DASH-Patterned Groceries Reduce Blood Pressure: Results from the GoFresh Randomized Clinical Trial

Stephen P Juraschek, MD, PhD **AHA Scientific Sessions 2025 November 9, 2025**

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Beth Israel Lahey Health







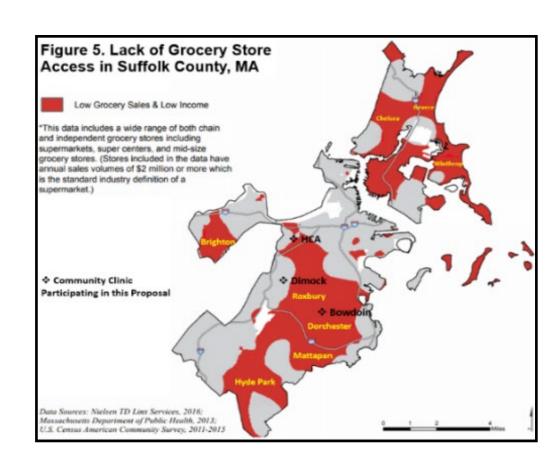


Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Stephen Juraschek, MD PhD:

I have no financial relationships with a commercial entity producing healthcare-related products and/or services.

- ☐ Hypertension (or high blood pressure) affects 55% of Black adults: more than any population demographic in the U.S.
- □ Diet is the most important mediator of excess hypertension risk among Black adults and the DASH diet is especially efficacious among Black adults
- □ Access to a healthy diet is a major cause of disparities in blood pressure
- ☐ Goal: Test whether home-delivered, DASH grocery delivery to Black residents of communities with few grocery stores will improve their blood pressure



Addressing Limitations in Prior Studies



- ☐ The DASH diet was able to reduce blood pressure in Black adults in a tightly controlled setting
- □ Prior grocery intervention studies have not shown improvements in blood pressure because:
- There was not enough food for individuals
- There was not enough food for families





\$50 \$105

Prior Trials	5+ Nuts & Beans	DIGO	DASH-Sodium Trial
No. of participants (% Black)	121 (100)	43 (83)	412 (56)
Stipend or food provision	\$30/week	\$105/week	100% of Calorie needs
Servings of fruit & vegetables (per day)*	+1.4‡	+3.2‡	+6.0‡
Urine sodium, %-difference*	-20.3†	-22.4‡	-45.4‡
Systolic blood pressure, mm Hg*	+1.5	-1.0	-8.9‡
LDL cholesterol, mg/dL*	-1.1	-5.0	-12.8‡



GoFresh Randomized Clinical Trial



Groceries for Black Residents of Boston to Stop Hypertension among Adults Without Treated Hypertension

Population





Inclusion:

- Self-identified Black or African American
- Age 18 years or older
- Resident of a Boston-area healthy food priority area (or "food desert"):
 - Brighton, Chelsea, Dorchester, East Boston, Everett, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Malden, Mattapan, Revere, Roslindale, Roxbury, or Winthrop
- Systolic blood pressure of 120 to <150 mm Hg and diastolic blood pressure <100 mm Hg
- Have access to refrigeration, cooking appliances, and Wi-Fi/cellular service

Exclusion:

- Antihypertensive medication use
- Diabetes, stage 4 or 5 chronic kidney disease, hyperkalemia
- Families with more than 6 adults at dinner time



One of Two 12-week Interventions







Active Intervention: Home-delivered, DASH-patterned groceries, tailored to caloric needs and ordered weekly with dietitian counseling

or

Comparator: 3 \$500 stipends every 4 weeks for self-directed grocery shopping

Daily Nutrient Targets	GoFresh Diet			
Sodium (mg/day)	<2300 mg/d (2100 kcal)			
Potassium (mg/day)	>4700 mg/d (2100 kcal)			
Saturated fat	7% of total energy (~15 g/day)			
Ratios				
Na/kcal	<1.1			
K/kcal	>2.2			
K/Na	>2.0			

Weekly Goals*

- ≥28 servings of fruit & vegetable
- 36-49 servings of grains

• ≥14 low-fat dairy

 4-5 servings of nuts, seeds, legumes

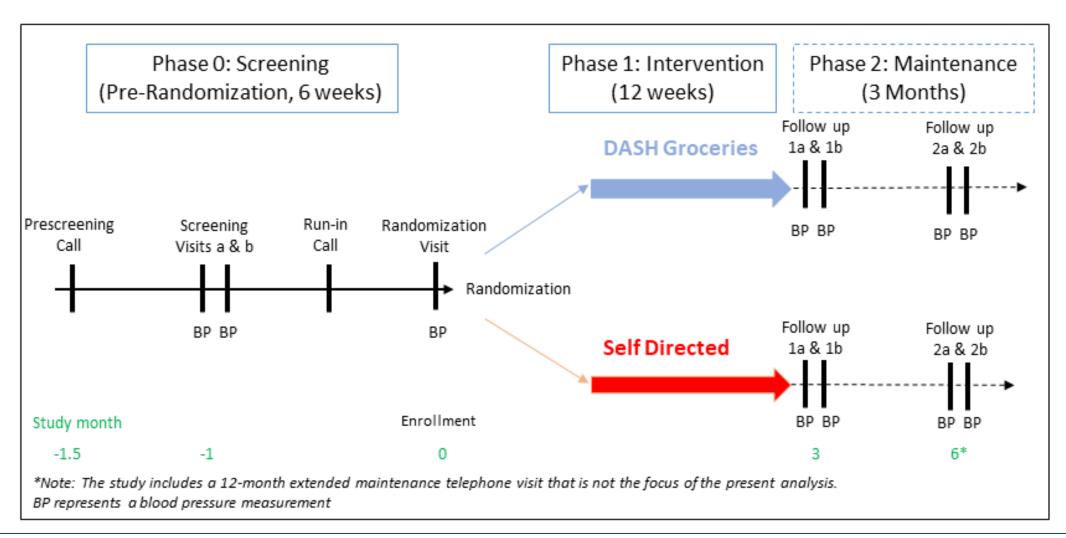
• 28-41 oz. meat

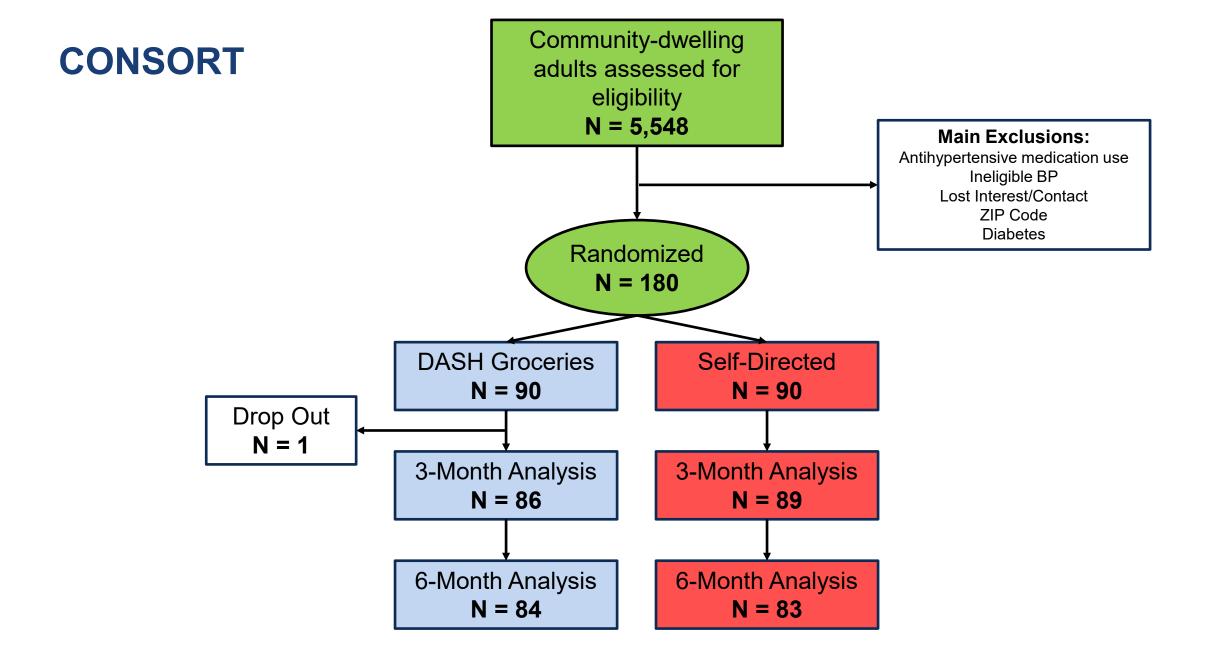
*For a 2100 kcal/day diet



Design Schematic





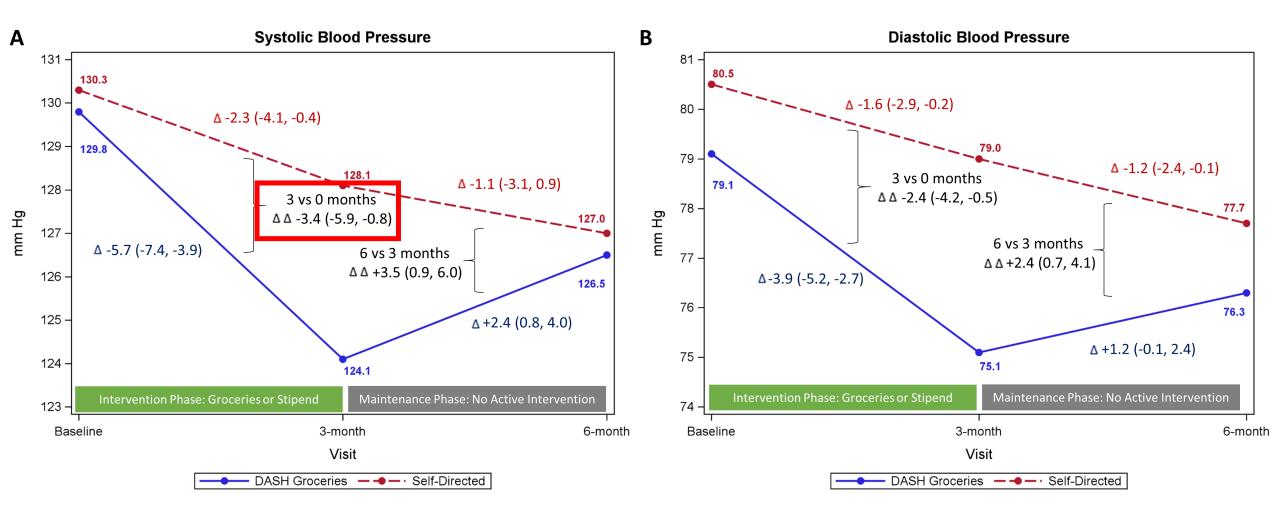


Demographic Information of Randomized Participants

	DASH Groceries Group, N=90	Self-Directed Group, N=90
	Mean (SD) or N (%)	Mean (SD) or N (%)
Age (years), mean (SD)	46.5 (12.7)	45.8 (14.0)
Female Sex	47 (52)	55 (61)
Black or African American	90 (100)	90 (100)
Hispanic or Latino	5 (6)	7 (8)
Household Income		
<\$30,000	23 (26)	16 (18)
\$30,000 to \$59,999	23 (26)	20 (22)
≥\$60,000	35 (39)	43 (48)
Unsure/Prefer not to answer	9 (10)	11 (12)
Family Size, mean (SD)	2.6 (1.3)	2.4 (1.2)
Systolic BP (mm Hg), mean (SD)	129.8 (6.7)	130.3 (6.7)
Diastolic BP (mm Hg), mean (SD)	79.1 (7.4)	80.5 (8.7)
BMI (kg/m²), mean (SD)	30.8 (6.0)	31.1 (6.5)
Hemoglobin A1c (%), mean (SD)	5.5 (0.4)	5.5 (0.4)
LDL-cholesterol, mean (SD)	121.0 (34.6)	112.9 (29.5)

Abbreviations: BP, blood pressure; BMI, body mass index; LDL, low density lipoprotein; SD, standard deviation

Primary Outcome: Difference in 3-month vs Baseline SBP



Adherence: 24-hr Urine

Outcome	Assignment	BL Mean (SE)	3M – BL	6M – 3M
			β (95% CI) or <i>P</i>	β (95% CI) or <i>P</i>
	SDG	2994 (135)	-85 (-424, 254)	165 (-172, 502)
Urine Sodium, mg/24 hr	DASH	3123 (164)	-630 (-992, -268)	116 (-233, 465)
N*=179, 172, 164	DASH minus SDG		-545 (-1041, -50)	-49 (-534, 436)
	P		0.031	0.84
	SDG	1900 (72)	-45 (-216, 126)	34 (-142, 209)
Urine Potassium, mg/24 hr	DASH	1940 (83)	113 (-61, 287)	-289 (-498, -80)
N*=179, 172, 164	DASH minus SDG		158 (-86, 402)	-323 (-596, -50)
	P		0.20	0.02

Change values were generated via generalized estimating equations (exchangeable correlation structure, normal family, identity link, robust variance estimator). Diets were compared with the visit-by-assignment interaction.

Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; DASH, Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension or grocery intervention group; SDG, self-directed group; SE, standard error

^{*}N of participants contributing measurements at baseline, 3 months, and 6 months

Adherence: 24-hr Recall

Outcome	Assignment	BL Mean (SE)	3M – BL	6M – 3M
			β (95% CI) or <i>P</i>	β (95% CI) or <i>P</i>
	SDG	22.1 (1.6)	2.0 (-2.1, 6.1)	-3.3 (-6.3, -0.3)
Saturated fat (24-hr recall), g/24 hr	DASH	27.2 (2.1)	-8.5 (-12.7, -4.4)	2.7 (-0.4, 5.7)
N*=179, 171, 168	DASH minus SDG		-10.6 (-16.4, -4.7)	5.9 (1.7, 10.2)
	P		<0.001	0.006
	SDG	3.80 (0.15)	-0.08 (-0.46, 0.29)	0.02 (-0.39, 0.43)
DASH Diet Index (24-hr recall), points**	DASH	3.71 (0.14)	0.61 (0.23, 0.98)	-0.32 (-0.72, 0.08)
N*=179, 171, 168	DASH minus SDG		0.69 (0.16, 1.22)	-0.35 (-0.92, 0.23)
	P		0.011	0.24

Change values were generated via generalized estimating equations (exchangeable correlation structure, normal family, identity link, robust variance estimator). Diets were compared with the visit-by-assignment interaction.

Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; DASH, Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension or grocery intervention group; SDG, self-directed group; SE, standard error

^{*}N of participants contributing measurements at baseline, 3 months, and 6 months

^{**}DASH index: 1 is lowest DASH adherence, while 11 is highest DASH adherence.

Secondary Outcomes

Outcome	Assignment	BL Mean (SE)	3M – BL	6M – 3M
			β (95% CI) or <i>P</i>	β (95% CI) or <i>P</i>
	SDG	112.9 (3.1)	-3.4 (-7.4, 0.6)	0.9 (-2.5, 4.2)
Serum LDLc, mg/dL	DASH	121.2 (3.6)	-11.4 (-15.5, -7.3)	4.2 (0.2, 8.2)
N*=179, 175, 165	DASH minus SDG		-8.0 (-13.7, -2.3)	3.3 (-1.9, 8.5)
	P		0.006	0.21
	SDG	31.33 (0.70)	0.02 (-0.18, 0.23)	0.00 (-0.21, 0.21)
BMI, kg/m ²	DASH	30.81 (0.63)	-0.02 (-0.27, 0.23)	-0.05 (-0.26, 0.17)
N*=180, 175, 167	DASH minus SDG		-0.04 (-0.37, 0.28)	-0.05 (-0.35, 0.25)
	P		0.80	0.75
HbA1c (whole blood), %	SDG	5.47 (0.04)	0.04 (-0.00, 0.08)	0.02 (-0.01, 0.05)
	DASH	5.50 (0.04)	0.03 (-0.01, 0.07)	0.04 (0.01, 0.07)
N*=180, 175, 169	DASH minus SDG		-0.01 (-0.07, 0.05)	0.02 (-0.03, 0.07)
	P		0.74	0.42

Change values were generated via generalized estimating equations (exchangeable correlation structure, normal family, identity link, robust variance estimator). Diets were compared with the visit-by-assignment interaction.

Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index; CI, confidence interval; DASH, Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension or grocery intervention group; HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; LDLc, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; SDG, self-directed group; SE, standard error

^{*}N of participants contributing measurements at baseline, 3 months, and 6 months

Limitations





- Did not examine isolated factors of the intervention (dietitian counselling, groceries)
- Median cost was \$240/week per household
- \$500 stipend may have been more or less valuable than the groceries
- Urban setting
- Did not include treated hypertension, diabetes

Table 1. A grea	iter clinical response is observed	l with more complete provision	n of dietary needs.

			complete pro-	,
Prior Trials	5+ Nuts & Beans	DIGO	GoFresh	DASH-Sodium Trial
No. of participants (% Black)	121 (100)	43 (83)	180 (100)	412 (56)
Stipend or food provision	\$30/week	\$105/week	100% of Calorie needs	100% of Calorie needs
Servings of fruit & vegetables (per day)*	+1.4‡	+3.2‡	+0.9‡	+6.0‡
Urine sodium, %-difference*	-20.3†	-22.4‡	-17.8†	-45.4‡
Systolic blood pressure, mm Hg*	+1.5	-1.0	-3.4‡	-8.9‡
LDL cholesterol, mg/dL*	-1.1	-5.0	-8.0‡	-12.8‡

^{*}Difference compared to the control group or control period (DIGO). †P < 0.05. ‡P < 0.01

Public Health Context



CURRENT ISSUE

SPECIALTIES

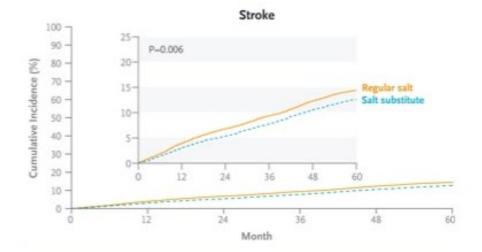
TOPICS

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Effect of Salt Substitution on Cardiovascular Events and Death

Authors: Bruce Neal, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D., Yangfeng Wu, M.D., Ph.D., Xiangxian Feng, Ph.D., Ruijuan Zhang, M.Sc., Yuhong Zhang, M.Med., Jingpu Shi, Ph.D., Jianxin Zhang, Ph.D., +24 , and Paul Elliott, M.B., B.S., Ph.D. Author Info & Affiliations



Systolic Blood Pressure

GoFresh: -3.4 mm Hg

SSaSS: -3.3 mm Hg



CURRENT ISSUE

✓ SPECIALTIES

✓ TOPICS

✓

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

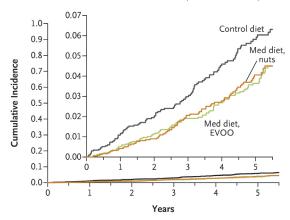


Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease with a Mediterranean Diet Supplemented with Extra-Virgin Olive Oil or Nuts

Authors: Ramón Estruch, M.D., Ph.D., Emilio Ros, M.D., Ph.D., Jordi Salas-Salvadó, M.D., Ph.D., Maria-Isabel Covas, D.Pharm., Ph.D., Dolores Corella, D.Pharm., Ph.D., Fernando Arós, M.D., Ph.D., Enrique Gómez-Gracia, M.D., Ph.D., +14 , for the PREDIMED Study Investigators* Author Info & Affiliations

A Primary End Point (acute myocardial infarction, stroke, or death from cardiovascular causes)

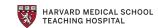
Med diet, EVOO: hazard ratio, 0.69 (95% CI, 0.53-0.91) Med diet, nuts: hazard ratio, 0.72 (95% CI, 0.54-0.95)



LDL-cholesterol

GoFresh: -8.0 mg/dL PREDIMED: -5.8 mg/dL

Conclusions



- 3-months of home-delivered, DASH-patterned groceries ordered with dietitian counseling to Black residents of Boston communities with fewer grocery stores reduced:
 - Urine sodium
 - SBP, DBP
 - LDL-cholesterol

 Longer-term maintenance of these benefits will likely require sustained access to healthy groceries and nutrition counseling

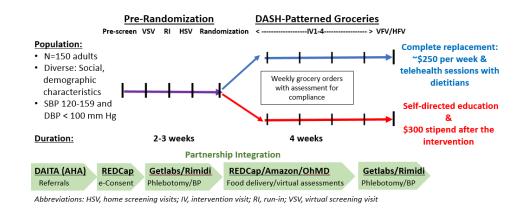
Future Opportunities



GoFreshRx: Treated Adults – results coming soon!

Healthcare-by-Food Pilot: GoFreshSoutheast





- Scalable application to automate grocery strategy
- International Consortium (GoFreshWorld): A global collaboration focused on developing universal standards in healthy grocery shopping to prevent cardiovascular disease
 - Argentina, Australia, Canada, Ghana, Netherlands, South Korea, Vietnam, and United Kingdom



JAMA

Juraschek SP, Col H, Ferro K, et al

DASH-Patterned Groceries and Effects on Blood Pressure

The GoFresh Randomized Clinical Trial

Published online November 9, 2025 AHA Scientific Sessions

Available at jama.com



Scan to read the article



On behalf of GoFresh and RESTORE,

Thank you















Addressing Social Determinants of Health to Prevent Hypertension











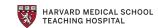






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