ASN Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition

Sponsored by Barilla

Saturday, May 31, 2025 · 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Orange County Convention Center

ASN's Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition features the very best research submitted by students and young investigators to NUTRITION 2025. Organized by ASN's Research Interest Sections, the Global Nutrition Council and the Medical Nutrition Council, the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition includes 87 finalists competing within abstract topical areas.

Aging and Chronic Disease
Samuel Attu, MPHIL, BS, University of Arkansas *Protein and/or Omega-3 Fatty Acid Supplementation Reduces Inflammation and Improves Lipid Profiles in Postmenopausal Women: A Randomized Controlled Trial*
Hye Won Han, Texas A&M University *Intermittent Fasting Improves Aging Immunity by Reprogramming Systemic Myeloid Lineage and Tissue Inflammation*
Da-Yeon Lee, Oklahoma State University *Deletion of Cannabinoid 1 Receptor Promotes Healthy Aging by Reducing Hepatic Steatosis in Aged Mice*
Gahyun (Josie) Lim, BS, MS, Emory University *Sex- and Diet- Dependent Effects of Microbiome-Derived Metabolite δ-Valerobetaine on Aging*
Md Abu Bakkar Siddik, PhD, Texas Tech University *Safety Assessment of a Potential Anti-diabetic Agent in a Pre-clinical Model*

Carotenoids and Retinoids
Indraja Gaddam, MS, University of Connecticut *Xanthophylls and Carotenes Differentially Influence Regulatory T Cell Differentiation*
Megumi Seese, PhD, RD, Baylor College of Medicine *Total Serum Carotenoid Concentrations Increase Across Pregnancy in Healthy Participants From Houston, TX, USA*

Climate, Food Systems, Diet, Nutrition and Health
Nilendra Nair, PhD, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health *Metabolomic Profiles of a Planetary Health Diet and Associations With Cardiometabolic Risk: The Mediators of Atherosclerosis in South Asians Living in America (MASALA) study*
Amy Parkhurst, MS, University of California, Davis *Adverse Effects of Nanoplastics Administration on the Metabolic Profile and Glucose Control in Mice*

Clinical Nutrition
David Alvarado, PhD, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign *Effects of Soluble Corn Fiber Consumption on Cognitive Function and Gastrointestinal Microbiota*
Bruna de Vargas, South Dakota State University *A DGA-Style Diet Featuring Pulses as the Primary Protein Improves Iron Storage, Reduces Inflammation and Body Weight: A Randomized Controlled Feeding Trial*
Morganne Smith, MS, Illinois Tech *Effects of Chronic Intake of Black Beans and Chickpeas on Metabolic and Inflammatory Markers in Adults With Pre-diabetes*
Chien Hsien Wu, MD, Taipei Hospital, Ministry of Health and Welfare *MTHFR C677T Polymorphism and Red Blood Cell Folate Concentrations Modifying the Risks of Hepatic Steatosis: A Taiwan Case-Control Study*

Community and Public Health Nutrition
Janaki Dave, BS, The Ohio State University *Maternal Substance Use Is Associated With Child Food Security Status Among Homeless Young Mothers and Their Children*
Danielle Gartner, MPH, Tulane University School of Public Health *Assessing the Moderating Effects of Unmet Social Needs on the Relationship between Cooking Frequency and Self-Rated Diet Quality*
Nour Hammad, MS, RDN, Harvard University *Weight Bias Internalization, Weight Controllability Beliefs, and Probable Eating Disorder Associations Among Medical Students at a Private University*
Jazmine Mensah, University of Illinois Chicago *Greenlining: Developing a Partnership for Community-Based Participatory Research to Promote Healthy Eating on the South Side of Chicago*
Prince Osei, MS, University of Georgia *Potential of Automatic Ingestion Monitor (AIM-2) for Dietary Assessment in Rural and Urban Children in Ghana*
Tianli Wang, University of Georgia *The Interactive Effect of Prenatal Vitamin D Status and Maternal Obesity on Birth Outcomes among US Black Women*

Diet and Cancer
Yan Ning Li, BS, RD, University of Texas at Austin *Ultra-High Dose Oral ω3 Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) or Eicosapentaenoic Acid (EPA) Block Tumorigenesis in a MYCN-Driven Neuroblastoma Model*
Zhongyao Li, RD, Tufts University *Impact of Medically Tailored Meal Plus Nutrition Counseling on Diet Quality and Weight in Vulnerable Lung Cancer Patients: Results From NutriCare Randomized Controlled Trial*

Dietary Bioactive Components
Warda Elamad, BS, Georgia State University *Effects of Blueberry Supplementation on Markers of Cognitive Function and Behavior in UM-HET3 Mice Fed a High-Fat, High-Sucrose, High-Salt Diet*
Truc Le, BS, University at Buffalo *Influence of Dietary Alpha-Lipoic Acid Supplementation During Obese Pregnancies on Maternal Postpartum Metabolic Health*
Imani Muhammad, BS, University of California, Davis *BDNF Homeostasis Upon Consumption of a High Fat Meal: Modulation by Anthocyanins*
Rami Najjar, PhD, Georgia State University *A Plant-Based Diet Reversed Coronary Microvascular Dysfunction (CMD) via Both Endothelial-Dependent and Endothelial-Independent Mechanisms*
Najjuwah Walden, MSW, Washington University in St. Louis *Epidemiological Model Investigating the Role of Anti-neuroinflammatory Food Intake on Perinatal Depression Severity*
Fenglei Wang, PhD, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health *Multi-layered Investigation of Dietary Phytosterol Intake in Relation to Risk of Type 2 Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease*
Stephanie Wilson, PhD, Texas A&M IHA; Montana State University *Association Between Dietary Polyphenol Intake and Polyphenol-Utilizing Bacteria in Healthy Adults*
Haihan Zeng, Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging (HNRCA) at Tufts University *Effects of EPA/DHA on Atherosclerosis, Immune Cells, and Inflammation in Female Mice: 12/15-Lipoxygenase-Dependent and -Independent Mechanisms*

Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism
Kaja Falkenhain, PhD, Pennington Biomedical Research Center *The Effect of Leptin Phenotypes on Weight Change and Energy Expenditure Responses to Acute and Prolonged Positive or Negative Energy Balance*
Matthew Gorton, BS, Oklahoma State University *The Impact of Insulinogenic and Branched-Chain Amino Acids Depletion on Glucose and Lipid Metabolism in HepG2 Cells*
Everson Nunes, PhD, McMaster University *Comparative Effects of Lacto-Vegetarian and Vegan Diets on Muscle Protein Synthesis and Plasma Metabolomics in Healthy Older Adults at and Above the RDA*
Nadine Veasley, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign *Fiber's Utilization for Energy and Life (FUEL): A Randomized, Controlled Feeding Trial Assessing Metabolizable Energy of the Diet With and Without High Fiber Cereal*

Experimental/Companion Animal Nutrition
Connor Buchanan, MS, University of Guelph *n-3 Polyunsaturated Fatty Acid Exposure Influences Notch 3 Protein Expression in Mouse Mammary Epithelial Cells*

Global Nutrition
Leila Harrison, MPH, Emory University *Evaluation of Maternal Hemoglobin Cutoffs During Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes: BRINDA Project*
Davrina Rianda, University of California, Davis *Identification of Growth Trajectories in Early Life: A Comparative Study of Malawi and the United States*
Selin Sergin, BS, Emory University *Impact of Fortified Milk on Diet, Nutritional Status, and Functional Outcomes: A Systematic Review*

Maternal, Perinatal and Pediatric Nutrition
Irma Castro-Navarro, PhD, University of Idaho *Association of Maternal Cannabis Use With the Macronutrient Composition of Human Milk*
Hussain Chharawalla, PhD, University of California, Davis *Metabolic Health, Food Security Status, and Healthy Eating Index-2020 Scores of Pregnant U.S. Women in NHANES 2009-2023*
Karla Guzman, University of California, Davis *Nutrition Supplement Use Among Lactating Mothers in the MOM2CHild Cohort*
Synneva Hagen-Lillevik, PhD, MS, RD, University of Denver *A Higher Complex Carbohydrate Diet in Gestational Diabetes Lowers Daytime Glucose and Associates With Reduced Neonatal Adiposity*
Abdullah Nurus Salam Khan, MPH, University of South Carolina *Maternal Hemoglobin Concentrations and Their Associations With Obstetric and Nutritional Factors During Pregnancy and Postpartum: Findings From Uttar Pradesh, India*
Elisabeth Larson, MS, Cornell University *Novel Insights Into Choline and Methyl Donor Nutrients: Mitigating Inflammation During Pregnancy*
Preciosa Martinez-Motta, PhD, MS, RD/LDN, RN, Florida International University *The Relationship Between Changes in Measures of Body Adiposity and Changes in Blood Lipid Parameters in Children and Adolescents Enrolled in the MetA-Bone Trial*
Summer Messer, BS, University of Texas *Breast Milk Saturated Fatty Acids Are Directly Influenced by Dietary Intake: A Test of Beef Versus Coconut Oil-Based Substitute Beef*
Hannah Petry, BS, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *Fetal Liver Weight Is Negatively Associated With Maternal Plasma Lipid Metabolites in a Mouse Model of Prenatal Alcohol Exposure and Choline Supplementation*
Mercy Sosanya, PhD, University at Buffalo *Impact of the BabyThrive Gaming App on Maternal Infant and Young Child Feeding Attitudes and Practices and Child (0 – 2 Years) Anthropometrics*
Penias Tembo, MD, MPH, University of South Carolina *Longitudinal Association Between Perceived Racial Discrimination and Diet-Associated Inflammation in the Adolescent Brain and Cognitive Development Study*

Neuroscience/Nutrition and the Brain
Ashti Morovati, PhD, Texas Tech University *Adipocyte-Microglia Crosstalk in Alzheimer's Disease: The Anti-neuroinflammatory Role of Eicosapentaenoic Acid (EPA)*
Sidney Murray, MS, American University *Low Glutamate Diet Improves PTSD and Eating Disorder Outcomes in Veterans With Gulf War Illness*
Brooke Sutton, BS, Oklahoma State University *Resistant Starch Supplementation Promotes Brain Health in Estrogen Deficient Mice by Modulating Gut-Derived Enzyme and Metabolites*

Nutrition Education and Behavioral Science
Mariane De Oliveira, PhD, Boston College *Preconception Diet Quality Trajectories and Food Parenting Among Fathers*
Mohammad Masudur Rahman, PhD, University of South Carolina *Sharing of Information by Mothers and Household Heads With Their Social Network to Improve Complementary Feeding Behavior: A Qualitative Study in Nepal*

Nutrition Translation/Food Science
Md Najmol Hoque, MS, North Dakota State University *Impact of Nitrogen Management on Nutritional and Antioxidant Properties of Hard Red Spring Wheat*
Alexandra Larcom, MPH, RD, LDN, University of Rhode Island *Effects of Food Processing and Nutritional Quality on Energy Intake, Satiety, and Ingestive Behaviors in Young Adults*
Haeley Peters, BA, BS, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign *Exploring Variation in Nutrition Assessment Tools Amongst Practicing Registered Dietitians*

Nutritional Epidemiology/Dietary Patterns
Jenneffer Rayane Braga Tibaes, MS, University of Alberta *Polypharmacy Prevalence and Side Effects in Metabolic Dysfunction–Associated Steatotic Liver Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis*
Clémence Desjardins, RD, PhD, Université Laval *The Use of PCSK9 Inhibitor Is Associated With More Adaptative Eating Behaviors Among Adults With Heterozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia*
Alicyn Dickman, MDN, RD, LD, CNSC, The Ohio State University *A Fresh Take: Fruit and Vegetable Content and Produce-Related Food Safety Communication in Commercial Meal Kits*
Tori Holthaus, BS, RD, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign *Feasibility of a MIND Diet Protocol with Remote Meal Delivery: A Randomized Controlled Pilot Trial*
Heejin Lee, PhD, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health *Food Insecurity and the Risk of Dementia and Cognitive Impairment With No Dementia in US Older Adults*
Lei Liu, MPH, Emory University *Anemia With and Without Iron Deficiency During Pregnancy and Association With Adverse Birth Outcomes: BRINDA Project*
Lisa Merrill, ScD, University of Massachusetts Lowell *Development and Validation of Culturally Adapted Inflammation Scores in Puerto Rican Adults*
Tinsae Shemelise Tesfaye, MPH, Deakin University *Longitudinal Association Between Trajectories of Macronutrient Intake and Body Mass Index Among Young Australian Children*
Jillian Weathington, University of Central Florida *The Relationship Between Diet Quality and Academic Performance in College Students*
Zhiyuan Wu, PhD, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health *Low-Carbohydrate and Low-Fat Diets, Objective Biomarker Indices, and Coronary Heart Disease in US Men and Women*
Hila Zelicha, RD, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles *Effect of Green Mediterranean Diet on Serum Folate and Its Interaction With Genetic Variance in Folate Metabolism: The DIRECT PLUS 18-Month Dietary RCT*

Nutritional Immunology and Inflammation/Immunometabolism
Nithya Krishnakumar, BS, University of California, Davis *Diet Quality, Gut Microbiota, and Inflammation as Predictors of Fecal sIgA in Adults*
Jaeeun Lee, PhD, University of Connecticut *Astaxanthin Modulates Mitochondrial Unfolded Protein Response to Protect Hepatocytes From Alcohol-Induced Damage*

Nutritional Microbiology/Microbiome/Microbiome Nutrition
Soyeon Hong, PhD, Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) *Strain-Specific Effects of Eubacterium on Rg3-Mediated Improvement of Osteosarcopenia in Genetically Diverse Mice*
Karolline May, PhD, University of Washington *Combined Prebiotic Dietary Inulin and VSL#3 Probiotics Modulate Gut Metabolites to Improve Energy Balance and Glucose Metabolism in Diet-Induced Obese Mice*
Seyedeh Nooshan Mir Mohammad Ali, MS, Purdue University *Dietary Fiber Fermentability and Viscosity Impact Serum and Gut Microbial Metabolites in a Rat Model of Progressive Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)*
Jennifer Onuora, MS, BS, The Hospital for Sick Children, Centre for Global Child Health; University of Toronto *Effects of Early Neonatal Administration of Lactiplantibacillus plantarum ATCC 202195 on the Fecal Microbiota of Infants in Dhaka, Bangladesh*
Anna Organski, BS, Purdue University *Supplementation of Equol Producing Bacteria Alters Sex Steroid Homeostasis in a Sexual Dimorphic Manner*
Stephanie Wilson, PhD, Texas A&M IHA; Montana State University *Consumption of Whole Green Lentils Alters Gut Microbial Composition in Metabolically At-Risk Adults: A Randomized Controlled Trial*

Obesity
Merina Dahal, Arizona State University *Direct Injection of Mirabegron Into Subcutaneous White Adipose Tissue for Combating Obesity in Overweight and Obese Mice*
Leila Humphreys, Virginia Commonwealth University *Mortality and Heart Failure Exacerbations With Incretin-Mimetic Drugs for Weight Loss in Patients With Obesity-Related Heart Failure With Preserved Ejection Fraction*
Judy Kim, University of Massachusetts Amherst *Impact of Weight Cycling on Metabolic Adaptation, GLP-1 Regulation and Epigenetic Modifications*
Marahi Perez-Tamayo, MS, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign *Microbial and Metabolic Impact of Walnut Consumption in Adults With Obesity*
Longgang Zhao, PhD, Yale School of Nursing *Adiposity, Metabolomic and Proteomic Signatures, and Liver Health: A Prospective Cohort Study in the UK Biobank*
Fang Zhou, Arizona State University *Local and Targeted Delivery of Adipose Stromal Stem Cell-Targeted Trans-Resveratrol-Nanoparticles for Combating Obesity*

Precision Nutrition/Nutrient-Gene Interactions
Oladimeji Akinlawon, PhD, U.S. Department of Agriculture *Epigenetic Mediators of Diet and Insulin Resistance*
Busayo Oladun, BS, MS, Arizona State University *Hypothalamic JMJD3-Mediated Epigenetic Regulation of Leptin Signaling Attenuates High-Fat Diet-Induced Obesity*

Sports/Performance Nutrition
David Barney, PhD, U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine *Exogenous Carbohydrate Oxidation Is Higher Regardless of Energy Status When Glucose + Fructose Is Consumed During Endurance Exercise Compared to Glucose Alone*

Vitamins and Minerals
Emily Butler, Texas State University *Suppression of Renal Pro-inflammatory Cytokines by Fructooligosaccharides Is Associated With Renal Vitamin D Signaling in High-Fat Diet-Induced Obese C57BL/6 Mice*
Elina Dawoodani, MS, Purdue University *Encapsulated Ferrous Fumarate Double Fortified Salt Improves Iron Status and Reduces Iron Deficiency Anemia in Women of Reproductive Age in Madhya Pradesh, India*
Margaret Hilliard, PhD, USDA-ARS Western Human Nutrition Research Center *Diet and Microbiome Predictors of Plasma Vitamin B12 in Healthy U.S. Adults*