoking status, physical activity, aspirin use, vitamin supplement intake, alcohol consumption, red meat consumption, total energy intake, menopausal status, HRT use; intakes of fat, fibre, calcium; fruit intake, vegetable intake, waist/hip circumference ratio
Coffee	Gan 2017 <sup>(199)</sup>	19	2046575	2262 9	4.5 - 18; 10.1	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, smoking status, alcohol intake, educational level, serum cholesterol, physical activity, calcium intake, tea consumption, energy intake, family history of CRC, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, colorectal screening, vitamin intake (including vitamin B6, folic acid, vitamin C, vitamin D), fat intake, fibre intake, menopausal status, HRT use, diabetes, fruits, vegetables, meat intake including red or processed meat and pork, number of pregnancies and deliveries, age at menarche, age at first delivery, intake of dairy products
Non-fermented milk	Ralston 2014 <sup>(200)</sup>	14	892569	5076	5 - 24; 11.3	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, occupation, smoking status, geographical area, BMI, total energy intake, family history of CRC, previous intestinal polyp, screening, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, physical activity, saturated fat, dietary fibre intake, alcohol intake, red meat consumption, educational level, history of diabetes, fruits, vegetables, multivitamin use

						(including folic acid, vitamin C, vitamin D), income, tea consumption, menopausal status, HRT use
Fermented milk	Ralston 2014 <sup>(200)</sup>	7	328750	1876	6 - 24; 10.4	Age, sex, occupation, smoking status, geographical area, BMI, total energy intake, family history of CRC, previous intestinal polyp, screening, aspirin use, physical activity, saturated fat, dietary fibre intake, alcohol intake, red meat consumption, educational level, history of diabetes, fruits, vegetables, multivitamin use (including folic acid, vitamin C, vitamin D), menopausal status, HRT use
Alcohol (Moderate)	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	22	2798092	1912 3	3.3 - 20; 10.2	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, smoking status, BMI, coffee intake, educational level, cholesterol, history of gall bladder surgery, energy intake; intakes of fats, protein, dietary fibre; family history of CRC, physical activity, history of polyps, multivitamin use (including folate and vitamin D), meat intake (including poultry/non-poultry meat, processed meat), seafood intake, calcium, occupation, intake of vegetables, fruit intake, diabetes, menopausal status, use of hormone therapy (OC or HRT), socioeconomic status, aspirin use, screening and examinations
Alcohol (Heavy)	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	7	738539	5078	4.8 - 16; 9.9	Age, sex, family history of CRC, BMI, smoking status, physical activity, educational level, sedentary work, consumption of vegetables, meat consumption (including red or processed meat), fruit intake, energy intake, aspirin use, screening and examinations, intake of calcium, multivitamins (including folate, vitamin D)
Beer	Zhang 2015 <sup>(202)</sup>	7	805177	5149	4 - 24; 10.4	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, family history of CRC, smoking status, coffee intake, total serum cholesterol, educational level, BMI, non-contraceptive oestrogen use, physical activity, history of colorectal polyps, energy intake, intake of fats, dietary fibre, calcium, other types of alcohol
Wine	Xu 2019 <sup>(203)</sup>	9	973286	7511	4 - 17.8; 9.1	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, smoking status, coffee intake, total serum cholesterol, educational level, BMI, non-contraceptive oestrogen use, history of colorectal polyps, physical activity, intake of other types of alcohol, meat consumption including poultry, seafood consumption, multivitamin use, energy intake, family history of CRC, intake of fat, dietary fibre, calcium, fruit intake, vegetable intake, diabetes
Wine (Light to moderate)	Xu 2019 <sup>(203)</sup>	4	676331	4559	5.3 - 14.7; 9.9	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, smoking status, BMI, intake of other types of alcohol, physical activity, educational level, energy intake, family history of CRC, intake of fat, dietary fibre, calcium, fruit intake, vegetable intake, meat intake, multivitamin use, diabetes

Wine (Heavy)	Xu 2019 <sup>(203)</sup>	5	686749	4670	5.3 - 14.7; 9.9	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, smoking status, BMI, intake of other types of alcohol, educational level, meat consumption including poultry, seafood consumption, multivitamin use, history of colonic polyps, physical activity, energy intake, family history of CRC, intake of fat, dietary fibre, calcium, fruit intake, vegetable intake, diabetes
<b>Macronutrients</b>						
Total dietary fat	Liu 2011 <sup>(204)</sup>	13	459910	3635	3 - 32; 11.5	Age, sex, BMI, energy intake, parity, fibre intake, smoking status, educational level, alcohol intake, physical activity, calcium intake, geographical area, occupation; consumption of fruits, vegetables, cereals; family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, hormone therapy, diabetes, vitamin use (including vitamin A, vitamin E)
Saturated fatty acids	Liu 2011 <sup>(204)</sup>	12	451956	3182	3 - 32; 9.9	Age, sex, total energy intake, parity, fibre intake, BMI, smoking status, education, alcohol consumption, physical activity, calcium intake, geographical area, occupation; intakes of fruits, vegetables, cereals; family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, hormone therapy, diabetes, vitamin use (vitamin A, vitamin E)
Monounsaturated fatty acids	Liu 2011 <sup>(204)</sup>	11	399687	3048	3 - 32; 11.9	Age, sex, total energy intake, parity, fibre intake, BMI, smoking status, education, alcohol consumption, physical activity, calcium intake, geographical area, occupation; intakes of fruits, vegetables, cereals; family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, hormone therapy, diabetes, vitamin use (vitamin A, vitamin E)
Polyunsaturated fatty acids	Kim 2018 <sup>(205)</sup>	14	933712	1003 6	3.3 - 32; 13	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, dietary fibre intake, Dutch Healthy Diet index, energy intake, BMI, educational level, family history of CRC, screening and examinations, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, intake of alcohol, smoking status, physical activity, hormone therapy, calcium, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), fruit intake, vegetable intake, meat intake (red or processed meat), history of polyps, cereal intake, cardiovascular disease, memory loss, use of cholesterol-lowering drugs, omega-6 (linoleic + arachidonic) intake, menopausal status, past history of or medication use for diabetes, intake of low-fat dairy products, geographical area, occupation
Total n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids	Chen 2015 <sup>(206)</sup>	8	579427	6807	4.8 - 22; 10.8	Age, sex, parity, total energy intake, BMI, smoking status, alcohol intake, educational level, physical activity, calcium intake, meat intake (red or processed meat), dietary fibre, intake of fat (saturated fat, monounsaturated fat, n-6 PUFA), diabetes, family history of CRC, menopausal status, use of hormone therapy, multivitamin use (including vitamin A, folate, vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, screening and examinations, low-fat dairy products, fruits, vegetables

Marine n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids	Chen 2015 <sup>(206)</sup>	10	666713	7813	6 - 22; 11.3	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, educational level, alcohol intake, energy intake, dietary fibre, calcium, fat intake (saturated fat, monounsaturated fat, n-6 PUFA), family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, physical activity, smoking status, hormone therapy, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin C, vitamin D), diabetes, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, menopausal status, low-fat dairy products, fruits, vegetables, cardiovascular disease, memory loss, use of cholesterol-lowering drugs, screening and examinations, meat intake (red or processed meat)
Cholesterol	Liu 2011 <sup>(204)</sup>	7	261260	1163	3 - 32; 10.6	Age, sex, total energy intake, parity, educational level, BMI, smoking status, alcohol consumption, physical activity, calcium intake, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, hormone therapy, occupation, geographical area; consumption of vegetables, fruits, cereals; vitamin intake (vitamin A, vitamin E)
Carbohydrate	Aune 2012 <sup>(207)</sup>	11	806647	9799	7.1 - 22; 12.6	Age, race/ethnicity, educational level, income, BMI, physical activity, family history of CRC, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), total energy intake, colorectal polyps, smoking status, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), alcohol intake, meat intake (red or processed meat), calcium, dietary fibre, diabetes, colorectal screening, magnesium, total fat, parity
Sucrose	Aune 2012 <sup>(207)</sup>	5	831687	9216	7.2 - 20; 12	Age, race/ethnicity, BMI, family history of CRC or other cancers, smoking status, educational level, physical activity, total energy intake, alcohol intake, colorectal polyps, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), hormone therapy (OC or HRT), meat intake (red or processed meat), calcium, dietary fibre, diabetes, prior endoscopy screening, total fat
Fructose	Aune 2012 <sup>(207)</sup>	4	640683	6837	7.2 - 20; 12.8	Age, race/ethnicity, BMI, family history of CRC or other cancers, smoking status, educational level, physical activity, total energy intake, alcohol intake, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), diabetes, prior endoscopy screening, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, calcium, meat intake (red or processed meat), hormone therapy (OC or HRT), total fibre, total fat
Dietary protein	Lai 2017 <sup>(208)</sup>	3	207068	680	3.3 - 12; 7.8	Age, sex, energy intake, dietary fibre intake, supplement intake, smoking status, BMI, alcohol intake, educational level, physical activity, calcium intake (except for milk protein and milk products)
Total dietary fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	21	2259486	2300 4	4.5 - 17; 10	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, physical activity, smoking status, meat intake (red and processed meat), total energy intake, calcium, BMI, educational level, alcohol intake, family history, colorectal polyp, use of multivitamin (including folate, vitamin C, vitamin D), aspirin or other anti-inflammatory use, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), menopause, colonoscopy, dietary assessment, fat
Cereal fibre	Aune 2011 <sup>(209)</sup>	7	1471756	9487	4.5 - 16; 9.5	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), meat intake (red and processed meat), menopausal status, HRT use, alcohol intake, calcium intake, energy intake, educational level, sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, glycaemic load, consumption of dairy products

Fruit fibre	Aune 2011 <sup>(209)</sup>	8	1514871	9930	4.5 - 16; 9.3	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), alcohol intake, menopausal status, HRT use, meat intake (red or processed meat, pork), calcium intake, energy intake, education, sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, glycaemic load, consumption of dairy products
Vegetable fibre	Aune 2011 <sup>(209)</sup>	8	1514871	9930	4.5 - 16; 9.3	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, multivitamin use (including folate, vitamin D), alcohol intake, menopausal status, HRT use, meat intake (red or processed meat, pork), calcium intake, energy intake, education, sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, glycaemic load, consumption of dairy products
Legume fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	4	1104339	5651	5 - 12.1; 8.3	Age, sex, physical activity, smoking status, menopause, HRT use, meat intake (red or processed meat), folate, calcium, energy intake, alcohol intake, educational level, BMI, family history, history of colon polyps, aspirin use
Soluble fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	3	204243	2580	7.6 - 11.7; 9.1	Age, sex, energy intake, BMI, educational level, family history, colonoscopy, anti-inflammatory use, consumption of alcohol, smoking status, physical activity, HRT use, calcium, red meat, vitamin intake (folate, vitamin D)
Insoluble fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	3	204243	2580	7.6 -11.7; 9.1	Age, sex, energy intake, BMI, educational level, family history, colonoscopy, anti-inflammatory use, consumption of alcohol, smoking status, physical activity, HRT use, calcium, red meat, vitamin intake (folate, vitamin D)
<b>Micronutrients</b>						
Flavonoids	Bo 2016 <sup>(210)</sup>	6	188135	6609	6.1 - 28; 14.2	Age, race/ethnicity, BMI, occupation, geographic area, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, prior sigmoidoscopy screening, physical activity, smoking status, alcohol consumption, intake of meat, intake of fruits, vegetables, intake of fibre, total fat, total energy, calcium, vitamin use (folate, vitamin C, vitamin E), aspirin use, HRT use
Flavonols	Chang 2018 <sup>(211)</sup>	5	729461	9720	11 - 28; 18.9	Age, sex, geographic area, occupation, smoking, physical activity, education, BMI, history of CRC, history of endoscopy, alcohol consumption, total energy intake, total fat, intake of meat, fibre, calcium intake, menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), regular aspirin use, vitamin intake (vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E)
Quercetin	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	2	117266	463	10 - 28; 19	Age, sex, geographic area, occupation, smoking status, BMI, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, prior sigmoidoscopy screening, physical activity, alcohol consumption, meat intake, total energy intake, total calcium intake, total fibre intake, aspirin use, vitamin intake, HRT use
Kaempferol	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	2	117266	472	10 - 28; 19	Age, sex, geographic area, occupation, smoking status, BMI, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, prior sigmoidoscopy screening, physical activity, alcohol consumption, meat intake, total energy intake, total calcium intake, total fibre intake, aspirin use, vitamin intake, HRT use



Myricetin	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	2	117266	466	10 - 28; 19	Age, sex, geographic area, occupation, smoking status, BMI, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, prior sigmoidoscopy screening, physical activity, alcohol consumption, meat intake, total energy intake, total calcium intake, total fibre intake, aspirin use, vitamin intake, HRT use
Flavones	Chang 2018 <sup>(211)</sup>	3	598744	7091	11 - 26; 17.7	Age, sex, history of CRC, history of endoscopy, smoking status, physical activity, education, BMI, alcohol consumption, total energy, total fat, intake of meat, fibre intake, calcium intake, menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), regular aspirin use, vitamin intake (vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E)
Flavanones	Chang 2018 <sup>(211)</sup>	4	608609	7181	11 - 28; 20.3	Age, sex, geographic area, occupation, history of CRC, history of endoscopy, smoking, physical activity, education, BMI, alcohol consumption, total energy, total fat, intake of meat, fibre intake, calcium intake, menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), regular aspirin use, vitamin intake (vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E)
Flavan-3-ols	Chang 2018 <sup>(211)</sup>	4	719596	9576	11 - 26; 16.6	Age, sex, family history of CRC, history of CRC, history of endoscopy, smoking, physical activity, education, BMI, alcohol consumption, total energy, total fat, meat intake, fibre intake, calcium intake, menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), regular aspirin use, vitamin intake (vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E)
Catechin	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	2	155503	3249	13 - 13.3; 13.2	Age, occupation, BMI, family history of CRC, waist-to-hip ratio, physical activity, smoking, alcohol intake, total fruit intake, vegetable consumption, meat intake, total energy intake
Flavanols	He 2016 <sup>(213)</sup>	3	242284	5059	13.3 - 26; 18.5	Age, BMI, family history of CRC, history of endoscopy, alcohol consumption, physical activity, smoking, fibre intake, meat intake, total energy intake, use of NSAIDs, dietary supplement (calcium, <i>n</i> -3 polyunsaturated fatty acids, manganum, riboflavin, vitamin C, vitamin E, folate)
Anthocyanins	He 2016 <sup>(213)</sup>	2	121432	2574	16.2 - 26; 21.1	Age, BMI, family history of CRC, history of endoscopy, alcohol consumption, physical activity, smoking, fibre intake, meat intake, total energy intake, use of NSAIDs, dietary supplement (calcium, <i>n</i> -3 polyunsaturated fatty acids, manganum, riboflavin, folate, vitamin C, vitamin E)
Anthocyanidins	Chang 2018 <sup>(212)</sup>	3	598744	7091	11 - 26; 17.7	Age, sex, history of CRC, history of endoscopy, smoking, physical activity, education, BMI, alcohol consumption, total energy, total fat, intake of meat, fibre intake, calcium intake, menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), regular aspirin use, vitamin intake (vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E)
Phyto-oestrogens	Jiang 2017 <sup>(214)</sup>	5	275443	2485	6.4 - 19; 10.2	Age, sex, household income, dialect group, diabetes at baseline, smoking, BMI, alcohol intake, education, physical activity, family history of CRC, daily energy intake, menopausal status, average intakes of fruits, vegetables, meat intake, fibre intake, non-soya calcium, fats, vitamin intake (non-soya folic acid, vitamin D), use of NSAIDs, hormone therapy
Isoflavones	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	5	292616	2587	6.4 - 19; 10.2	Age, education, alcohol intake, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, household income, family history of CRC, history of diabetes mellitus, total energy intake, intakes of fruits, vegetables, meat, non-soy calcium, fibre, coffee intake, fats, dairy products, individual phytoestrogens, menopausal status, HRT use, vitamin intake (folic acid, vitamin D)

Combined carotenoids	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	2	196383	2673	8.2 - 11; 9.6	Age, education level, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of intestinal polyps, alcohol intake, total energy intake, total fat intake, meat intake, dietary fibre intake, total calcium intake, hormone therapy (HRT), use of NSAIDs, vitamin intake (folate, vitamin D)
Alpha-carotene	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	3	223334	2857	8 - 11; 9.1	Age, education level, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of intestinal polyps, serum cholesterol, alcohol consumption, total energy intake, total fat intake, meat intake, dietary fibre intake, total calcium intake, HRT use, use of NSAIDs, vitamin intake (folate, vitamin D)
Beta-carotene	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	4	279666	3605	8 - 11; 9.5	Age, education level, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of intestinal polyps, serum cholesterol, alcohol intake, total energy intake, meat intake, dietary fibre intake, total calcium intake, hormone therapy (HRT), use of NSAIDs, vitamin intake (folate, vitamin D)
Lycopene	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	3	223334	2857	8 - 11; 9.1	Age, education level, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of intestinal polyps, serum cholesterol, alcohol consumption, total energy intake, total fat intake, meat intake, dietary fibre intake, total calcium intake, hormone therapy (HRT), use of NSAIDs, multivitamin use (folate, vitamin D)
Beta-cryptoxanthin	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	2	196383	2673	8.2 - 11; 9.6	Age, education level, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of intestinal polyps, alcohol intake, total energy intake, total fat intake, meat intake, dietary fibre intake, total calcium intake, hormone therapy (HRT), use of NSAIDs, vitamin intake (folate, vitamin D)
Lutein and zeaxanthin	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	3	223334	2857	8 - 11; 9.1	Age, education level, smoking status, BMI, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of intestinal polyps, serum cholesterol, alcohol consumption, total energy intake, total fat intake, meat intake, dietary fibre intake, total calcium intake, HRT use, use of NSAIDs, vitamin intake (folate, vitamin D)
Multivitamin	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	7	670513	8737	5 - 24; 12.7	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, family history of CRC, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, alcohol consumption, energy intake, dietary factor, use of NSAIDs, menopausal status
Multivitamin	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	5	522507	3584	5 - 16; 9	Age, race/ethnicity, BMI, education level, alcohol consumption, smoking status, physical activity, family history of CRC, meat intake, total energy intake, fruit intake, vegetable intake, intake of saturated fat, dietary fibre, vitamin intake (vitamin B6, folate, vitamin C, vitamin E), calcium, menopausal status, hormone therapy, aspirin use
Vitamin A	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	2	46796	443	8 - 10; 9	Age, smoking status, energy intake
Vitamin A	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	6	208536	1206	4.5 - 10; 7	Age, smoking status, education level, physical activity, alcohol consumption, family history of CRC, menopausal status, total energy intake, intake of meat, hormone therapy (HRT)
Vitamin B2	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	5	392184	4939	5.74 - 13.3; 10	Age, educational level, BMI, household income, smoking status, alcohol intake, physical activity, family history of CRC, diabetes history, energy intake, vegetables, fruits, meat, calcium, fibre, iron, fats, menopausal status, hormone therapy (HRT), use of NSAIDs

Vitamin B3	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	2	146175	677	5.7	Age, educational level, BMI, household income, smoking status, alcohol intake, physical activity, family history of CRC, diabetes history, energy intake, vegetables, fruits, meat, calcium, fibre, iron, fats, menopausal status, hormone therapy (HRT), use of NSAIDs
Vitamin B6	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	11	809074	9591	5.8 - 22; 12.8	Age, sex, BMI, education, household income, smoking status, alcohol consumption, physical activity, family history of CRC, diabetes history, total intake of energy, intake of vegetables, fruits, meat, fats, iron, calcium, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, vitamin use (vitamin B, vitamin E), hormone therapy (HRT), menopausal status
Folic acid	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	19	1988974	2171 2	5 - 20; 14.6	Age, sex, BMI, education, household income, smoking status, alcohol consumption, physical activity, family history of CRC, diabetes history, past medical history of colonoscopy, total intake of energy, intake of vegetables, fibre, fruits, meat, fats, iron, calcium, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, use of vitamin (vitamin B, vitamin C, vitamin E), hormone therapy (HRT), menopausal status
Vitamin B12	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	5	321038	3554	5.8 - 13; 9.9	Age, BMI, race/ethnicity, past medical history of colonoscopy, smoking status, physical activity, alcohol consumption, diabetes history, energy intake, intake of vegetables, fruits, meat, calcium, use of NSAIDs, vitamin use, hormone therapy (HRT), menopausal status
Vitamin C	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	3	103128	1191	8 - 10.6; 9.5	Age, BMI, educational level, physical activity, smoking status, alcohol consumption, energy intake, dietary factors, menopausal status
Vitamin C	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	9	1003710	6542	4.5 - 14; 8.3	Age, BMI, occupation, education level, smoking level, alcohol consumption, physical activity, family history of CRC, energy intake, intake of fibre, vegetables, multivitamin intake, menopausal status, serum cholesterol concentration, hormone therapy (HRT), use of aspirin
Vitamin D	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	5	362610	3147	7.3 - 24; 12.7	Age, race/ethnicity, sex, family history of CRC, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, alcohol intake, energy intake, dietary factors, menopausal status, use of NSAIDs
Vitamin D	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	14	869730	1856 4	5 - 24; 9.5	Age, sex, geographical area, occupation, race/ethnicity, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, educational level, total energy intake, fruits, meat, vegetables, alcohol intake, fat intake, dietary fibre intake, calcium intake, CRC screening, menopausal status, family history of CRC, history of intestinal polyps, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs, hormone therapy (HRT), vitamin use
Vitamin E	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	4	191126	2216	8 - 18; 10.9	Age, BMI, family history of CRC, physical activity, smoking status, educational level, energy intake, alcohol consumption, dietary factors, menopausal status, use of NSAIDs
Vitamin E	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	10	1139052	7567	4.5 - 10.6; 8.1	Age, sex, BMI, educational level, alcohol intake, smoking status, physical activity, family history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, serum cholesterol, energy intake, intake of meat, vegetable consumption, intake of fibre, vitamin intake, hormone therapy (HRT), menopausal status, aspirin use

Dietary calcium	Meng 2019 <sup>(218)</sup>	8	1449526	13640	7 - 16.4; 10	Age, sex, race/ethnicity, BMI, waist:hip ratio, education, smoking status, tea intake, alcohol consumption, physical activity, family history of CRC or other cancers, history of intestinal polyps, CRC screening, diabetes, total energy intake, fat intake, intake of meat, intake of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, fibre, intake of phosphorus, retinol, sodium, potassium, zinc, use of calcium supplement, multivitamin use, use of ginseng, menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), statin use, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs
Supplemental calcium	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	7	1064458	9862	3.3 - 16; 8.4	Age, race/ethnicity, BMI, physical activity, educational level, family history of CRC, smoking status, alcohol consumption, energy intake, dietary factors, menopausal status, use of NSAIDs
Supplemental calcium	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	6	929116	8837	5 - 10; 8	Age, race/ethnicity, BMI, physical activity, educational level, family history of CRC, smoking status, alcohol consumption, energy intake, dietary factors, menopausal status, use of NSAIDs
Heme iron	Qiao 2013 <sup>(219)</sup>	6	646901	8022	7.2 - 22; 15.7	Age, sex, BMI, education level, physical activity, smoking status, alcohol consumption, family history of CRC, history of endoscopy, diabetes, intake of total energy, fat, calcium, fibre, zinc, magnesium, hormone therapy (HRT), regular aspirin use, menopausal status, vitamin intake
Magnesium	Chen 2012 <sup>(220)</sup>	7	336463	7435	7.9 - 28; 15.9	Age, sex, BMI, screening, waist:hip ratio, education, diabetes, physical activity, smoking status, alcohol intake, family history of CRC, history of colon polyps, history of CRC, energy intake, fat intake, meat intake, fruits, vegetables, whole grain, calcium, zinc, fibre, menopausal status, hormone therapy (HRT), vitamin intake (vitamin A, vitamin B6, folate, vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E, vitamin K2), aspirin use
Zinc	Li 2014 <sup>(221)</sup>	5	350507	5676	9.5 - 22; 15.7	Age, BMI, geographic region, alcohol intake, physical activity, education, smoking status, diabetes, history of CRC, screening for CRC, magnesium, calcium, fibre intake, fat intake, total energy intake, vitamin intake (vitamin B6, folate, vitamin B12, vitamin D, vitamin E), HRT use, use of aspirin or other NSAIDs
Methionine	Zhou 2013 <sup>(222)</sup>	7	431029	6331	5.8 - 22; 13.3	Age, income, waist:hip ratio, BMI, physical activity, smoking status, education, alcohol consumption, family history of CRC, history of CRC, history of colorectal polyps, screening, diabetes, energy intake, calcium, meat, fat intake, fibre intake, iron, vegetables, fruits, vitamin intake (vitamin B6, folate, vitamin D, vitamin E), menopausal status, hormone therapy (OC or HRT), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs
Garlic supplement	Chiavarini 2016 <sup>(190)</sup>	4	304677	2703	3.3 - 24; 9.8	Age, sex, BMI, smoking status, educational level, family history, history of chronic intestinal disease or cholecystectomy, screening, physical activity, fruits, vegetables, total energy intake, alcohol intake, calcium, meat, hormone therapy (HRT), vitamin intake (folate, vitamin C, vitamin D), use of aspirin or other NSAIDs

**Abbreviations:** BMI, body mass index; CRC, colorectal cancer; HRT, hormone replacement therapy; NSAIDs, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs; OC, oral contraceptive; PUFA, polyunsaturated fatty acid

**eTable 4. Associations With Nonsignificant Evidence**

Exposure	Author; year	Comparison	Summary metric	Credibility assessment									AMSTAR-2
				Random effect size (95% CI)	p-value	I <sup>2</sup>	Largest study (95% CI)	Prediction interval (95% CI)	Egger's p-value	Excess significance test		Quality of evidence	
										O/E	p-value		
<b>Dietary behaviours or diet quality indices</b>													
Dietary glycaemic index	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.10 (0.99-1.22)	0.08955	56.0%	1.06-1.27	0.81-1.47	0.868	3/NA	NA	NS	High
Dietary glycaemic load	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.93 (0.85-1.01)	0.08095	32.0%	0.70-0.95	0.76-1.14	0.139	2/NA	NA	NS	High
Eating frequency (3 vs <3 daily meals)	Liu 2014 <sup>(183)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.85 (0.56-1.31)	0.47531	63.4%	0.78-1.36	NA	NA	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Eating frequency (4 vs <3 daily meals)	Liu 2014 <sup>(183)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.88 (0.65-1.19)	0.40383	65.7%	0.91-1.32	0.03-24.69	0.069	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate

Eating frequency (≥5 vs <3 daily meals)	Liu 2014 <sup>(183)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.75 (0.54- 1.05)	0.0941 3	0.0%	0.51- 1.14	NA	NA	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	Yes vs no	RR	0.88 (0.74- 1.05)	0.1487 3	21.3 %	0.64- 0.98	0.21- 3.67	0.919	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
<b>Food groups or foods</b>													
Nuts	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.96 (0.90- 1.02)	0.1539 7	3.7%	0.85- 1.02	0.87- 1.05	0.478	0/NA	NA	NS	High
Refined grains	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.46 (0.80- 2.67)	0.2177 6	71.4 %	0.85- 1.50	NA	NA	1/NA	NA	NS	High
Cruciferous vegetables	Wu 2013 <sup>(188)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.96 (0.86- 1.08)	0.5078 6	39.6 %	0.86- 1.09	0.73- 1.27	0.398	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Broccoli	Wu 2013 <sup>(188)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.91 (0.80- 1.03)	0.1449 2	0.0%	0.80- 1.08	0.39- 2.10	0.920	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Beef	Carr 2016 <sup>(185)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.10 (0.98- 1.23)	0.1204 8	13.7 %	0.86- 1.24	0.80- 1.51	0.458	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
Poultry	Carr 2016 <sup>(185)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.97 (0.89- 1.07)	0.5777 6	44.2 %	0.86- 1.01	0.75- 1.26	0.302	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Fish	Wu 2012 <sup>(186)</sup>	High vs low	OR	0.93 (0.82- 1.05)	0.2212 9	37.2 %	0.54- 0.88	0.64- 1.34	0.817	3/NA	NA	NS	Low
Fruits and vegetables	Aune 2011 <sup>(187)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.93 (0.86- 1.01)	0.0876 6	28.1 %	0.85- 1.09	0.77- 1.12	0.492	1/NA	NA	NS	Low

Soy products	Lu 2017 <sup>(193)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.86 (0.72-1.03)	0.10126	44.7%	0.78-1.16	0.55-1.36	0.422	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Cheese	Aune 2012 <sup>(194)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.94 (0.75-1.18)	0.59378	38.5%	0.56-1.12	0.54-1.65	0.122	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
<b>Beverages</b>													
Wine	Xu 2019 <sup>(203)</sup>	Yes vs no	RR	1.01 (0.90-1.13)	0.89148	59.0%	0.93-1.11	0.75-1.35	0.257	2/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Wine (Light to moderate)	Xu 2019 <sup>(203)</sup>	<2 drinks/d vs non-drinkers	RR	0.94 (0.84-1.05)	0.27068	25.4%	0.83-1.08	0.67-1.32	0.226	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Wine (Heavy)	Xu 2019 <sup>(203)</sup>	≥2 drinks/d vs non-drinkers	RR	1.03 (0.85-1.24)	0.79103	41.8%	1.04-1.40	0.62-1.71	0.439	1/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Coffee	Gan 2017 <sup>(199)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.98 (0.90-1.06)	0.63354	41.4%	0.95-1.18	0.77-1.24	0.764	3/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Fermented milk	Ralston 2014 <sup>(200)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.01 (0.89-1.15)	0.83901	0.0%	0.86-1.34	0.86-1.19	0.351	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Tea	Chen 2017 <sup>(196)</sup>	High vs low	OR	0.94 (0.86-1.03)	0.17801	32.7%	0.90-1.05	0.74-1.20	0.328	3/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Green tea	Wang 2012 <sup>(197)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.93 (0.77-1.12)	0.44432	59.2%	0.97-1.45	0.53-1.62	0.653	2/NA	NA	NS	Critically low
Black tea	Sun 2006 <sup>(198)</sup>	High vs low	OR	1.05 (0.75-1.46)	0.77918	75.1%	0.83-1.22	0.37-2.99	0.704	2/NA	NA	NS	Critically low
<b>Macronutrients</b>													

Legume fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.91 (0.81- 1.02)	0.0944 3	38.0 %	0.83- 1.04	0.60- 1.36	0.214	1/NA	NA	NS	High
Soluble fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.84 (0.67- 1.05)	0.1238 0	38.2 %	0.69- 1.03	0.10- 7.29	0.904	1/NA	NA	NS	High
Insoluble fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.86 (0.74- 1.01)	0.0629 5	0.0%	0.72- 1.06	0.31- 2.39	0.893	0/NA	NA	NS	High
Dietary protein	Lai 2017 <sup>(208)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.94 (0.73- 1.21)	0.6264 4	0.0%	0.64- 1.44	0.54- 1.63	0.454	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Polyunsaturated fatty acids	Kim 2018 <sup>(205)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.99 (0.93- 1.04)	0.6023 7	22.0 %	0.98- 1.03	0.85- 1.14	0.965	2/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Monounsaturated fatty acids	Liu 2011 <sup>(204)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.04 (0.93- 1.16)	0.4853 4	0.0%	0.87- 1.29	0.92- 1.18	0.214	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
Saturated fatty acids	Liu 2011 <sup>(204)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.00 (0.90- 1.12)	0.9389 4	0.0%	0.77- 1.14	0.89- 1.13	0.037	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Total dietary fat	Liu 2011 <sup>(204)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.99 (0.89- 1.11)	0.8720 6	6.9%	0.78- 1.17	0.84- 1.17	0.092	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Total n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids	Chen 2015 <sup>(206)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.00 (0.93- 1.07)	0.9666 4	8.6%	0.92- 1.17	0.89- 1.13	0.773	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
Marine n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids	Chen 2015 <sup>(206)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.00 (0.93- 1.07)	0.9682 7	0.0%	0.89- 1.20	0.92- 1.08	0.728	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Cholesterol	Liu 2011 <sup>(204)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.14 (0.88- 1.47)	0.3170 2	49.8 %	0.70- 1.60	0.56- 2.30	0.057	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
Carbohydrate	Aune 2012 <sup>(207)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.93 (0.84- 1.04)	0.2227 0	39.8 %	0.75- 1.10	0.70- 1.25	0.049	3/NA	NA	NS	Low
Sucrose	Aune 2012 <sup>(207)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.01 (0.87- 1.17)	0.9328 1	63.5 %	0.97- 1.20	0.65- 1.56	0.949	0/NA	NA	NS	Low



Fructose	Aune 2012 <sup>(207)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.06 (0.87-1.28)	0.57654	72.5%	0.90-1.13	0.56-1.99	0.353	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Fruit fibre	Aune 2011 <sup>(209)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.94 (0.85-1.04)	0.20801	39.1%	0.95-1.23	0.73-1.20	0.913	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Vegetable fibre	Aune 2011 <sup>(209)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.98 (0.91-1.06)	0.63176	0.0%	0.89-1.15	0.90-1.07	0.514	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
<b>Micronutrients</b>													
Garlic supplement	Chiavarini 2016 <sup>(190)</sup>	Yes vs no	RR	1.07 (0.91-1.26)	0.41701	27.8%	1.01-1.81	0.74-1.55	0.634	1/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Flavanols	He 2016 <sup>(213)</sup>	High vs low	OR	1.00 (0.86-1.18)	0.95587	41.3%	0.95-1.21	0.22-4.68	0.924	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Anthocyanins	He 2016 <sup>(213)</sup>	High vs low	OR	0.92 (0.66-1.28)	0.62059	17.0%	0.81-1.91	NA	NA	0/NA	NA	NS	Moderate
Quercetin	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	OR	0.98 (0.75-1.29)	0.89412	29.6%	0.75-1.36	0.08-11.45	0.430	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Kaempferol	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	OR	1.12 (0.91-1.38)	0.28931	0.0%	0.85-1.53	0.29-4.32	0.984	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Myricetin	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	OR	1.10 (0.82-1.48)	0.50963	42.4%	0.67-1.18	0.06-19.82	0.541	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Catechin	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	OR	0.89 (0.71-1.11)	0.30474	57.0%	0.77-1.21	0.36-2.17	0.271	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
Phyto-oestrogens	Jiang 2017 <sup>(214)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.93 (0.83-1.05)	0.23135	0.0%	0.79-1.14	0.78-1.12	0.993	0/NA	NA	NS	Low

Isoflavones	Grosso 2017 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	OR	0.92 (0.82-1.03)	0.15224	0.0%	0.79-1.14	0.78-1.08	0.668	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Combined carotenoids	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.08 (0.93-1.26)	0.31711	0.0%	0.93-1.28	NA	NA	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Alpha-carotene	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.05 (0.92-1.21)	0.46477	0.0%	0.88-1.20	0.43-2.59	0.190	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Beta-carotene	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.98 (0.87-1.11)	0.78542	0.0%	0.78-1.08	0.74-1.30	0.090	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Lycopene	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.08 (0.94-1.23)	0.26011	0.0%	0.94-1.26	0.45-2.56	0.309	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Beta-cryptoxanthin	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.99 (0.74-1.34)	0.95857	38.8%	0.78-1.06	NA	NA	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Lutein and zeaxanthin	Panic 2017 <sup>(215)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.05 (0.91-1.20)	0.52210	0.0%	0.88-1.20	0.43-2.57	0.585	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Multivitamin	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.83 (0.65-1.05)	0.12116	68.5%	0.83-1.17	0.42-1.62	0.121	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Vitamin A	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.89 (0.77-1.03)	0.13230	0.0%	0.70-1.50	0.75-1.06	0.304	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
Vitamin B2	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.89 (0.78-1.00)	0.05723	4.2%	0.66-0.99	0.72-1.08	0.159	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
Vitamin B3	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.18 (0.76-1.84)	0.45683	31.0%	0.70-1.60	NA	NA	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Vitamin B12	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.10 (0.92-1.32)	0.31145	49.1%	0.72-1.08	0.67-1.80	0.018	0/NA	NA	NS	Low
Vitamin C	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	Yes vs no	RR	0.92 (0.75-1.11)	0.37799	42.2%	0.73-1.49	0.55-1.53	0.231	1/NA	NA	NS	Low

Vitamin C	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.92 (0.80-1.07)	0.30685	40.0%	0.73-1.09	0.62-1.38	0.954	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Vitamin D	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	Yes vs no	RR	0.90 (0.81-1.02)	0.09394	46.3%	0.80-1.06	0.67-1.23	0.487	2/NA	NA	NS	Low
Vitamin E	Liu 2015 <sup>(217)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.88 (0.75-1.04)	0.12177	49.3%	0.85-1.38	0.54-1.43	0.264	1/NA	NA	NS	Low
Flavonoids	Bo 2016 <sup>(210)</sup>	High vs low	OR	1.10 (0.95-1.28)	0.19337	5.0%	0.95-1.50	0.87-1.40	0.825	1/NA	NA	NS	Critically low
Flavonols	Chang 2018 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.00 (0.92-1.08)	0.94977	6.6%	0.89-1.14	0.85-1.17	0.777	0/NA	NA	NS	Critically low
Flavones	Chang 2018 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.02 (0.94-1.12)	0.62623	0.0%	0.92-1.17	0.58-1.80	0.202	0/NA	NA	NS	Critically low
Flavanones	Chang 2018 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.99 (0.91-1.06)	0.71286	0.0%	0.91-1.10	0.83-1.17	0.485	0/NA	NA	NS	Critically low
Flavan-3-ols	Chang 2018 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.02 (0.93-1.12)	0.62604	20.4%	0.95-1.21	0.78-1.34	0.908	0/NA	NA	NS	Critically low
Anthocyanidins	Chang 2018 <sup>(212)</sup>	High vs low	RR	1.00 (0.91-1.09)	0.94571	0.0%	0.91-1.13	0.54-1.83	0.125	0/NA	NA	NS	Critically low
Methionine	Zhou 2013 <sup>(222)</sup>	High vs low	RR	0.89 (0.77-1.03)	0.11180	29.1%	0.76-1.28	0.64-1.24	0.632	2/NA	NA	NS	Critically low

NA = not applicable because of non-significant effect estimate/data unavailability; NS= not significant; O/E = observed/expected number of studies with significant results; OR = odds ratio; RR = risk ratio

**eTable 5. Sensitivity Analyses for Associations With Class I, II, or III Evidence**

Exposure	Author; year	No. of primary studies	No. of study participants	No. of cases	Comparison	Summary metric	Credibility assessment								AMSTAR-2	
							Random effect size (95% CI)	p-value	I <sup>2</sup>	Largest study (95% CI)	Predictive interval (95% CI)	Egger's p-value	Excess significance test			Quality of evidence
													O/E	p-value		
<b>Exclusion of primary studies with number of study participants lower than 25<sup>th</sup> percentile</b> (applicable to those meta-analyses with evidence of small-study effects in primary analysis)																
Alcohol (Moderate)	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	17	2754534	18420	>1-3 drinks/d vs non-/occasional drinkers	RR	1.17 (1.08-1.26)	0.0006	37.3%	1.01-1.13	0.96-1.42	0.014	5/2.5	1.00	Class III	Moderate
Supplemental calcium	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	6	1029242	9621	Yes vs no	RR	0.89 (0.84-0.95)	0.00051	47.5%	0.88-1.05	0.73-1.09	0.252	2/3.2	NP	Class III	Low
Whole grains	Schwingshackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	7	932818	8943	High vs low	RR	0.87 (0.82-0.94)	0.00011	48.3%	0.88-0.99	0.73-1.04	0.018	4/0.9	0.06	Class III	High

Primary studies adjusted for confounding variables																
Adherence to Mediterranean diet	Schwingsh ackl 2017 <sup>(178)</sup>	6	1410030	16102	High vs low	RR	0.86 (0.80-0.92)	8.4 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>	29.7 %	0.80-0.99	0.74-1.00	0.841	3/5.0	NP	Class III	Critically low
Adherence to Western diet	Feng 2017 <sup>(179)</sup>	15	1182930	11537	High vs low	OR	1.28 (1.13-1.45)	0.00014	72.2 %	1.09-1.44	0.79-2.07	0.173	8/6.5	1.00	Class III	Moderate
Adherence to healthy diet	Feng 2017 <sup>(179)</sup>	15	1182930	11537	High vs low	OR	0.84 (0.76-0.92)	0.00034	56.2 %	0.69-0.90	0.60-1.17	0.602	5/7.5	NP	Class III	Moderate
Pesco-vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	3	149516	1506	Yes vs no	RR	0.67 (0.53-0.83)	0.00043	0.0%	0.48-0.94	0.15-2.89	0.437	2/1.7	0.94	Class III	Low
Semi-vegetarian diet	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	3	580175	4062	Yes vs no	RR	0.86 (0.79-0.94)	0.00072	0.0%	0.76-0.95	0.72-1.04	0.964	1/1.2	NP	Class III	Low
Red meat	Schwingsh ackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	21	2154027	21326	High vs low	RR	1.13 (1.08-1.19)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	20.5 %	1.15-1.19	1.02-1.26	0.175	3/6.0	NP	Class I	High
Processed meat	Schwingsh ackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	15	1910983	18646	High vs low	RR	1.14 (1.07-1.23)	0.00013	25.9 %	1.09-1.32	0.97-1.35	0.981	4/6.9	NP	Class III	High
Whole grains	Schwingsh ackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	9	970927	9223	High vs low	RR	0.88 (0.83-0.94)	0.00006	34.9 %	0.88-0.99	0.77-1.01	0.067	4/1.0	0.26	Class III	High
Dairy products	Schwingsh ackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	17	1629366	16910	High vs low	RR	0.83 (0.76-0.89)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	60.3 %	0.83-0.95	0.65-1.04	0.170	8/4.0	0.99	Class II	High
Yogurt	Zhang 2019 <sup>(195)</sup>	5	698366	5432	High vs low	OR	0.81 (0.76-0.86)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.0%	0.75-0.87	0.72-0.90	0.835	2/1.8	1.00	Class I	Low

Alcohol (Moderate)	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	22	2798092	19123	>1-3 drinks/d vs non-/occasional drinkers	RR	1.24 (1.14-1.34)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	49.3%	1.01-1.13	0.95-1.61	<0.001	9/2.8	0.77	Class II	Moderate
Alcohol (Heavy)	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	7	738539	5078	≥4 drinks/d vs non-/occasional drinkers	RR	1.58 (1.38-1.80)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.0%	1.27-2.16	1.33-1.87	0.802	5/5.8	NP	Class I	Moderate
Non-fermented milk	Ralston 2014 <sup>(200)</sup>	14	892569	5076	High vs low	RR	0.85 (0.78-0.93)	0.00047	0.0%	0.78-1.18	0.77-0.94	0.956	3/0.9	0.96	Class III	Moderate
Total dietary fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	21	2259486	23004	High vs low	RR	0.84 (0.78-0.89)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	18.1%	0.65-0.85	0.72-0.97	0.529	6/12.1	NP	Class I	High
Dietary calcium	Meng 2019 <sup>(218)</sup>	8	1449526	13640	High vs low	HR	0.77 (0.73-0.82)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.0%	0.75-0.94	0.72-0.83	0.598	5/3.9	1.00	Class I	Moderate
Supplemental calcium	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	7	1064458	9862	Yes vs no	RR	0.88 (0.82-0.94)	0.00009	51.7%	0.88-1.05	0.70-1.09	0.071	3/3.4	NP	Class III	Low
Supplemental calcium	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	6	929116	8837	High vs low	RR	0.80 (0.72-0.89)	0.00002	30.9%	0.72-1.02	0.63-1.01	0.884	4/2.7	0.95	Class III	Low
<b>Primary studies with high quality</b>																
Adherence to Mediterranean diet*	Schwingshackl 2017 <sup>(178)</sup>	6	1410030	16102	High vs low	RR	0.86 (0.80-0.92)	8.4 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>	29.7%	0.80-0.99	0.74-1.00	0.841	3/5.0	NP	Class III	Critically low

Adherence to Western diet	Feng 2017 <sup>(179)</sup>	13	1181915	11449	High vs low	OR	1.23 (1.09-1.40)	0.00010	71.6%	1.09-1.44	0.78-1.95	0.457	6/6.9	NP	Class III	Moderate
Adherence to healthy diet	Feng 2017 <sup>(179)</sup>	13	1181915	11449	High vs low	OR	0.83 (0.75-0.92)	0.00045	59.6%	0.69-0.90	0.59-1.18	0.625	5/6.9	NP	Class III	Moderate
Pesco-vegetarian diet <sup>#</sup>	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	3	149516	1506	Yes vs no	RR	0.67 (0.53-0.83)	0.00043	0.0%	0.48-0.94	0.15-2.89	0.437	2/1.7	0.94	Class III	Low
Semi-vegetarian diet <sup>#</sup>	Godos 2016 <sup>(181)</sup>	3	580175	4062	Yes vs no	RR	0.86 (0.79-0.94)	0.00072	0.0%	0.76-0.95	0.72-1.04	0.964	1/1.2	NP	Class III	Low
Red meat*	Schwingsh ackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	21	2154027	21326	High vs low	RR	1.13 (1.08-1.19)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	20.5%	1.15-1.19	1.02-1.26	0.175	3/6.0	NP	Class I	High
Processed meat*	Schwingsh ackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	15	1910983	18646	High vs low	RR	1.14 (1.07-1.23)	0.00013	25.9%	1.09-1.32	0.97-1.35	0.981	4/6.9	NP	Class III	High
Whole grains*	Schwingsh ackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	9	970927	9223	High vs low	RR	0.88 (0.83-0.94)	0.00006	34.9%	0.88-0.99	0.77-1.01	0.067	4/1.0	0.26	Class III	High
Dairy products*	Schwingsh ackl 2018 <sup>(184)</sup>	17	1629366	16910	High vs low	RR	0.83 (0.76-0.89)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	60.3%	0.83-0.95	0.65-1.04	0.170	8/4.0	0.99	Class II	High
Yogurt*	Zhang 2019 <sup>(195)</sup>	5	698366	5432	High vs low	OR	0.81 (0.76-0.86)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.0%	0.75-0.87	0.72-0.90	0.835	2/1.8	1.00	Class I	Low
Alcohol (Moderate)	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	10	1061631	7809	>1-3 drinks/d vs non-/occasional drinkers	RR	1.36 (1.16-1.58)	0.00013	55.3%	0.93-1.29	0.88-2.10	0.016	5/1.4	0.29	Class III	Moderate

Alcohol (Heavy)	Fedirko 2011 <sup>(201)</sup>	4	637367	3724	≥4 drinks/d vs non-/occasional drinkers	RR	1.73 (1.47-2.04)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.0%	1.27-2.16	1.21-2.49	0.248	4/3.5	0.90	Class I	Moderate
Non-fermented milk	Ralston 2014 <sup>(200)</sup>	10	751312	4184	High vs low	RR	0.83 (0.74-0.94)	0.00343	27.9%	0.78-1.18	0.63-1.10	0.577	3/0.6	0.42	Class III	Moderate
Total dietary fibre	Reynolds 2019 <sup>(182)</sup>	17	2071669	20961	High vs low	RR	0.85 (0.79-0.90)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	10.5%	0.65-0.85	0.76-0.95	0.642	5/10.5	NP	Class I	High
Dietary calcium <sup>#</sup>	Meng 2019 <sup>(218)</sup>	8	1449526	13640	High vs low	HR	0.77 (0.73-0.82)	<10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.0%	0.75-0.94	0.72-0.83	0.598	5/3.9	1.00	Class I	Moderate
Supplemental calcium <sup>*</sup>	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	7	1064458	9862	Yes vs no	RR	0.88 (0.82-0.94)	0.00009	51.7%	0.88-1.05	0.70-1.09	0.071	3/3.4	NP	Class III	Low
Supplemental calcium <sup>*</sup>	Heine-Bröring 2015 <sup>(216)</sup>	6	929116	8837	High vs low	RR	0.80 (0.72-0.89)	0.00002	30.9%	0.72-1.02	0.63-1.01	0.884	4/2.7	0.95	Class III	Low

<sup>§</sup> Not performed due to limited number of primary studies

<sup>\*</sup>Sensitivity analysis is not possible because no information on quality assessment of primary studies

<sup>#</sup> Sensitivity analysis is not possible because meta-analysis only included good-quality studies

NP = not pertinent, because estimated number is larger than observed, and there is no evidence of excess significance based on assumption made for plausible effect size; O/E = observed/expected number of studies with significant results; OR = odds ratio; RR = risk ratio.



**eTable 6: Evidence Criteria: Difference Between WCRF and Present Review**

<b>WCRF<sup>(223)</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence from more than one study</li> <li>• Evidence from at least two independent cohort studies</li> <li>• No substantial heterogeneity</li> <li>• Good quality studies to exclude with confidence the possibility that the observed association results from random or systematic error, including confounding, measurement error, and selection bias</li> <li>• Dose-response relationship</li> <li>• Strong and plausible experimental evidence</li> </ul>
<b>Umbrella review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of cases &gt;1,000</li> <li>• <math>p &lt; 10^{-6}</math></li> <li>• <math>I^2 &lt; 50\%</math></li> <li>• 95% prediction interval excluding the null</li> <li>• No small-study effects</li> <li>• No excess significance bias</li> </ul>

**eTable 6.1: Comparison with WCRF meta-analyses for associations with class I evidence in primary analysis**

Association	WCRF <sup>(223)</sup>		Present review	
	Author (Year)	Number of studies reported	Author (Year)	Number of studies reported
Red meat	Alexander (2015) <sup>(168)</sup> ; Chan (2011) <sup>(173)</sup>	17 8	Schwingshackl (2018) <sup>(184)</sup>	21
Alcohol beverages (heavy intake)	Only dose-response meta-analysis found	-	Fedirko (2011) <sup>(201)</sup>	7
Total dietary fibre	Aune (2011)	16	Reynolds (2019) <sup>(182)</sup>	21
Dietary calcium	Only dose-response meta-analysis found	-	Meng (2019) <sup>(218)</sup>	8
Yogurt	Only dose-response meta-analysis found	-	Zhang (2019) <sup>(195)</sup>	5

**Explanation:**

Although WCRF is the latest report, the meta-analyses they used for the intake of red meat and total dietary fibre are different from ours. According to the published methodology by WCRF, the search for articles was updated to April 2015. For our current review paper, a systematic literature search up to September 2019 was performed. Hence, the meta-analyses included for the intake of red meat, total dietary fibre, yogurt, and dietary calcium are from recent papers published between 2018 to 2019, except for heavy alcohol intake which was published in 2011. The meta-analyses included in our review are chosen based on specified selection criteria: meta-analysis with the largest number of primary studies and the one with the largest number of colorectal cancer cases. However, the selection criteria

in the WCRF report are unclear. We followed exactly the protocol as suggested by recent umbrella reviews for selection of meta-analysis for evidence grading. We excluded the meta-analyses used by WCRF and they are shown in the exclusion references in this supplementary material. For all of the associations, we used summary estimates for high versus low intake instead of dose-response meta-analysis.

**eTable 7. Summary Estimates for Concordance in Meta-analyses: Red Meat Intake and Incidence of CRC**

Author	Year	RR	95% CI	P-value	Class of evidence
Larsson <sup>a(175)</sup>	2006	1.20	1.11 - 1.31	>10 <sup>-6</sup>	Class III
Chan <sup>(173)</sup>	2011	1.17	1.09 - 1.25	>10 <sup>-6</sup>	Class III
Pham <sup>(141)</sup>	2014	1.18	0.92- 1.53	NS	Not significant (only Japanese population included): excluded in this comparison
Alexander <sup>(168)</sup>	2015	1.16	1.10 - 1.23	NA	Data not available to grade the evidence
Schwingshackl <sup>(184)</sup>	2018	1.14	1.07 - 1.23	>10 <sup>-6</sup>	Class III

**Abbreviations:** NA: not available; RR, relative risk; 95% CI, 95% confidence interval

\*Please note: Dose-response meta-analyses were **not** included in our review.

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