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**CARDI-OH**  
OHIO CARDIOVASCULAR  
HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

# Keynote Speaker

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Joint Appointments in Epidemiology,  
International Health, and Nursing  
Director, Welch Center for Prevention,  
Epidemiology & Clinical Research**



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# Lowering Blood Pressure and Reducing Racial Disparities: Diet Matters!

Lawrence J Appel, MD, MPH

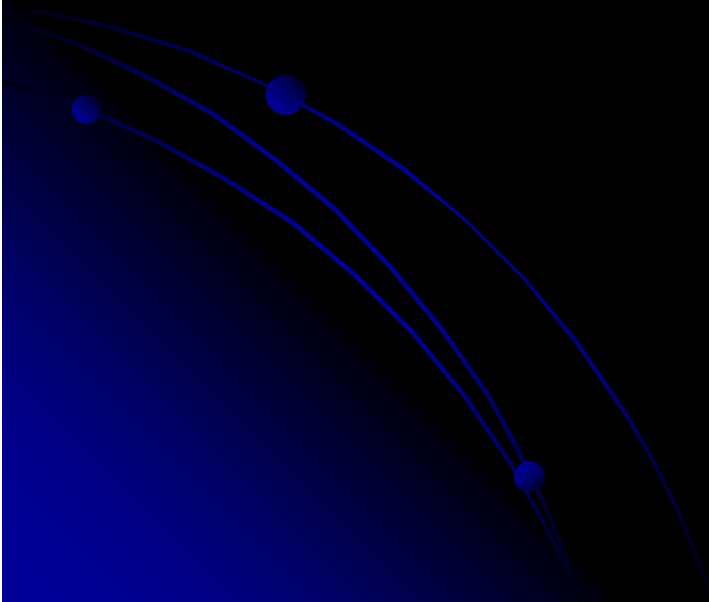
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June 8, 2018

# Disclosures

- UpToDate
- Resolve Cardiovascular Health Initiative
- Sharecare



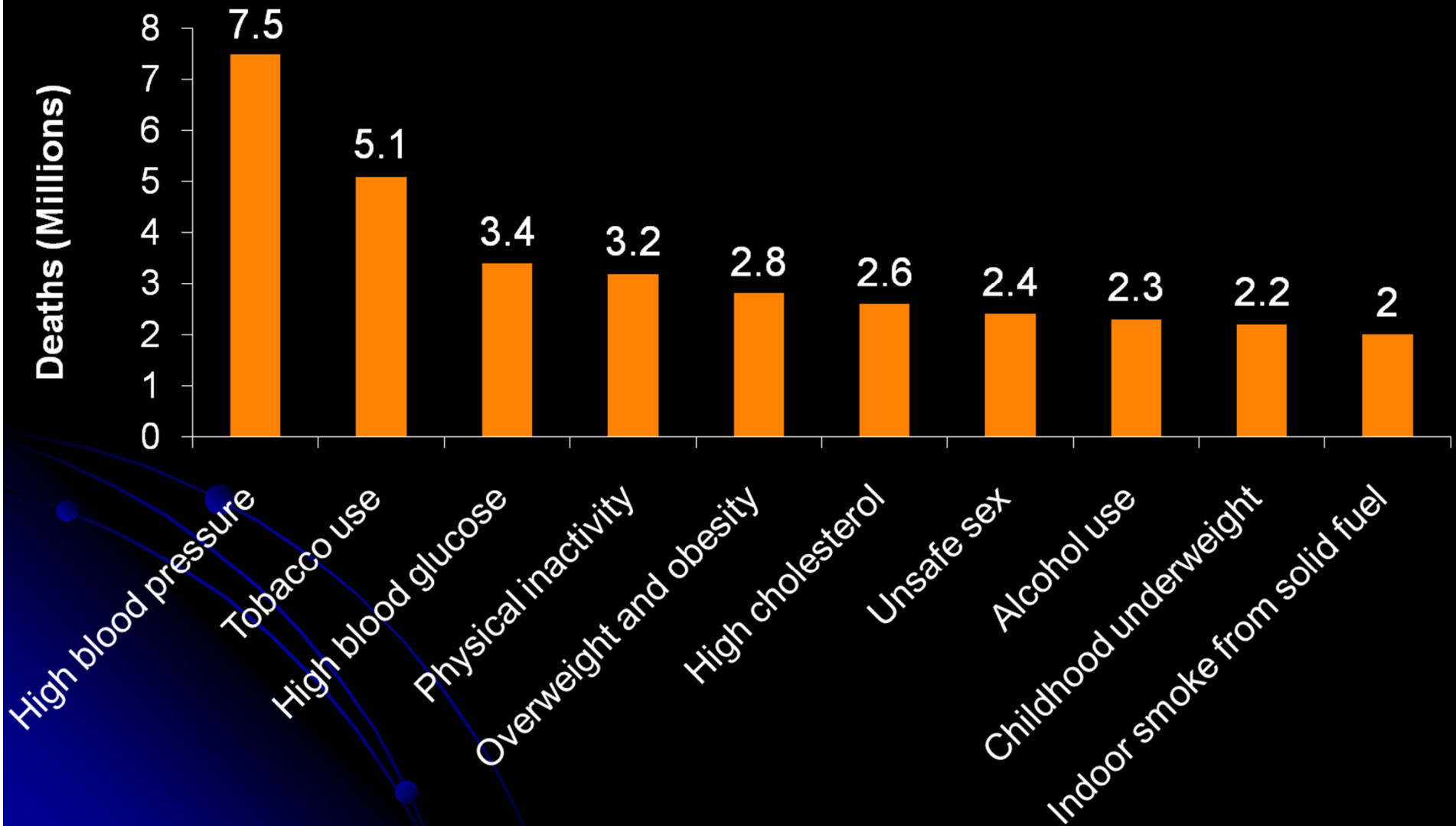
# Topics

- Blood Pressure: A Few Basics
- Lifestyle Matters
  - Sodium
  - Potassium
  - DASH Diet
- Reducing Racial Disparities in BP
- Practical Strategies to Implement Lifestyle Change
- Novel Strategies (that Work)

# Blood Pressure Classification

<u>Category</u>	<u>Systolic BP</u>		<u>Diastolic BP</u>
Normal	< 120	and	< 80
Elevated BP	120-129	or	80-89
Hypertension	<b>Above Normal Blood Pressure (BP)</b>		
Stage 1	130-139	or	80-89
Stage 2	≥140	or	≥90

# ***Big Picture: Worldwide, Elevated BP is the Leading Cause of Preventable Deaths***



Global health risks: [http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global\\_burden\\_disease](http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease), WHO, 12/09

# Magnitude of the BP Epidemic

- 54% of strokes and 47% of coronary heart disease events attributed to elevated BP<sup>1</sup>
- 26% of adults worldwide (971 million) have hypertension<sup>2</sup>
- Lifetime risk<sup>3</sup> of developing hypertension is 90%

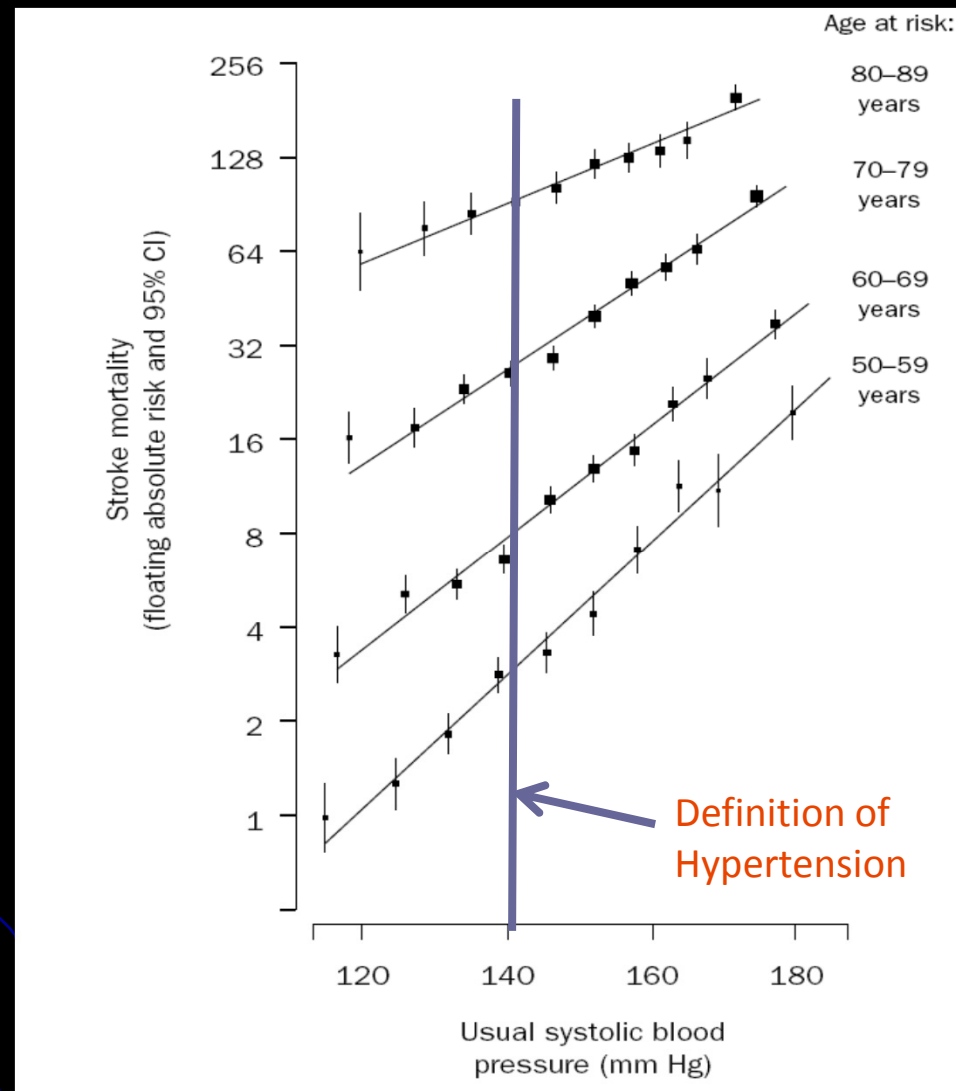
<sup>1</sup>Lawes CM Lancet 2008;371:1513

<sup>2</sup>Kearney Lancet 2005;305:217

<sup>3</sup>Vasan JAMA 2002; 287:1003



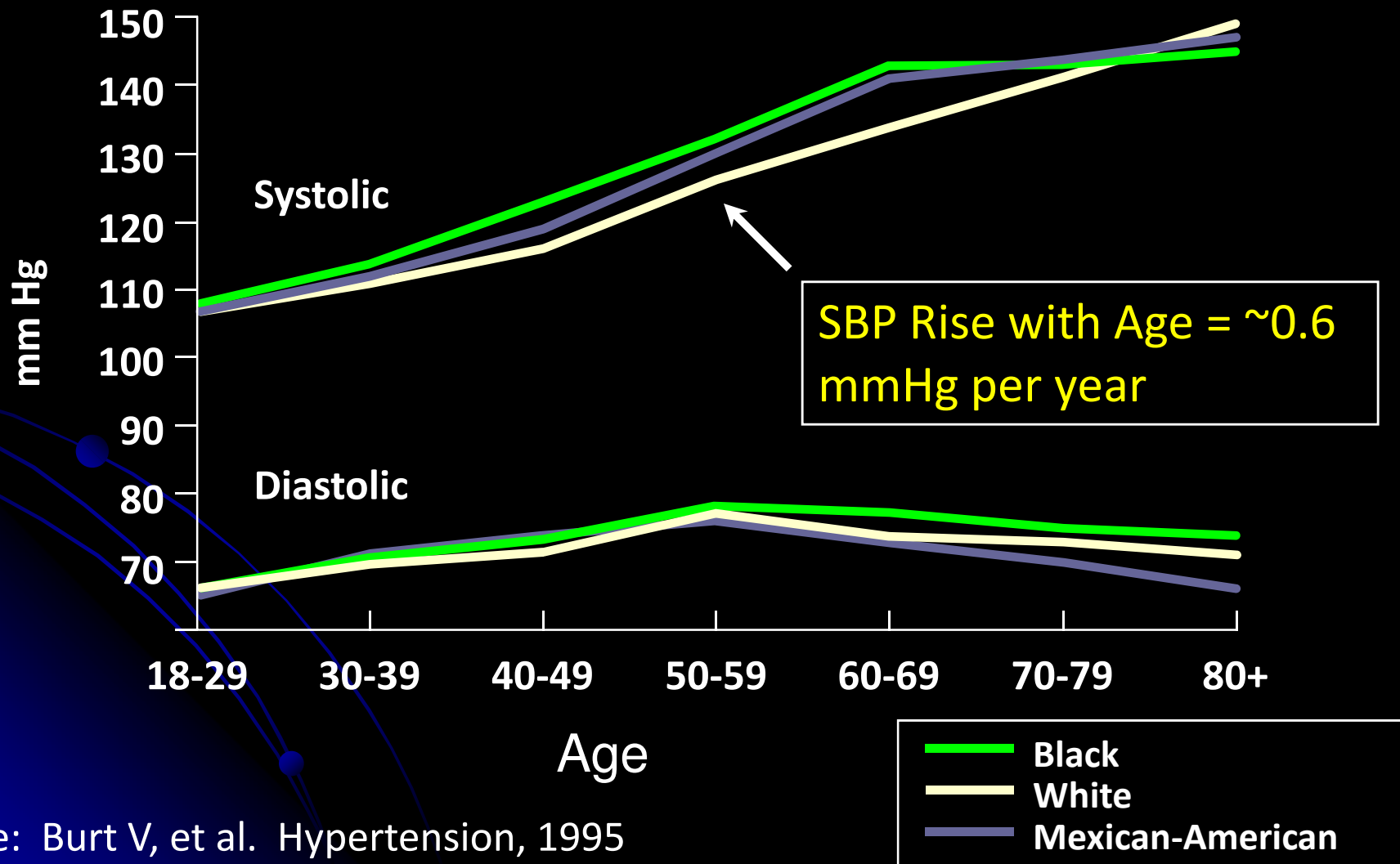
# Stroke Mortality by Level of Usual Systolic BP\*



\*Source: Prospective Studies Collaboration, Lancet, 2002: Meta-analysis of 61 prospective studies with 2.7m person-yrs, 11.9k deaths



# Mean SBP and DBP by Age and Race/Ethnicity for Women, Age 18 Years and Older

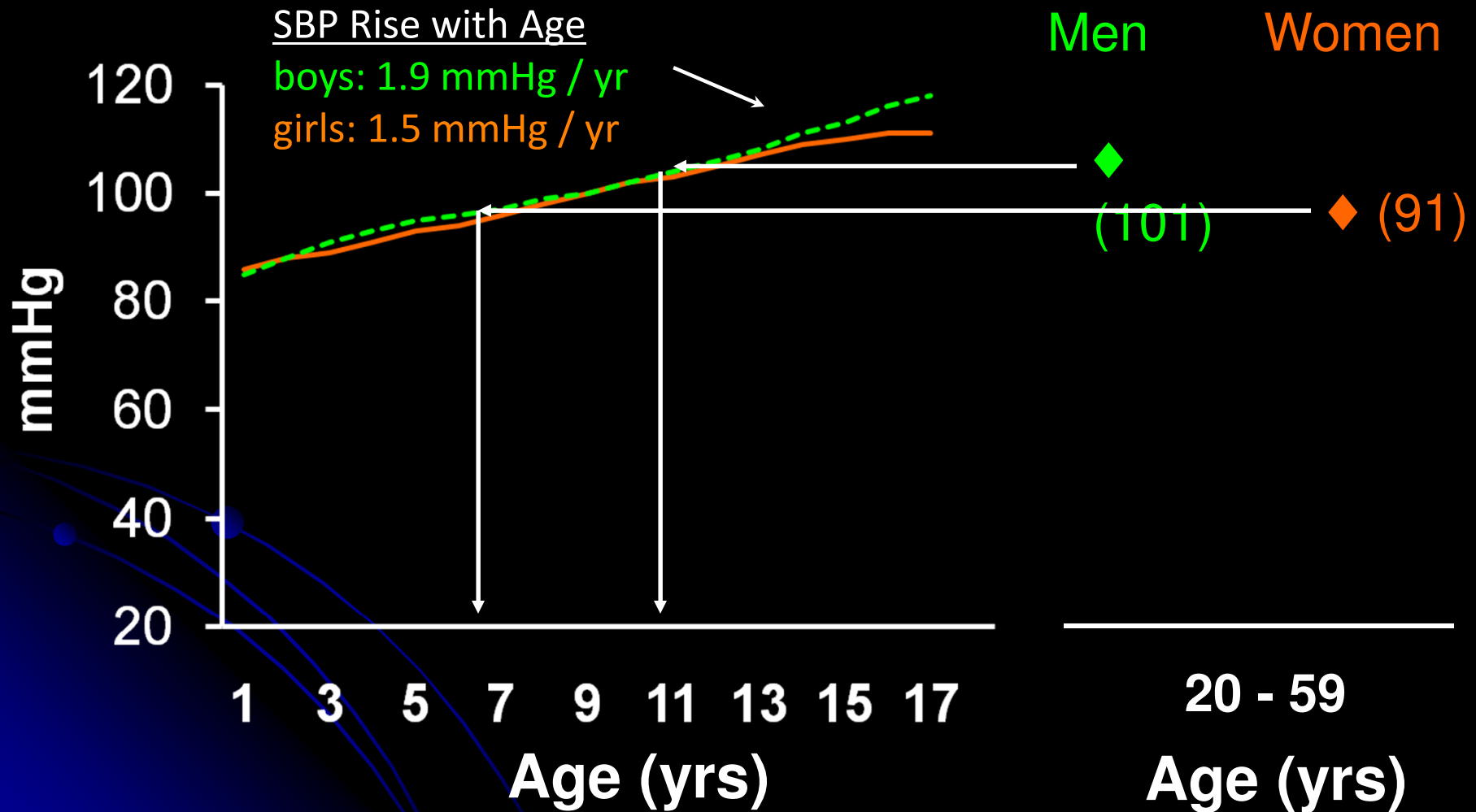


Source: Burt V, et al. Hypertension, 1995

# Age-Related Rise in Systolic BP in Children

U.S. Children\*, ages 1- 17

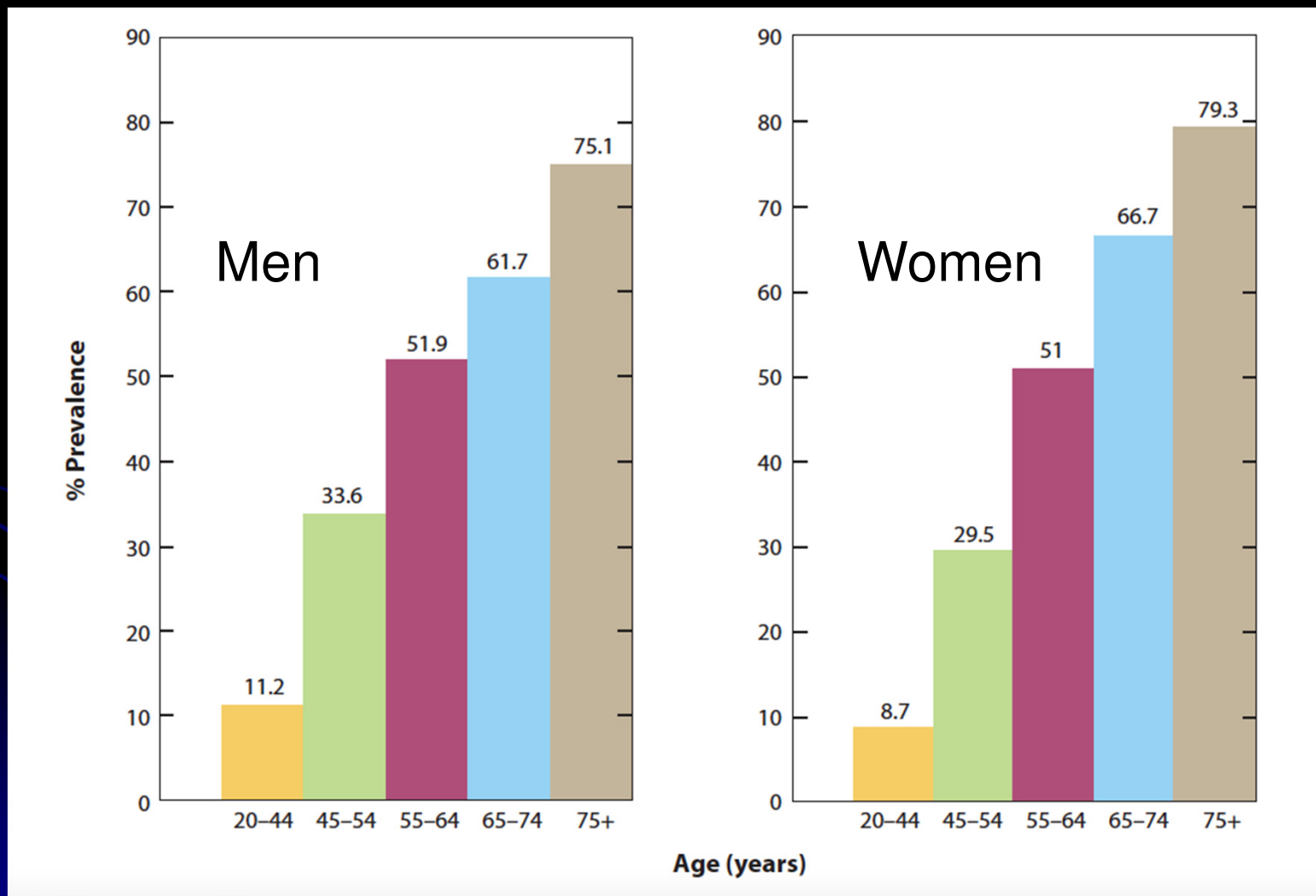
Yanomami\*\*, ages 20-59



\*Pediatrics, 2004;114:555 (for 50th Percentile Height)

\*\* J Human HTN, 1989, 3:331

# Prevalence of Hypertension by Age in U.S. Adults: Age 20 and Older by Age and Sex (NHANES: 2009-12)



# Dietary Therapies that Effectively Lower Blood Pressure

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- Weight loss
- Reduced salt (sodium chloride) intake
- Increased potassium intake
- Certain dietary patterns
  - DASH style diets
  - Vegetarian diets
- Moderation of alcohol intake
- (Partial replacement of carbohydrate with plant protein or monounsaturated fat)

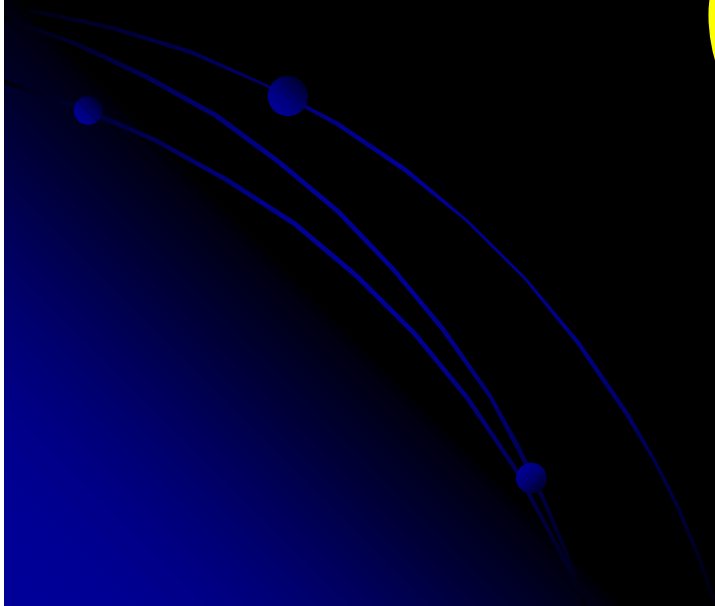
# Dietary Therapies – Ineffective or Uncertain Efficacy

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- Calcium supplements
- Magnesium supplements
- Increased fiber intake
- Fish oil supplements\*

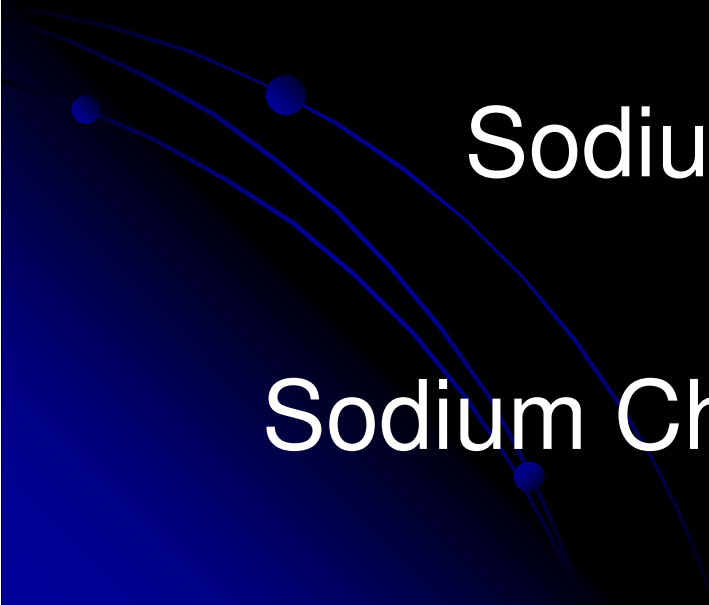
\* High doses of fish oil lower BP in hypertensive individuals but at levels that cause side effects,

# Sodium Chloride (Salt)



# Useful Conversions

	Upper Level (UL)
Sodium (mg)	2,300
Sodium (mmol)	100
Sodium Chloride (g)	5.8

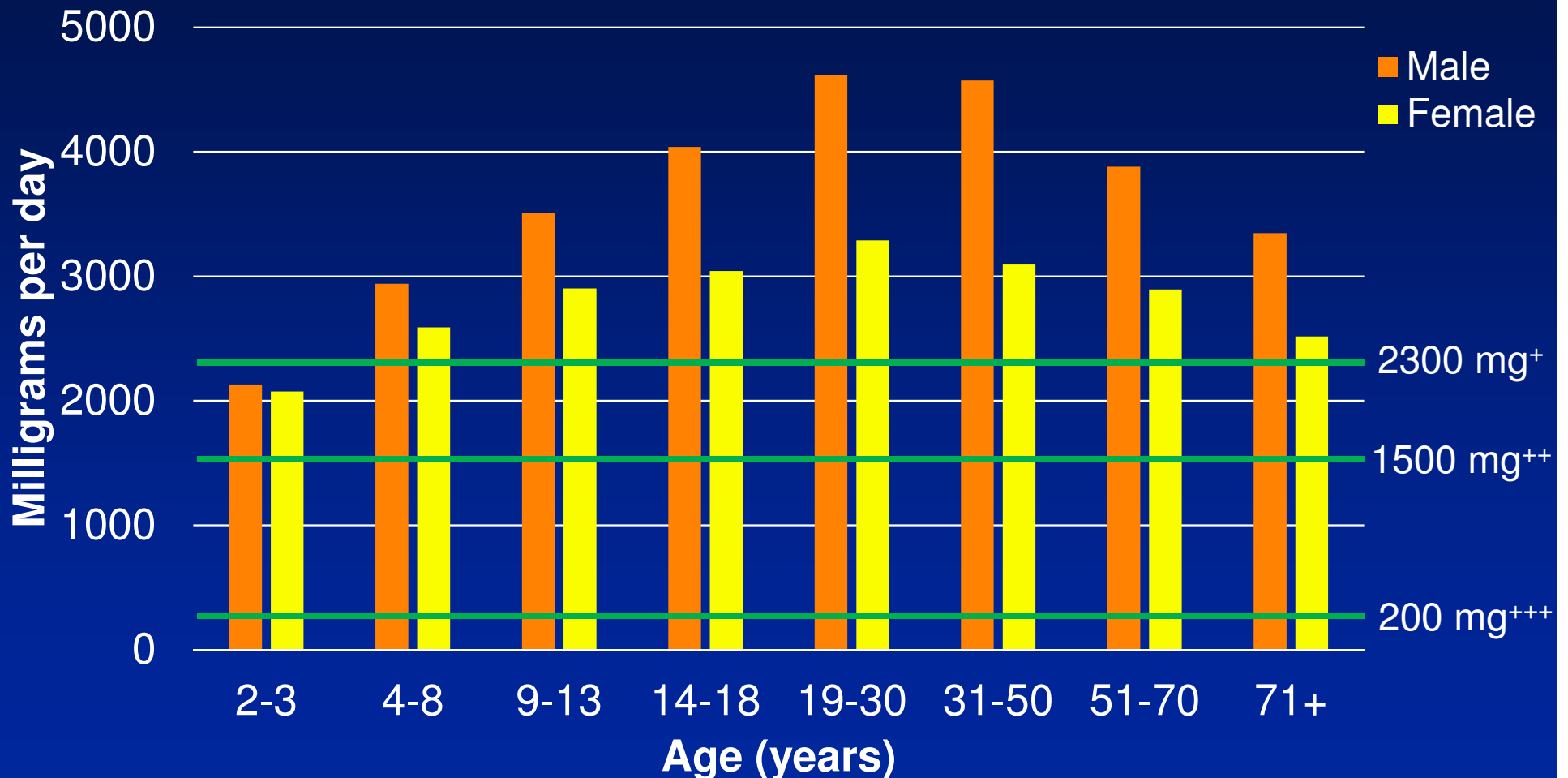




# Forms of Sodium

- 90% of sodium consumed as sodium chloride (salt)
- Other forms:
  - sodium bicarbonate
  - sodium in processed foods, such as sodium benzoate and sodium phosphate

# Estimated Mean Daily Sodium Intake in US, by Age/Sex Group, 2011-2

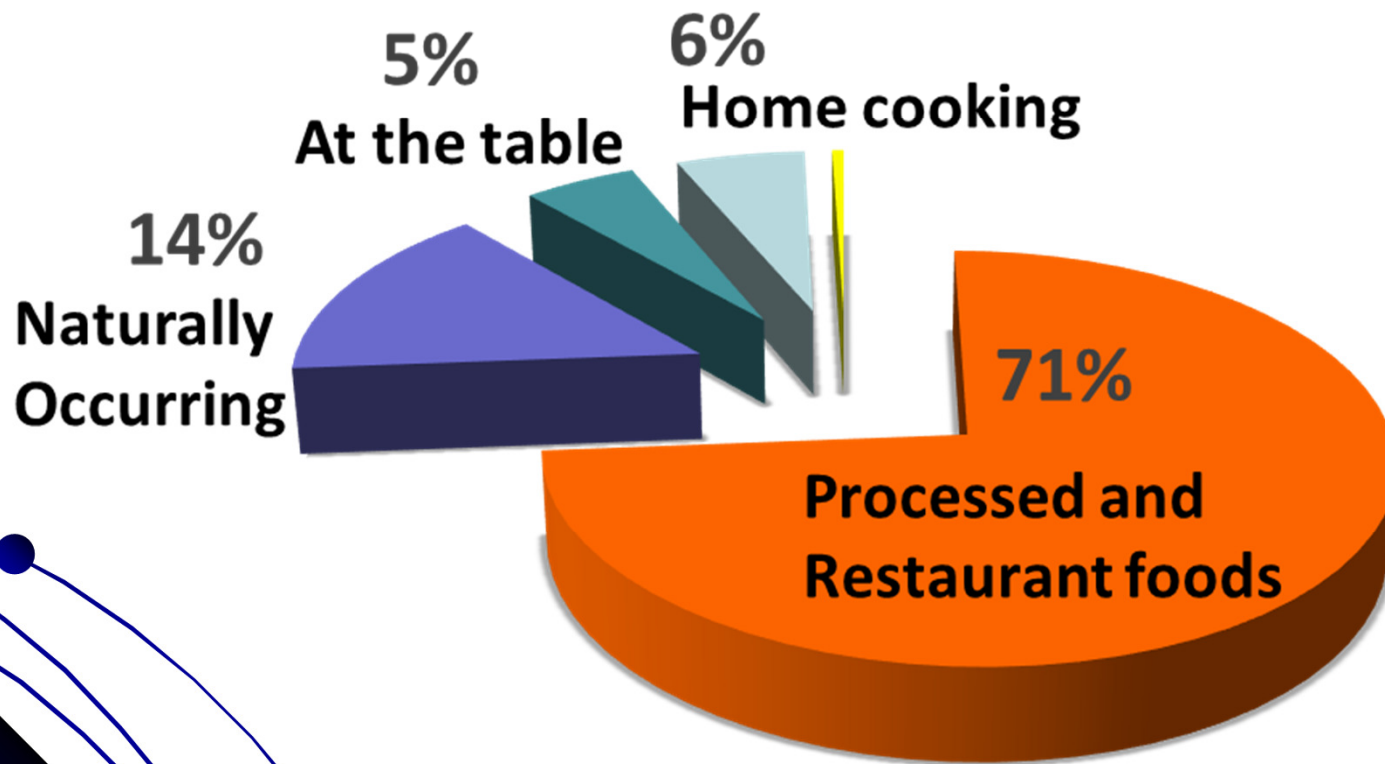


+ Recommended upper limit of intake for adults

++ Recommended intake for blacks, hypertensives, and middle- and older-aged adults

+++ Needed to replace obligatory losses (Dahl, 1958)

# In US, Most Sodium (>70%) Comes from Processed and Restaurant Food



Harnack LJ, et al. Sources of Sodium in US Adults from 3 Geographic Regions. *Circulation*. 2017;135:1775-1783.

# Measurement of Na Intake

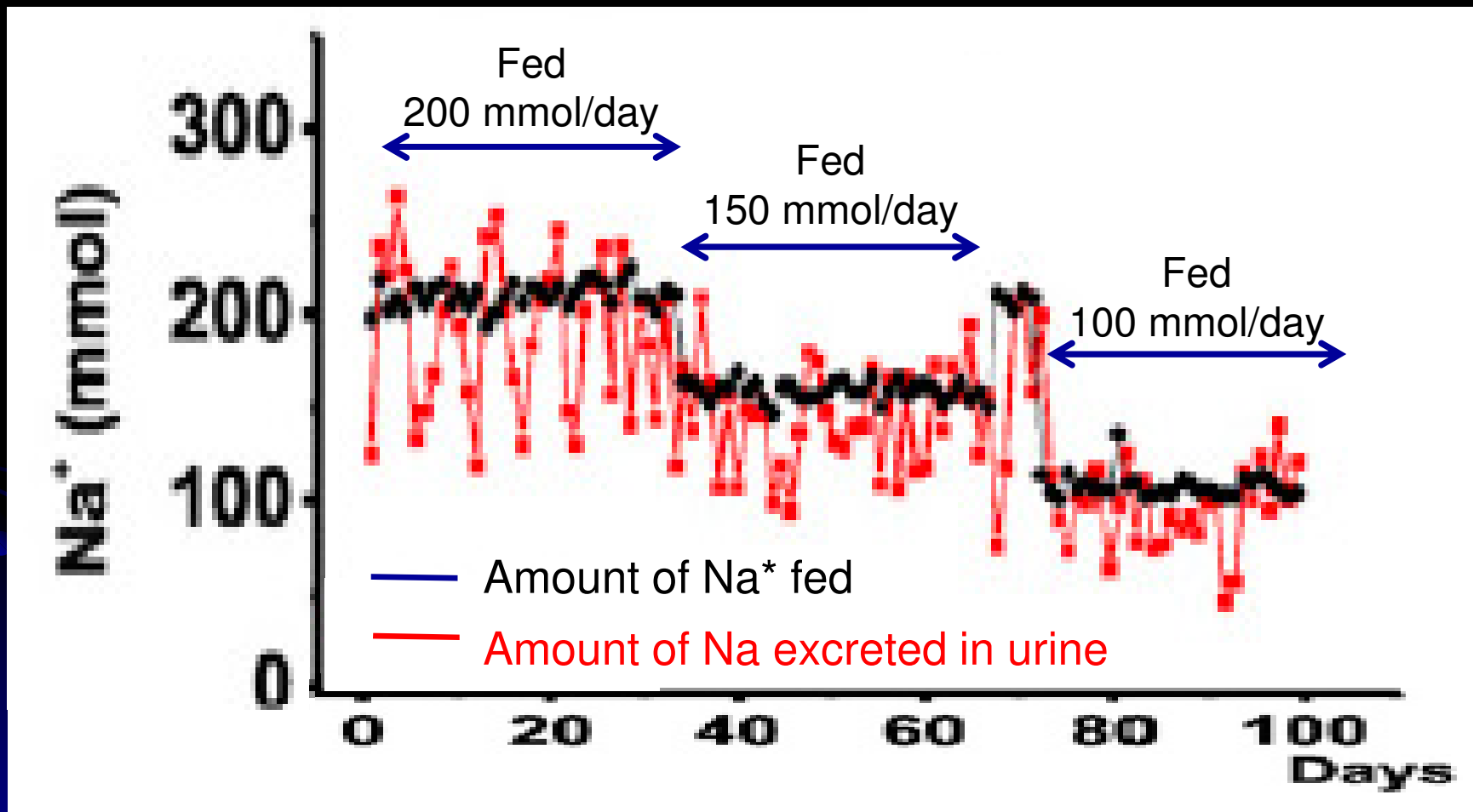
## Optimal

- Multiple, high quality 24 hour urine collections

## Suboptimal

- Single 24 hour urine collected with limited or no attention to quality control
- Spot, overnight or timed urines
- 24 hour dietary recalls
- Food frequency questionnaire

# Extremely High Variation in Urinary Na Excretion, even on a Constant Intake, in a Cosmonaut Related to Physiologic Variation

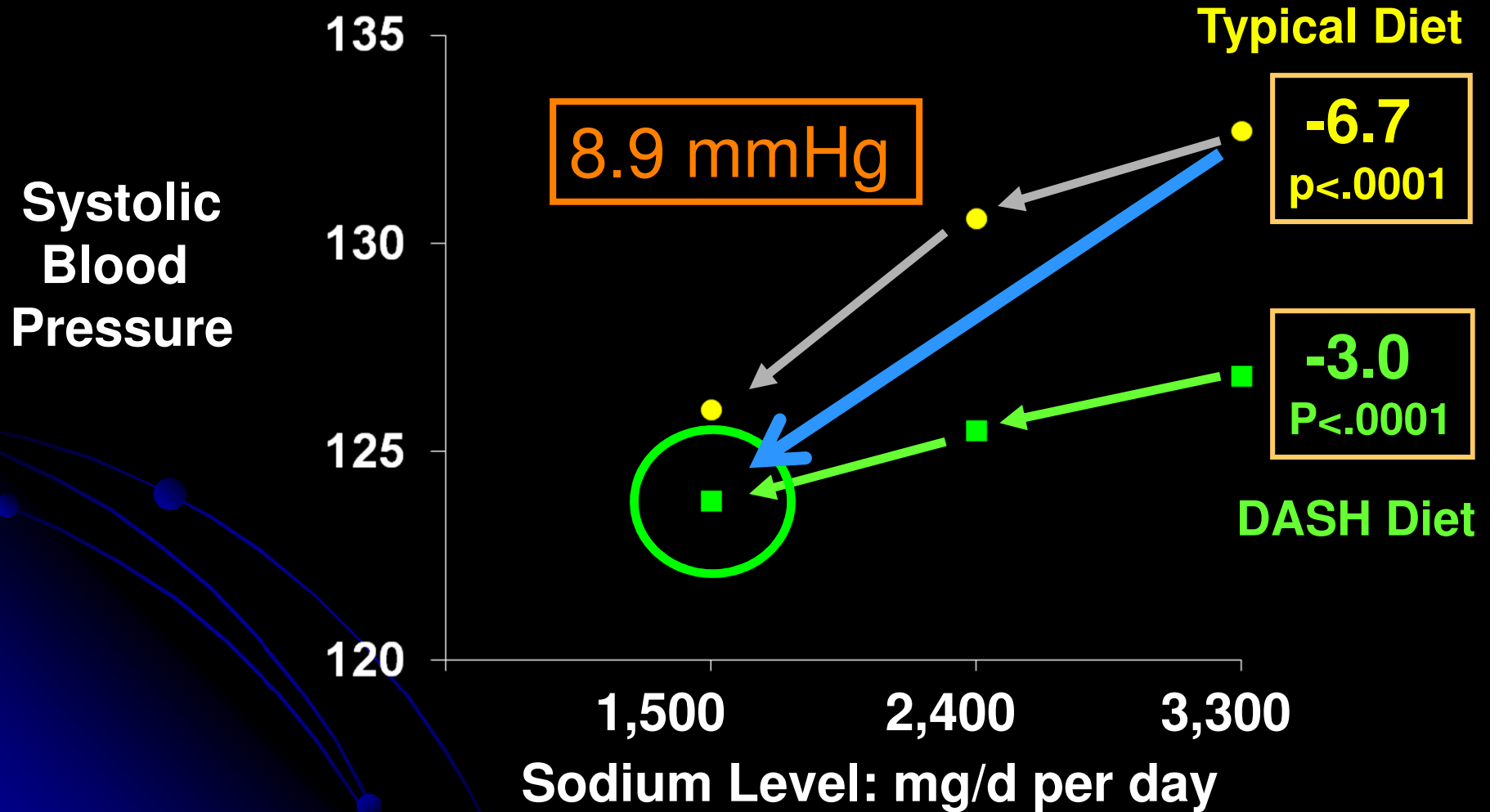


# Sodium Reduction: Potential BP-Related and BP-Independent Effects

	BP-Related	BP-Independent
CVD	X	X
Stroke	X	X
Left Ventricular Hypertrophy	X	X
Kidney Disease Progression	X	X
Kidney Stones		X
Osteoporosis		X
Gastric Cancer		X



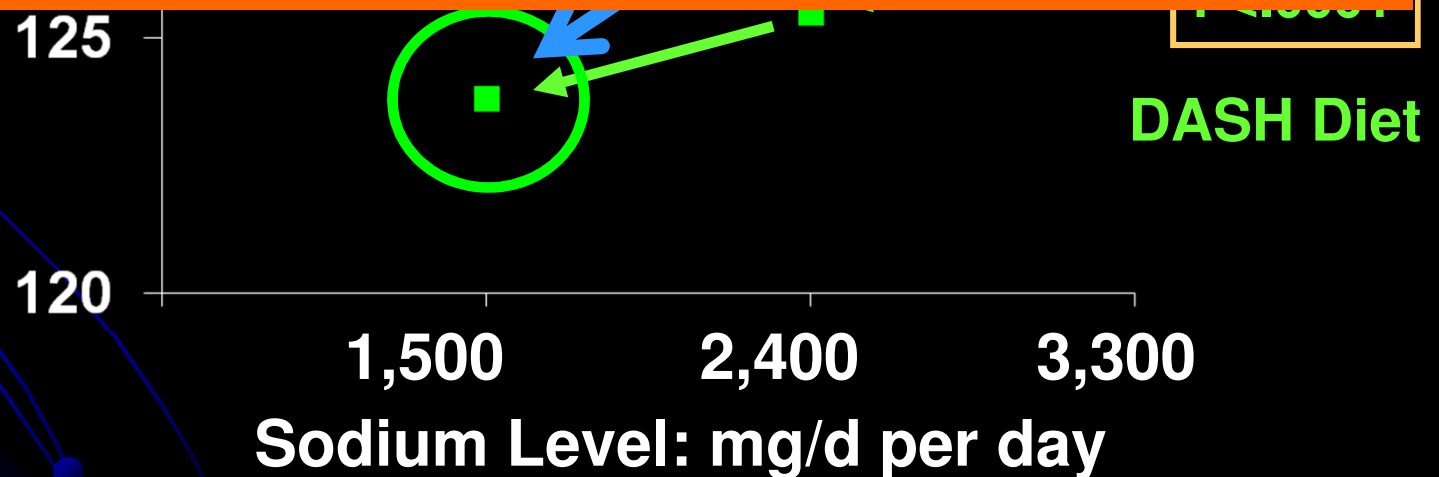
# As Sodium Intake Is Reduced, So is Blood Pressure





# As Sodium Intake Is Reduced, So is Blood Pressure

Optimal diet approach to lower BP combines sodium reduction and improved diet





# Estimated BP Reductions from Lowering Sodium Intake

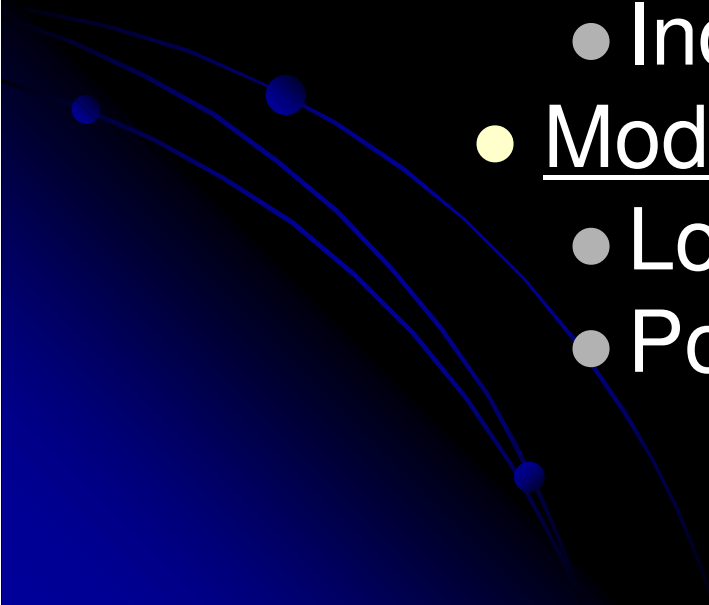
	Children <sup>1</sup>	Non-HTN <sup>2</sup>	HTN <sup>2</sup>	Resistant HTN <sup>3</sup>
SBP (mmHg)	-1.2	-2.0	-5.0	-22.7
DBP (mmHg)	-1.3	-1.0	-2.7	-9.1
Na (mg/d) Reduction	n/a	1,700	1,800	2,300

<sup>1</sup>He, HTN 2006;48:861 <sup>2</sup>Cochrane Review, 2006; <sup>3</sup>Pimenta, HTN 2009;54:475

# Salt Sensitivity

- Possible to identify ‘groups’ that have greater response to sodium reduction, BUT
  - Tremendous variability within group
  - Impossible to identify ‘salt sensitive’ individuals
- Irrelevant as a public health concept given the vast scope of the blood pressure and cardiovascular disease epidemics

# Factors Associated with Increased Salt Sensitivity

- Fixed factors
    - African-Americans
    - Middle and older-aged persons
    - Genetic Factors
    - Individuals with Hypertension
  - Modifiable factors
    - Low potassium intake
    - Poor quality diet
- 

# Population-Based Strategy

## SBP Distributions

After  
Intervention

← Before  
Intervention

Reduction  
in BP

Reduction in SBP  
mmHg

% Reduction in Mortality  
Stroke CHD Total

2

-6

-4

-3

3

-8

-5

-4

5

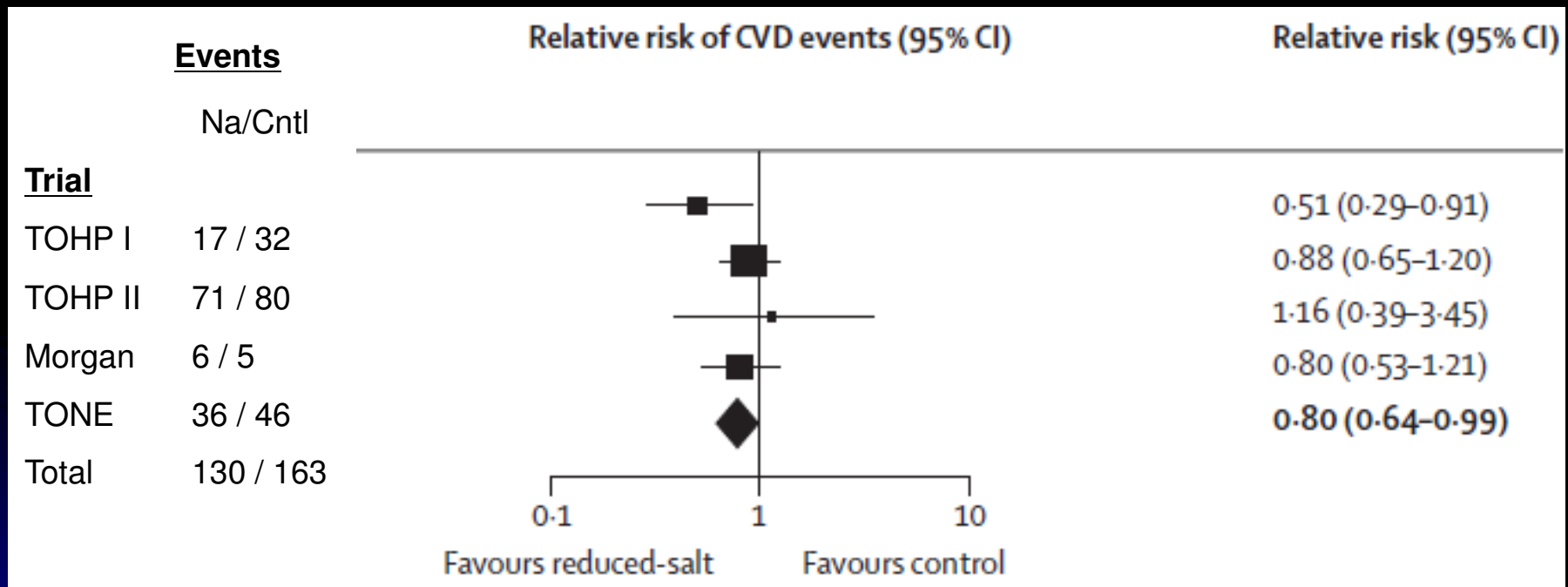
-14

-9

-7

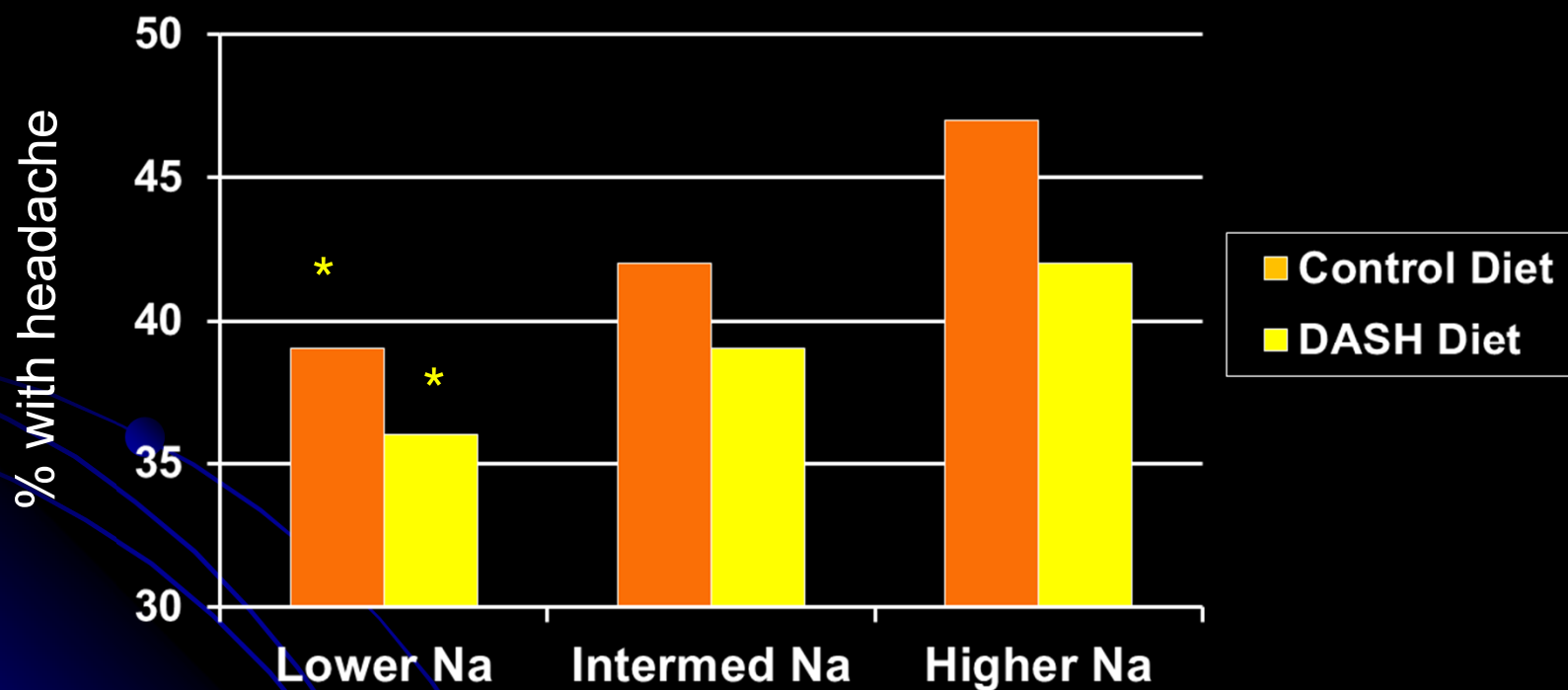
Stamler R. *Hypertension*  
1991;17:1-16-1-20.

# Sodium Reduction Lowers CVD Risk: Meta-Analysis of Trials





# As Sodium Intake Rises, so Does the Risk of Headaches



**\*  $p < 0.05$ , lower compared to higher sodium intake**

*D*ietary  
*A*pproaches to  
*S*top  
*H*ypertension





# The DASH Dietary Pattern

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Emphasizes:

Fruits, Vegetables, Low-fat Dairy Foods

Includes:

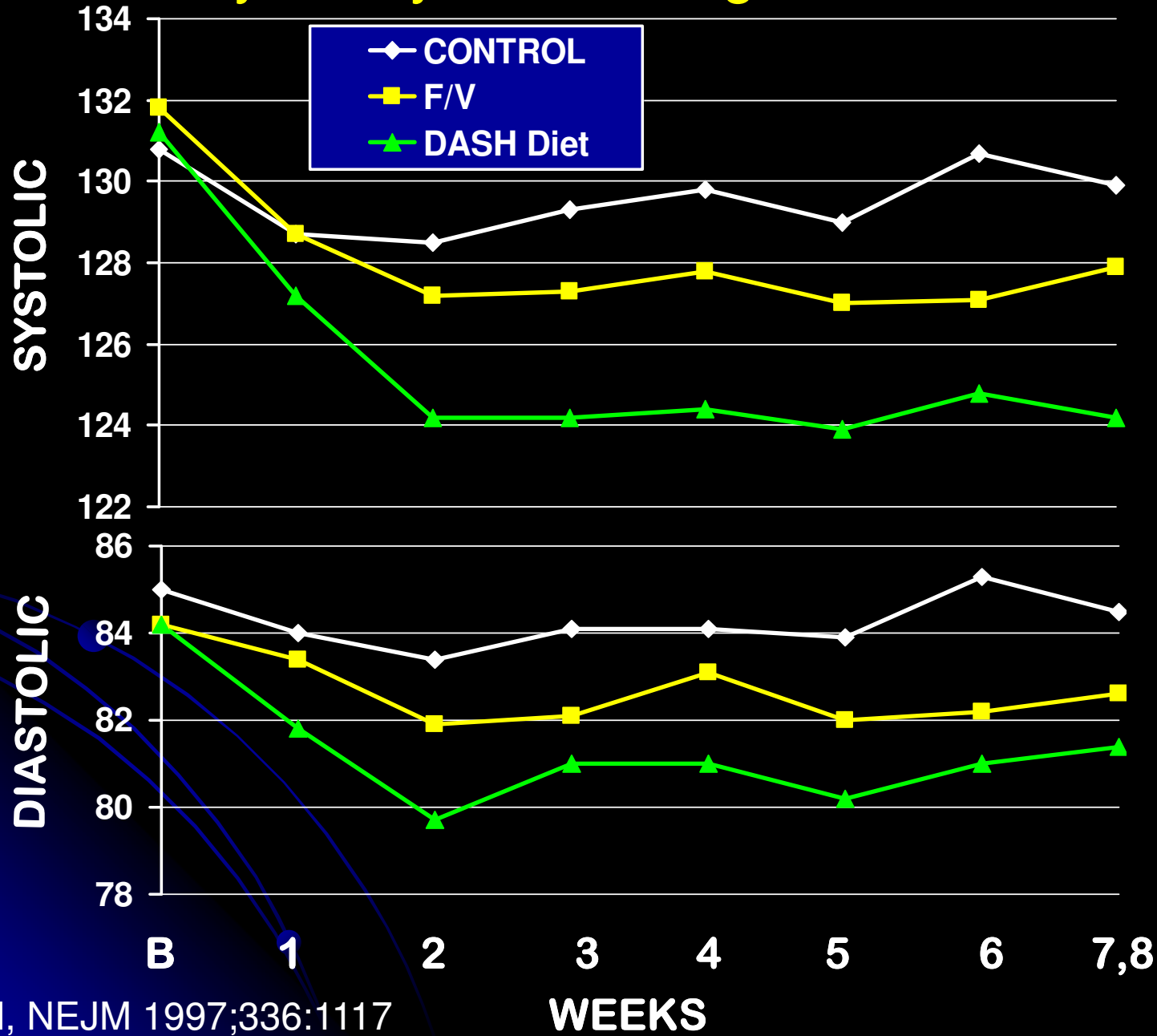
Whole Grains, Nuts, Poultry, Fish

Reduced in:

Saturated Fat, Red Meat, Sweets,  
Sugar-sweetened Beverages



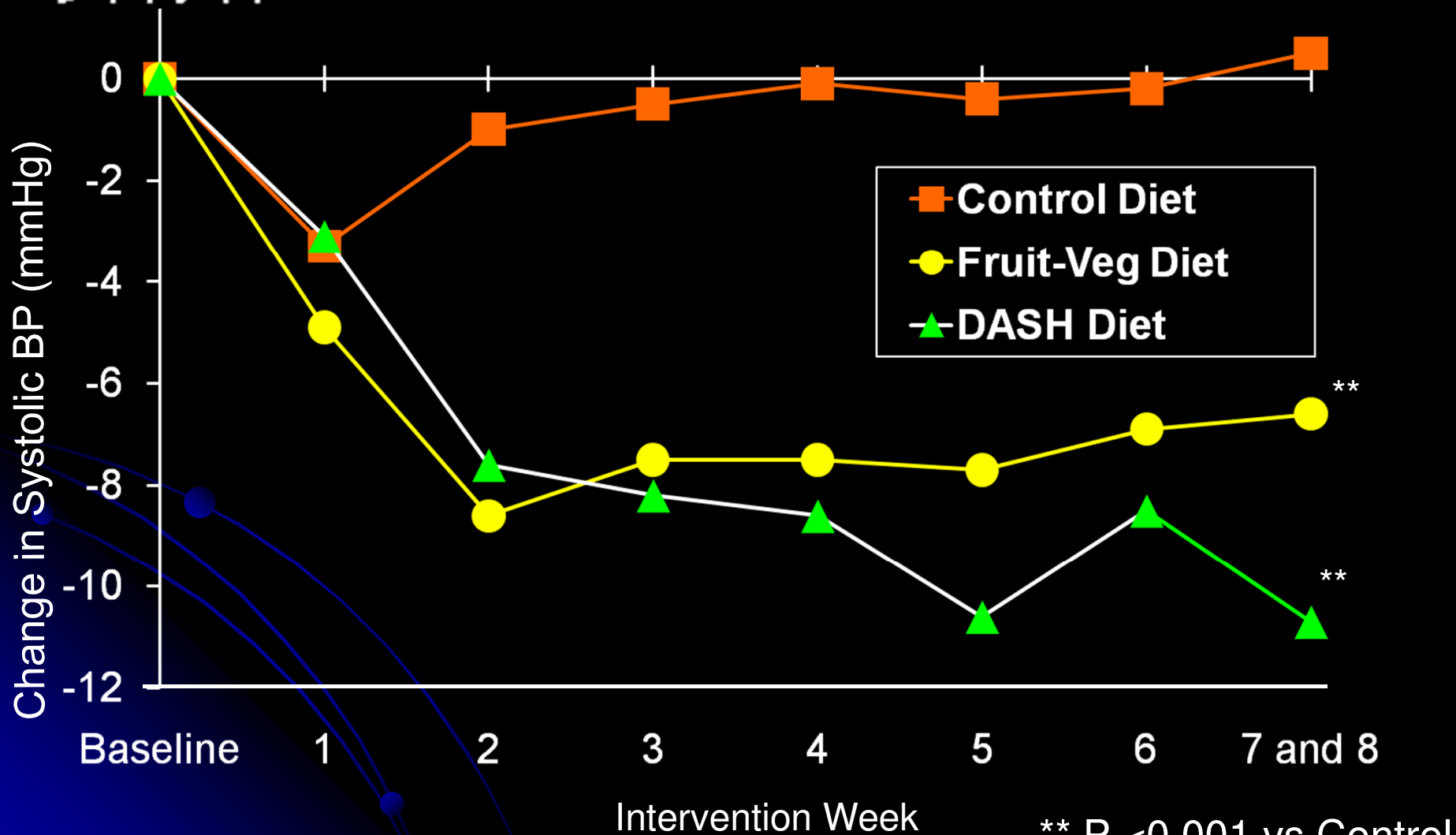
# Weekly BP by Diet During Intervention Feeding



Appel, NEJM 1997;336:1117



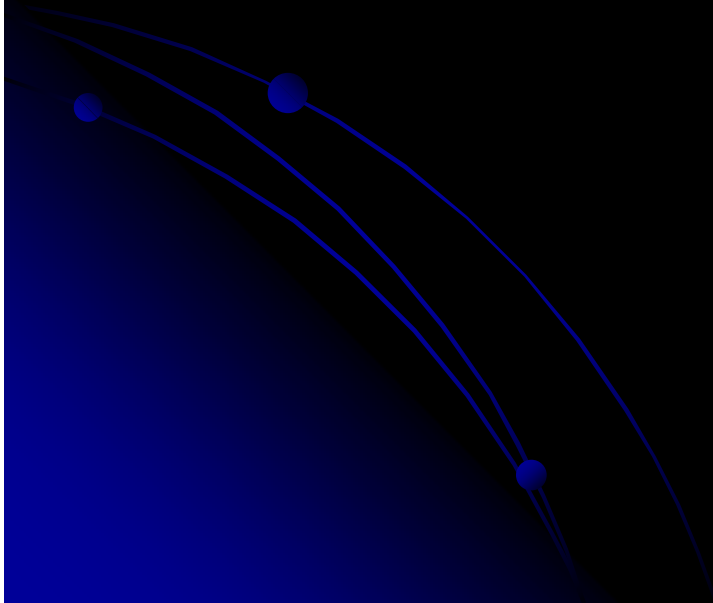
# Effects of DASH Diet On Systolic BP Over Time in Hypertensive Participants



Conlin, Am J Htn 2000;13:980

\*\* P < 0.001 vs Control

# Why the Fuss Over Sodium?



# Arguments Against Sodium Reduction

- Clinical trial of sodium reduction with hard clinical outcomes is needed
- Only 'salt sensitive' persons should reduce their salt intake
- Sodium reduction might be harmful

# Argument

Such trials are impossible because of logistical, financial and ethical considerations.

- Clinical trial of sodium reduction with hard clinical endpoints

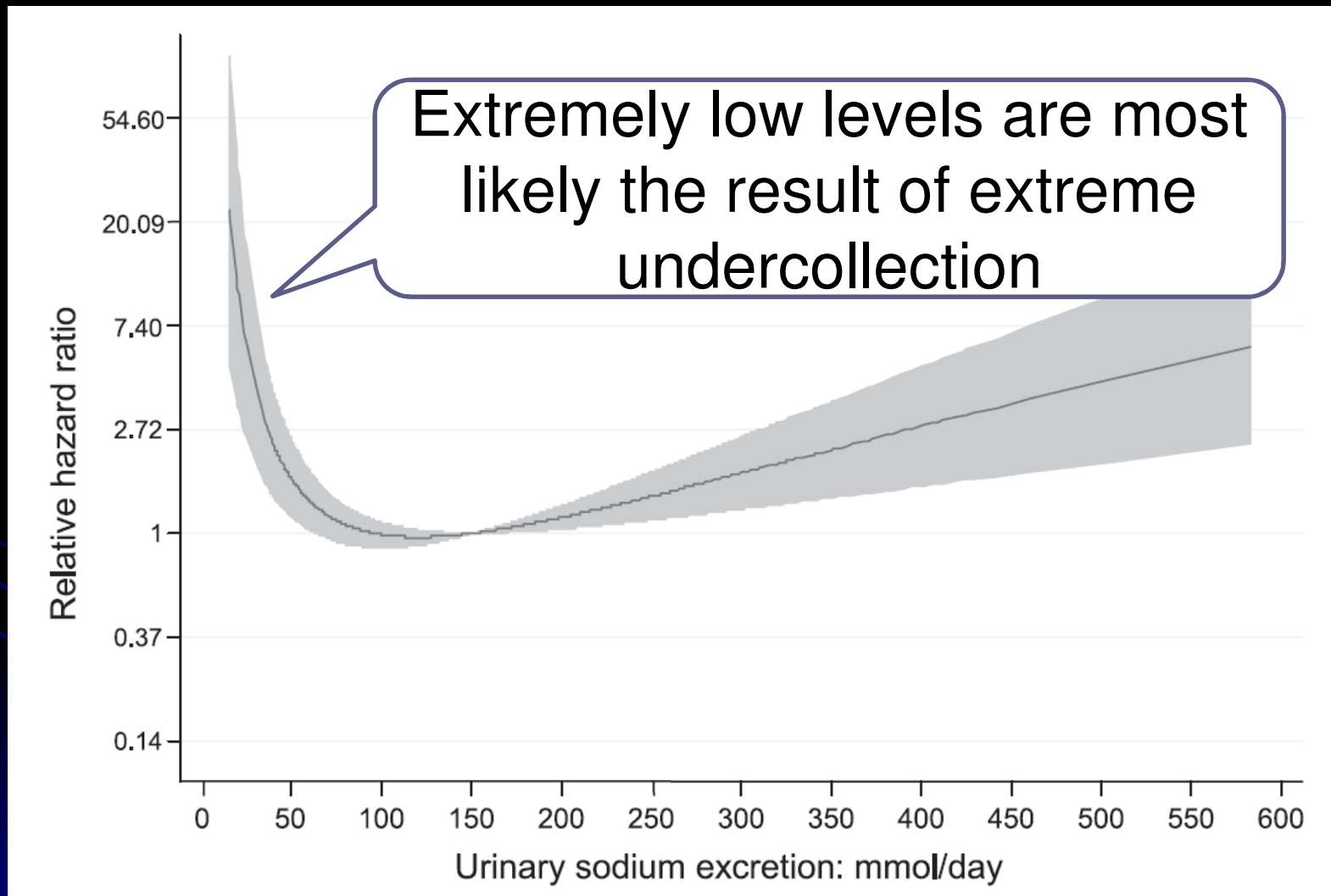
No test available. Irrelevant given the massive scope of the blood pressure epidemic.

- Only 'salt sensitive' individuals reduce their blood pressure

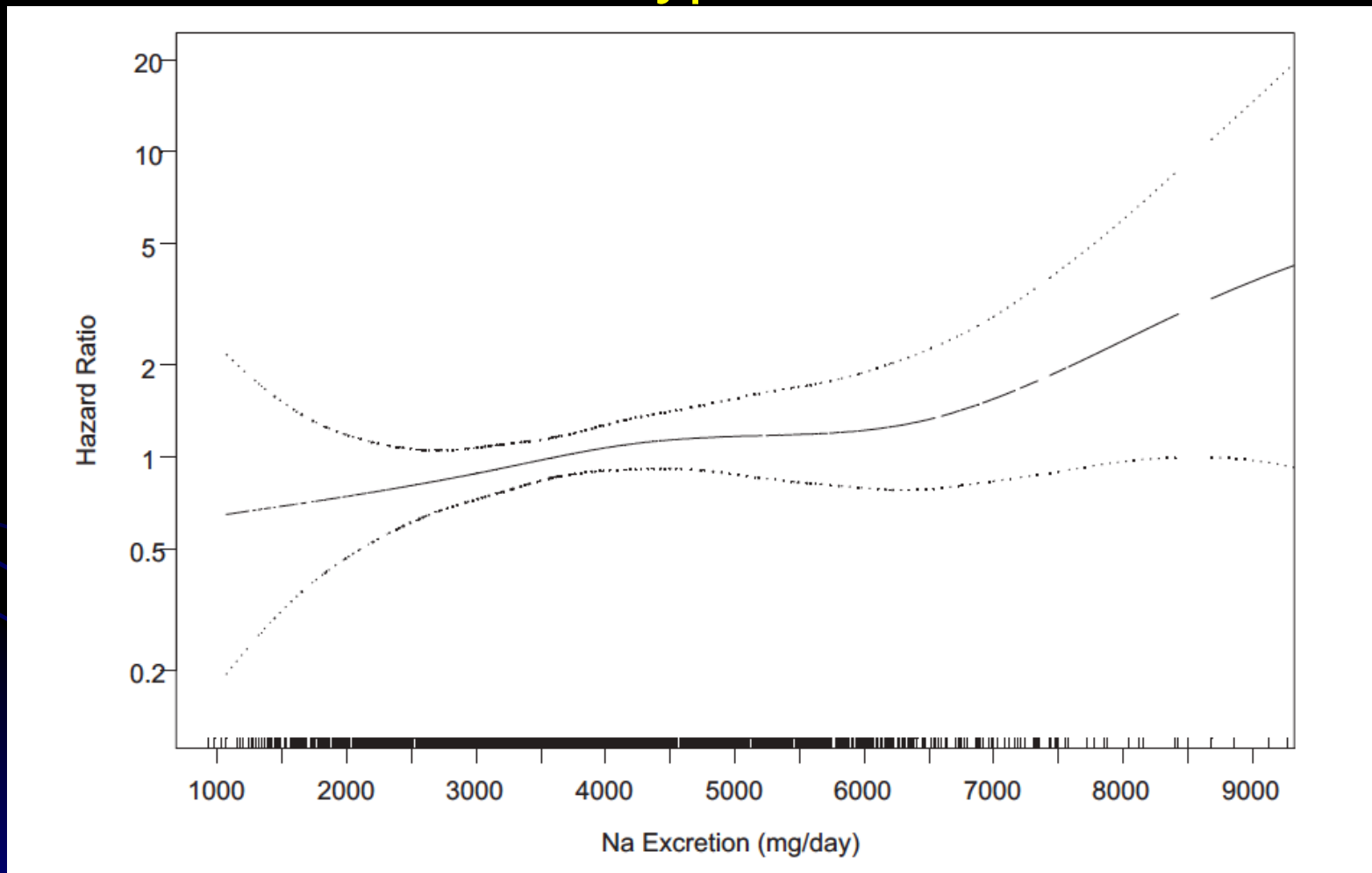
Extremely unlikely: 1) major methodological limitations of cohort studies + 2) over-interpretation of biomarkers

- Sodium reduction might be harmful

# J-Shaped Relationship of Total Mortality with Urine Sodium Excretion in Patients with Type 1 Diabetes



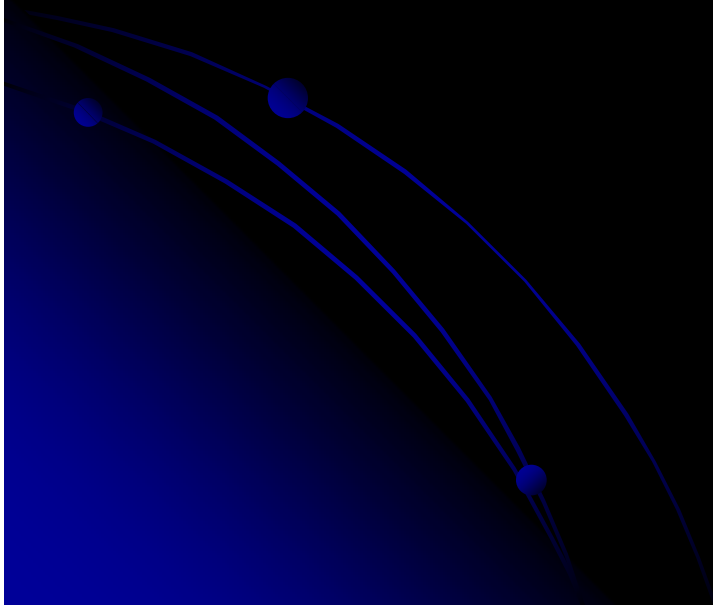
# Direct, Progressive Relationship of CVD with Urinary Sodium Excretion\* in 2,275 Individuals with Prehypertension



Cook, Circ 2014;129:981

\*Based on 24 hr urine collections (median = 5)

# Potassium

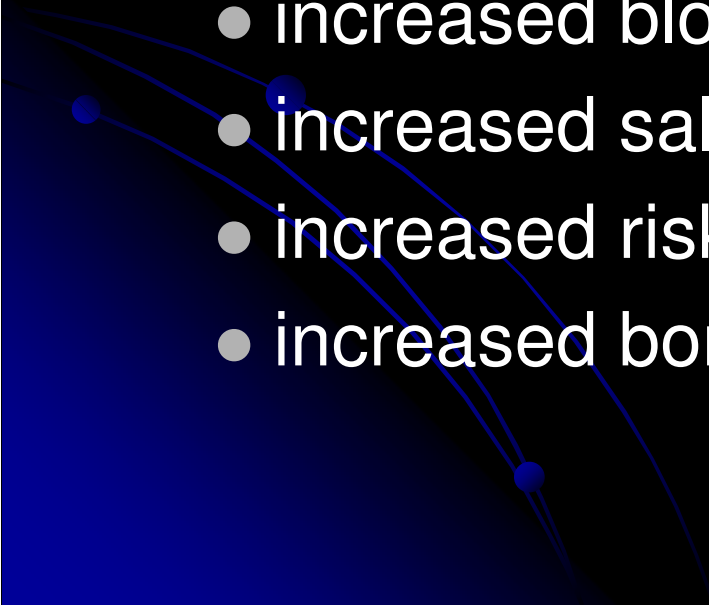




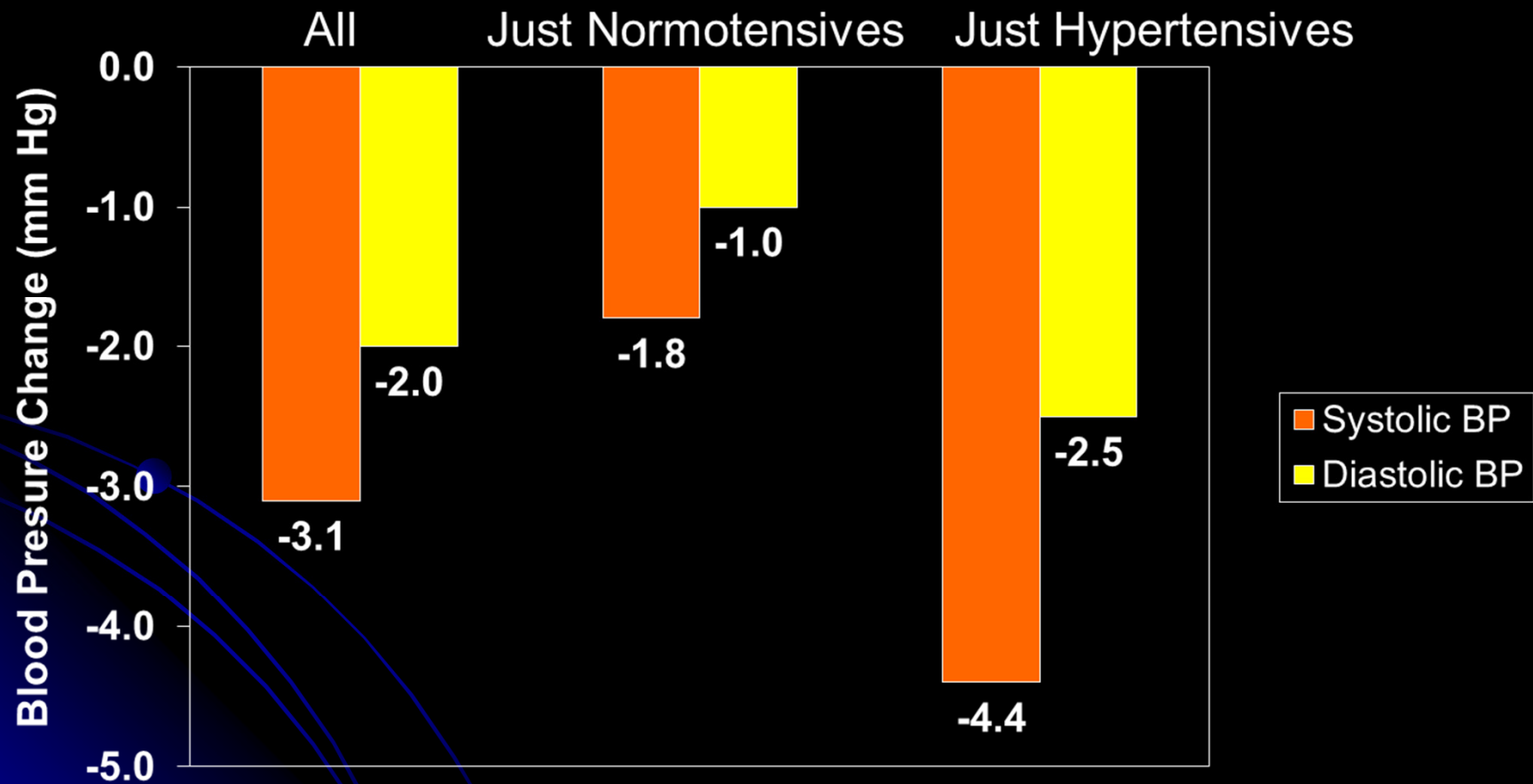
# Severe Deficiency of Potassium

- Characterized by hypokalemia
  - a serum potassium concentration  $< 3.5$  mmol/L
- Consequences of hypokalemia
  - cardiac arrhythmias
  - muscle weakness
  - glucose intolerance

# Moderate Deficiency of Potassium

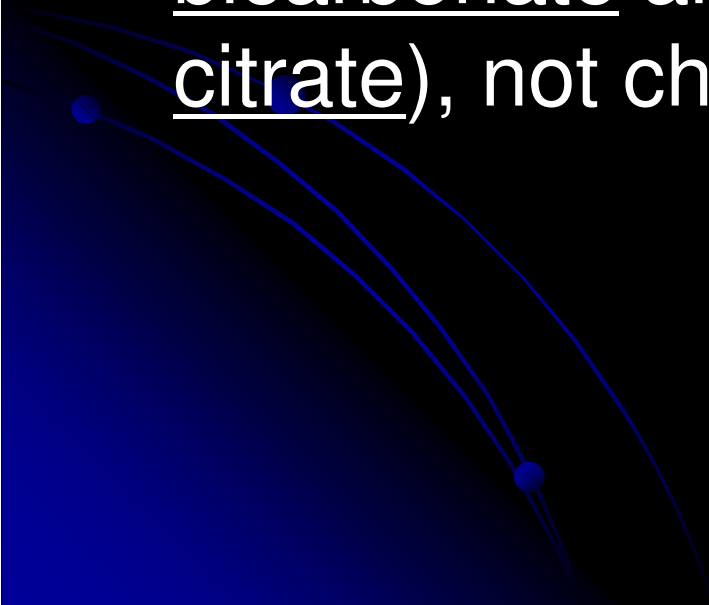
- Occurs without hypokalemia
  - Adverse consequences of moderate deficiency:
    - increased blood pressure
    - increased salt sensitivity
    - increased risk of kidney stones
    - increased bone turnover
- 

# Meta-analysis of K supplementation and BP

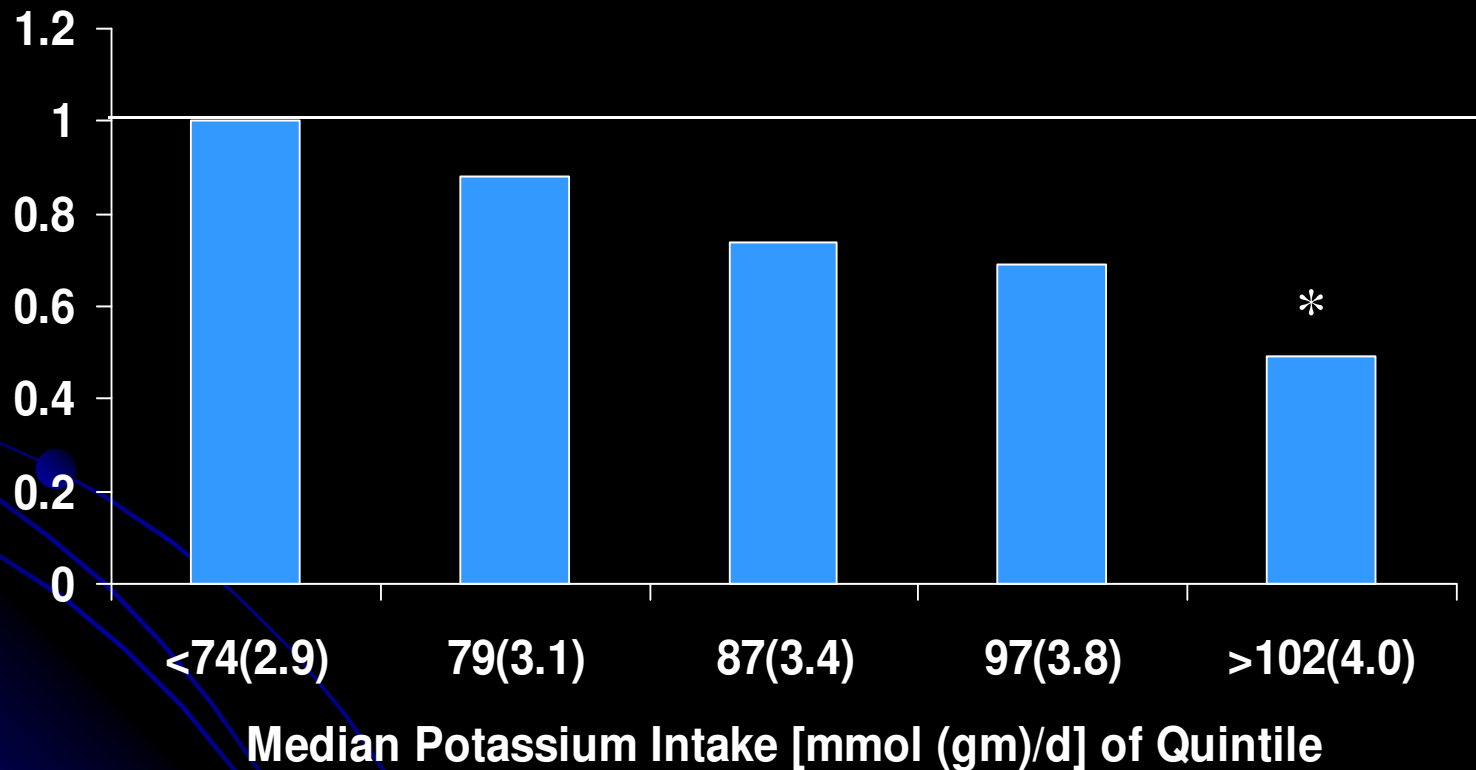


Whelton et al (JAMA, 1997)

# Anion Matters

- Most K supplement trials have used potassium chloride (KCl)
  - K in fruits/vegetables comes with bicarbonate and/or base precursor (e.g. citrate), not chloride
- 

# Relative Risk of Kidney Stones by Quintile of Potassium Intake in 45,619 Men (Health Professionals Follow-up Study, Curhan, 1993)



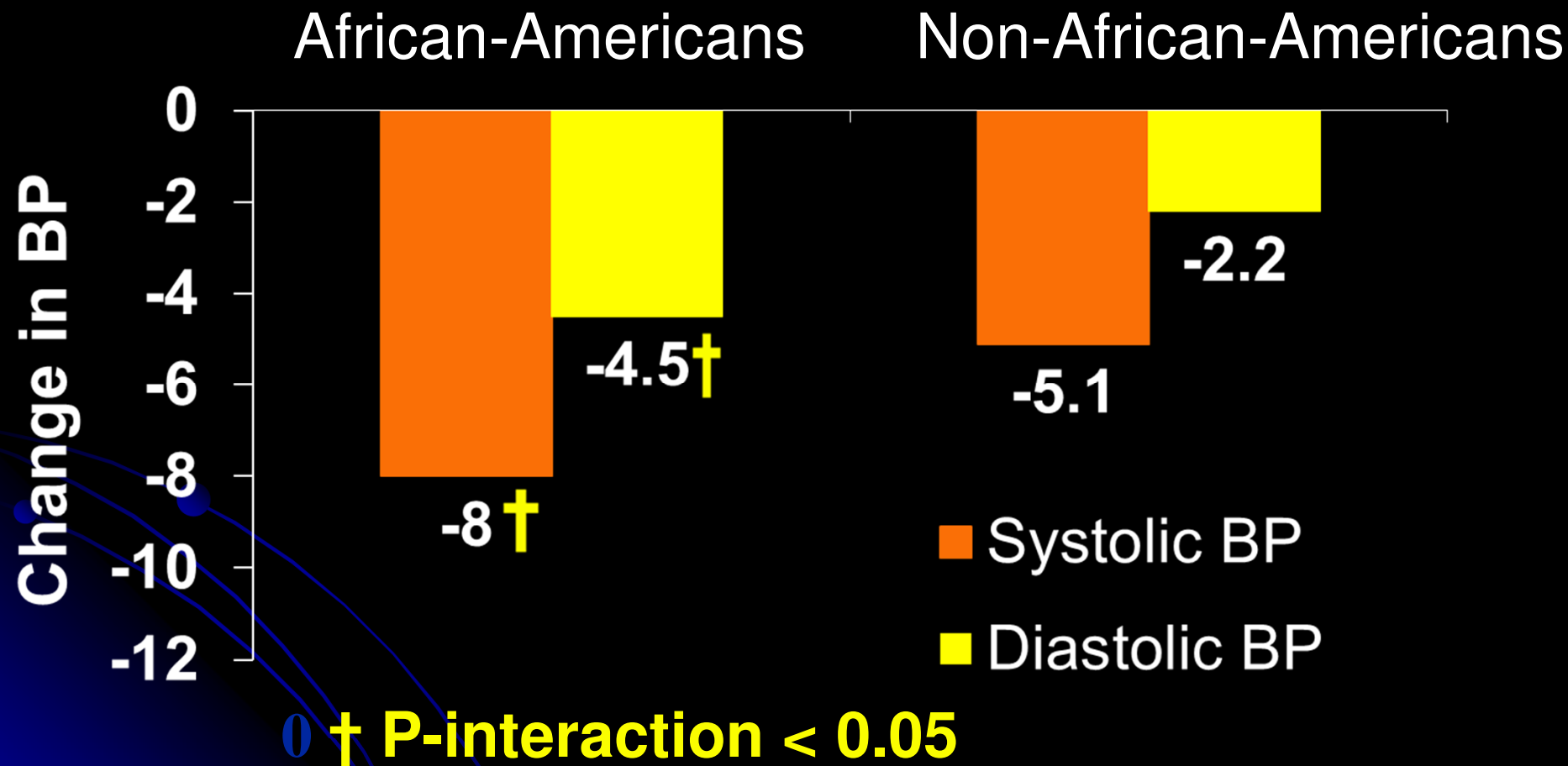
\* P-trend < 0.001

# Opportunities to Reduce Racial Disparities in BP through Dietary Changes



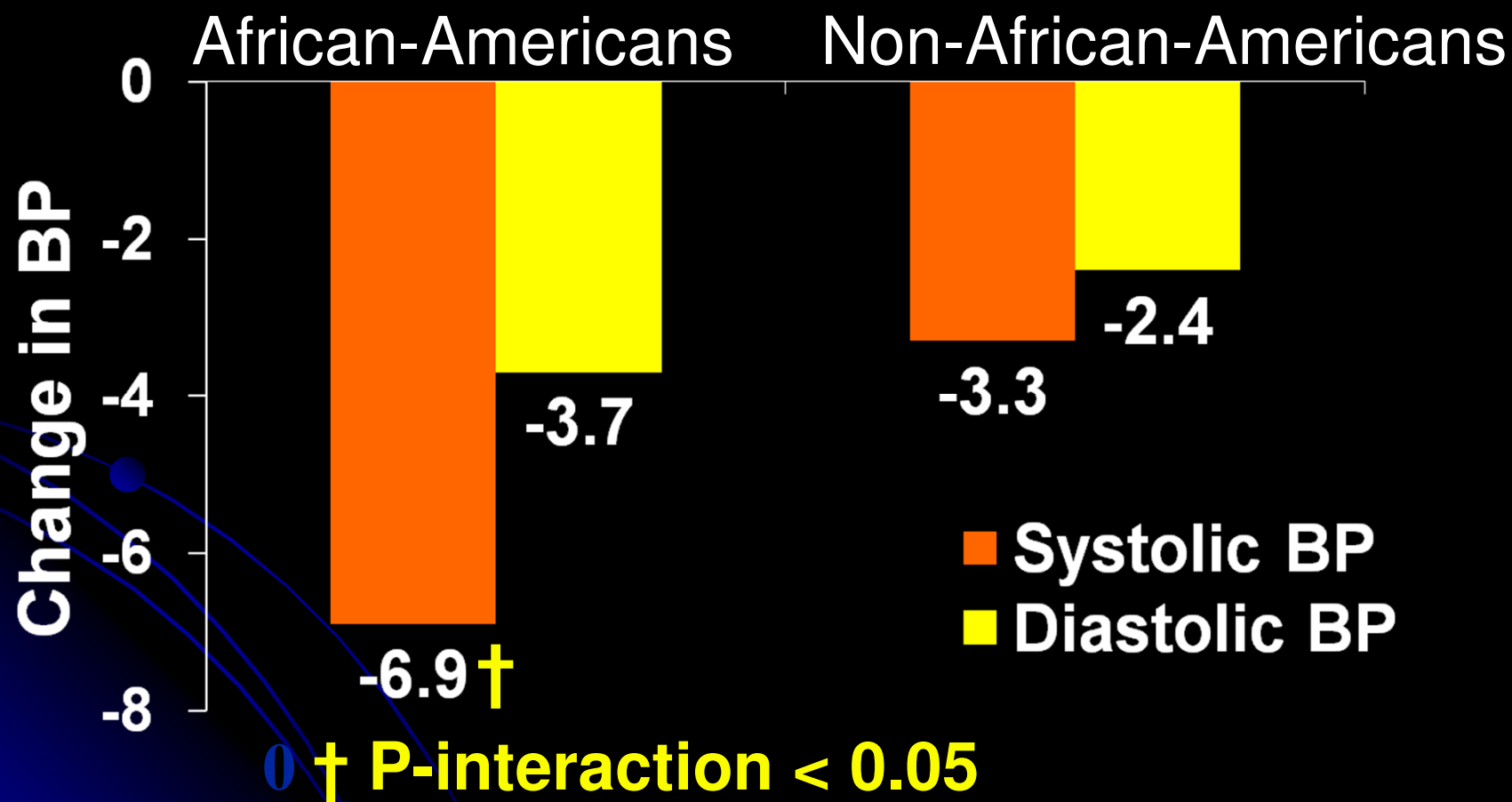


# Reduced Sodium Intake Has Greater BP Effects in African-Americans



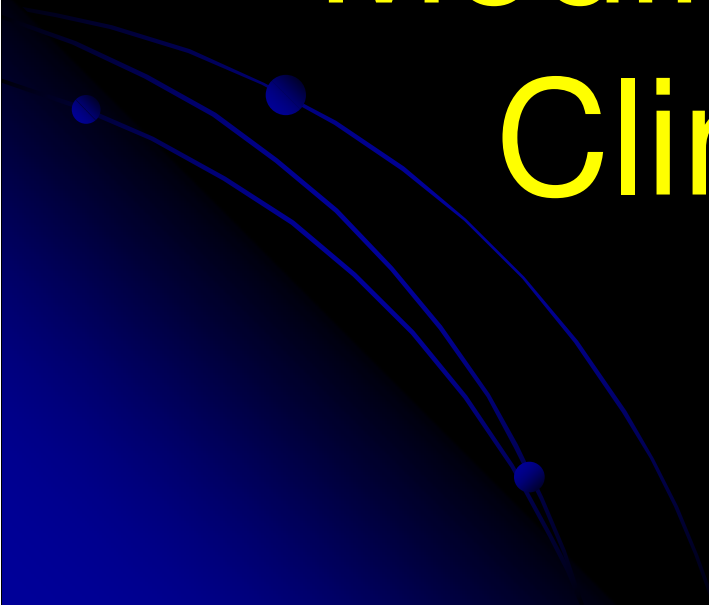


# DASH Diet Has Greater BP Effects in African-Americans





# Strategies to Implement Lifestyle Modification in the Clinic Setting



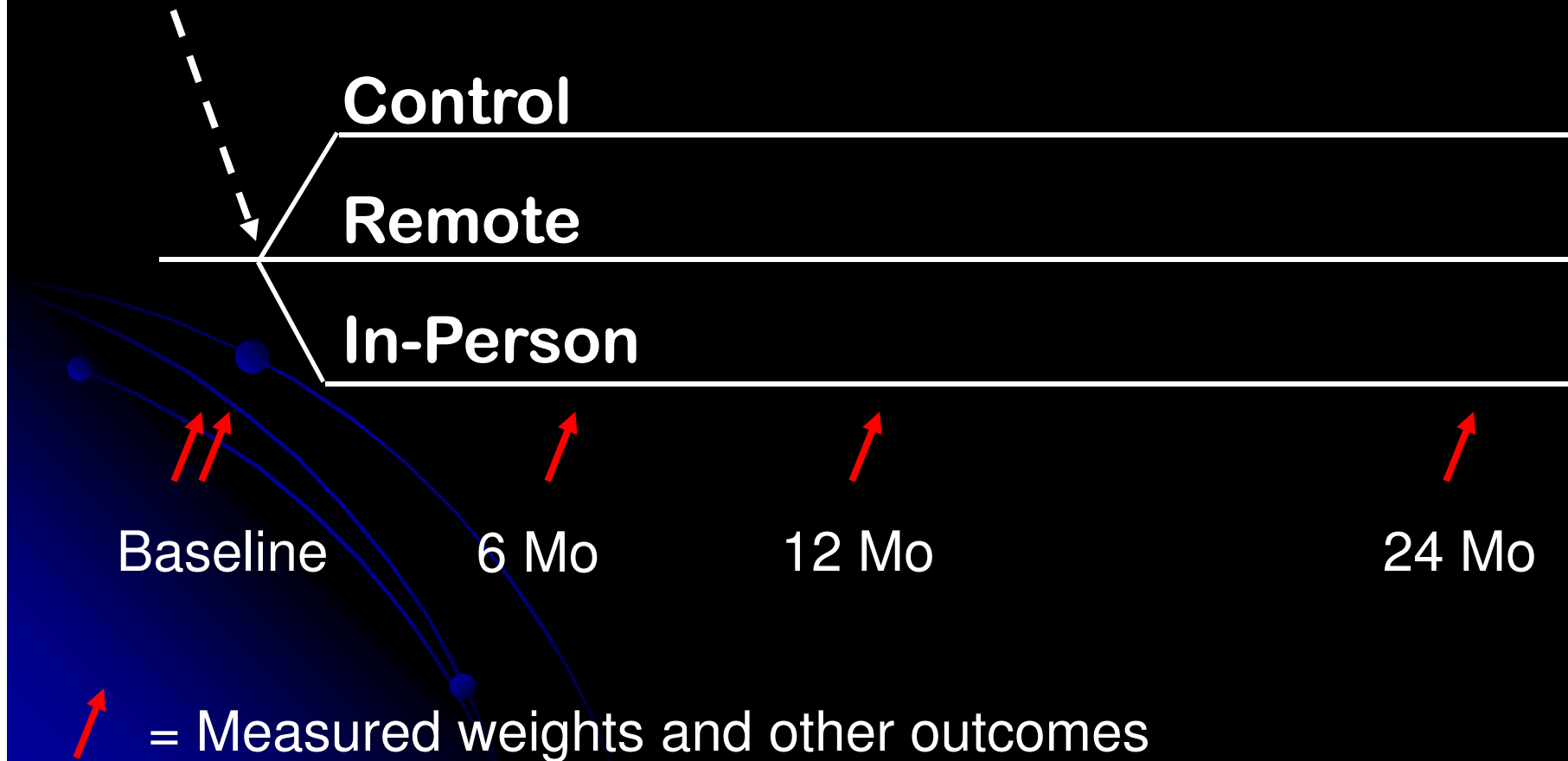
# Barriers to Implementation

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- Barriers in the clinic
  - Lack of reimbursement for paraprofessional services (dietitians, health educators)
  - Inadequate physician training
  - Time pressure (multiple medical problems, limited time)
  - Measurement difficulties (sodium, diet, exercise)
- Societal and cultural barriers
  - Few options for routine physical activity
  - Massive addition of salt to foods
  - Cheap calories, heavily promoted

# Design

## *Randomization*



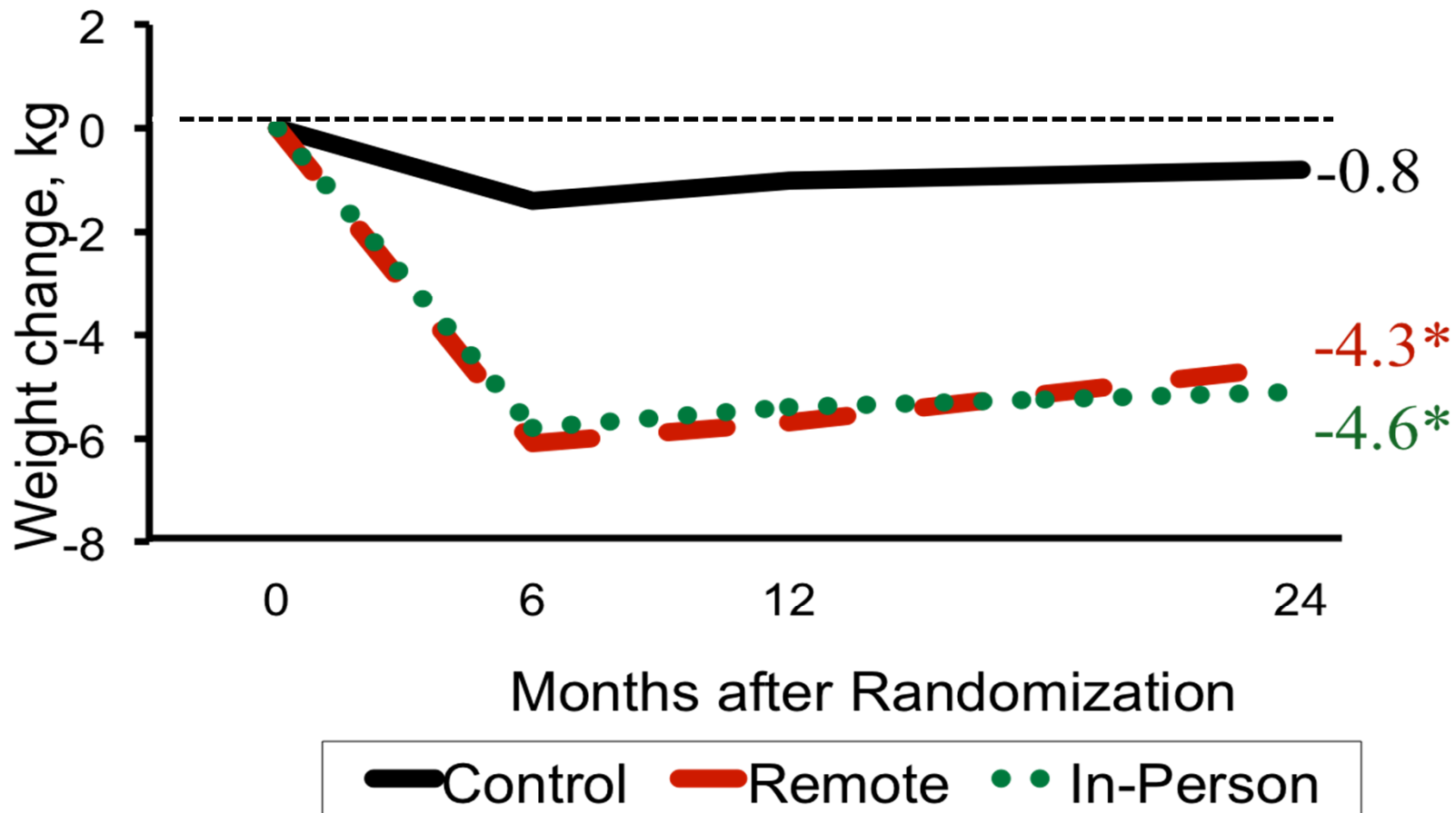
# Interventions

	<b>Remote</b>	<b>In-Person</b>
Mode of Delivery	Telephone only	Group meetings Individual meetings Telephone
Coach	Healthways	Hopkins
Coach support	Case management	
Study website	Educational modules Self-monitoring tools Tailored emails	
Physician Roles	Supportive Review weight progress reports	

# Strategies for 3 Min Counseling on Weight Loss

- Triage, focusing on those ready to make change
- Emphasize that weight loss:
  - Is challenging
  - Requires conscious efforts
- Encourage
  - \*Reduced calorie intake (liquid calories, desserts, portion size, mindless eating)
  - Increased physical activity
  - Self-monitoring of weight, physical activity (minutes or steps), and calories
  - Accountability by engaging partner and reporting to PCP
- Review progress on behaviors and wt from logs

# Mean Weight Change (kg) by Randomized Group



Appel et al, NEJM 2011;365:1959-68

\*P < 0.001 (vs control)

# Sample Weight and Exercise Log of Your Speaker

December

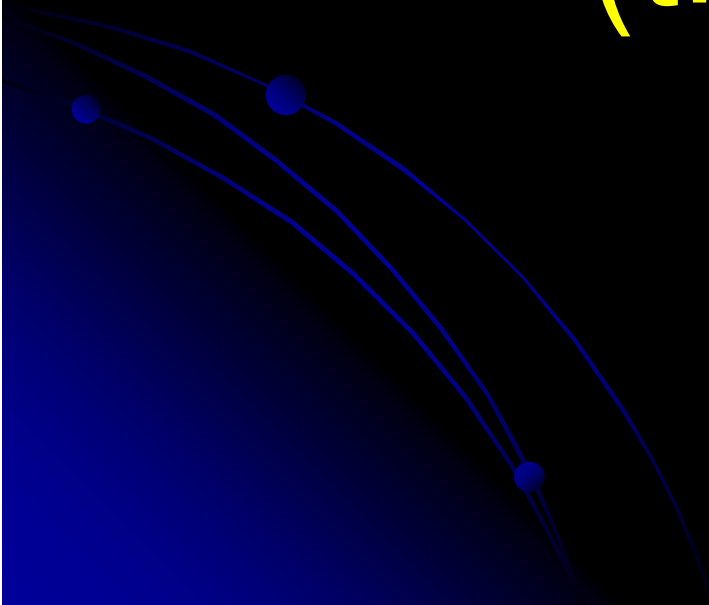
**EXERCISE AND WEIGHT**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Dec 2013 40m Donk 80pts	2	3 15 min 30pts	4	5	6	7 32m
8 50m Donk 40m walk Donk 20m shored 180pts	9	10	11 30 min 60pts	12	13 15m tread 30pts	14 50min Donk
15 35m 3klls 70pts	16	17	18 15 min 30pts	19 32m Donk 64pts	20	21 35min 2klls 70pts
22 15m tread 30pts	23	24 30m 2kll 60pts	25 47m run Donk 94pts	26 32min Donk 64pts	27 30m run Betty 50m Pilates 110pts	28 41m Betty Run 82pts
29 50min tread vike 60pts	30 30m run Betty 64pts	31 40m Donk 80pts	1 Jan 2014	2	3	4

## My Approach

- Record weight each day
- Record min of mod and vig activity
  - 1 point/min of mod activity
  - 2 points/min of vig activity
- Goal: 180 points/wk

# Novel Interventions (that work)





# Objective and Setting

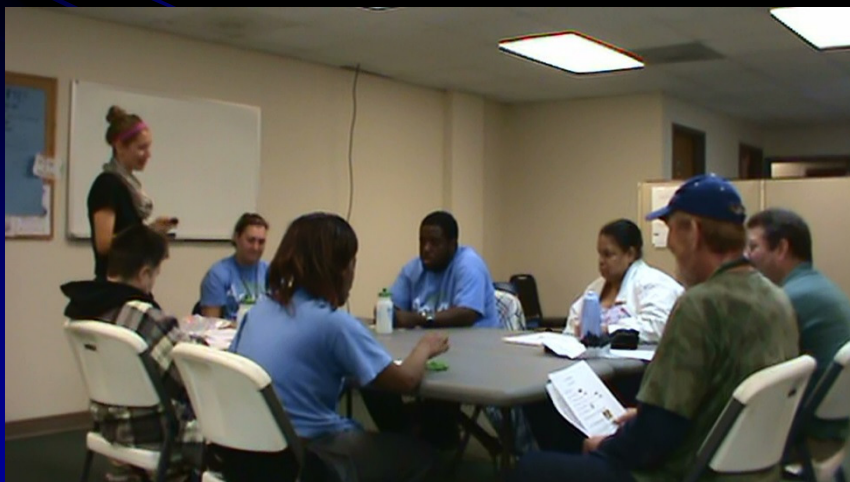
- Objective: Determine the effectiveness of an 18-month tailored behavioral weight loss intervention in adults with serious mental illness
- Setting: Psychiatric Rehabilitation Facilities

# Comparison of Dietary Recommendations

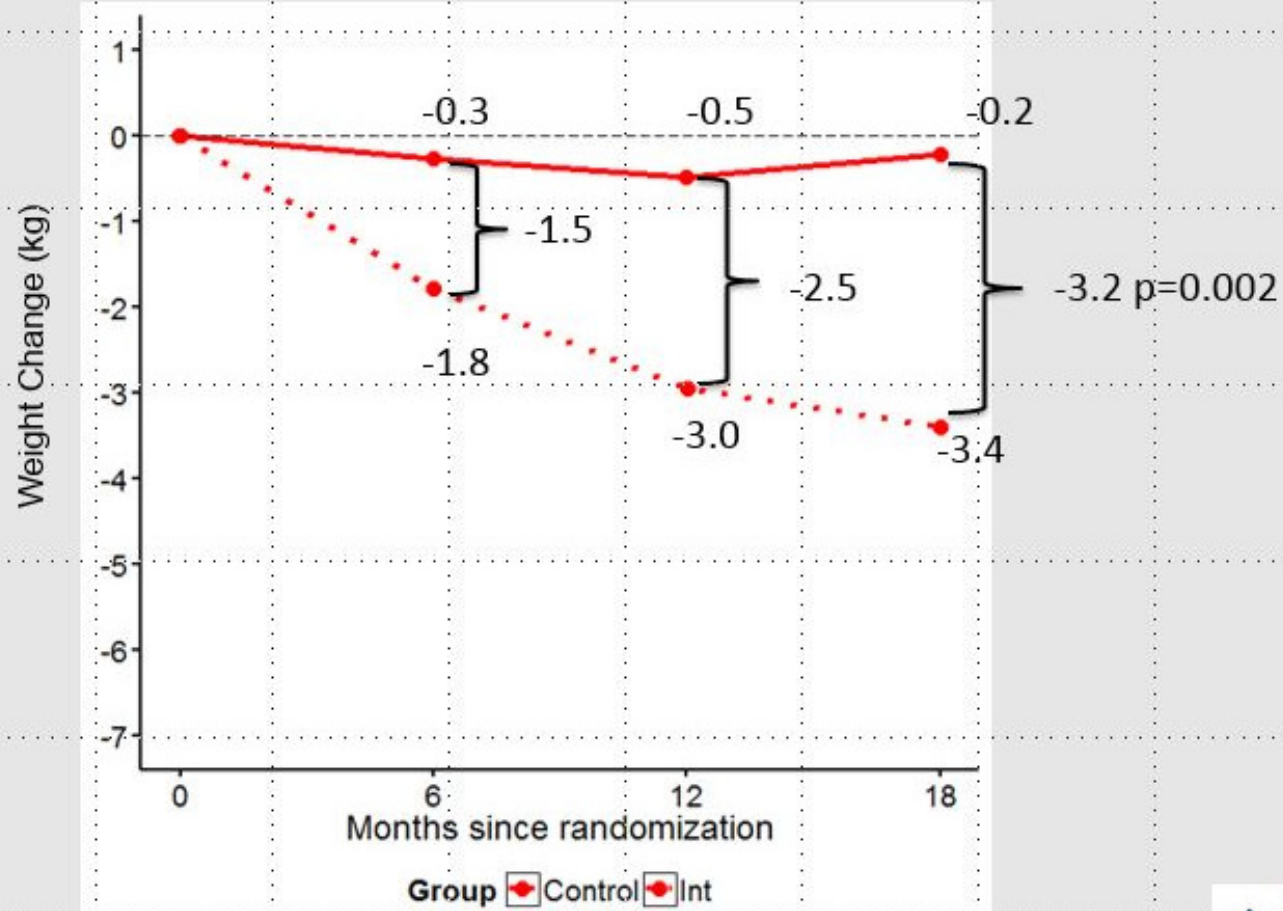
PREMIER Trial	ACHIEVE
Reduce alcohol consumption	Drink Water, No "Sugar Drinks"
Eat 9 Fruits and Vegetables/day	Eat 5 Fruits and Vegetables/day
Calories from fat $\leq$ 30%	Avoid Junk Food
Calories from saturated fat $\leq$ 10%	
Reduce sodium intake $\leq$ 2400 mg	
Eat 2-3 servings of dairy/day	Choose "Smart" Snacks
Individual target calorie goals	Choose "Smart" Portions

# Types and Number of Intervention Contacts

	6 months	7-18 months
Group weight management	Weekly	Monthly
Individual weight management	Monthly (alternating with group)	Monthly (alternating with group)
Group physical activity	3 times per week all lead by intervention staff	3 times per week 1 then 2/week by rehab staff with video
Weigh-in	Every week	Every 2 weeks



# Mean Weight Change (kg) According to Study Group



Daumit, et al. New England Journal of Medicine 2013



# Parents As Teachers National Home Visiting Program

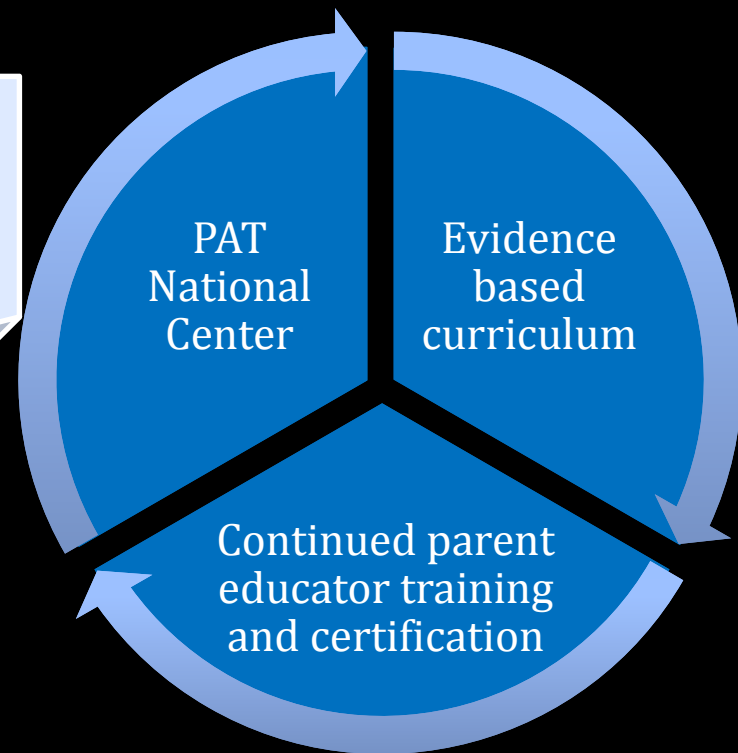
Prenatal to kindergarten

1,292 organizations across 50 states

5,736 parent educators

Free to parents  
Through state & federal \$\$ support

193,200 parents  
227,238 children



# Parents As Teachers Curriculum

- Average ~8-10 visits per year; ~60 minutes in length
- Home visit materials for up to 25 visits (for high needs)
- Each visit stand-alone, selected by parent educator and parent
- Visits emphasize parental modeling and parent-child interaction
- Parent educator training and certification materials for curriculum

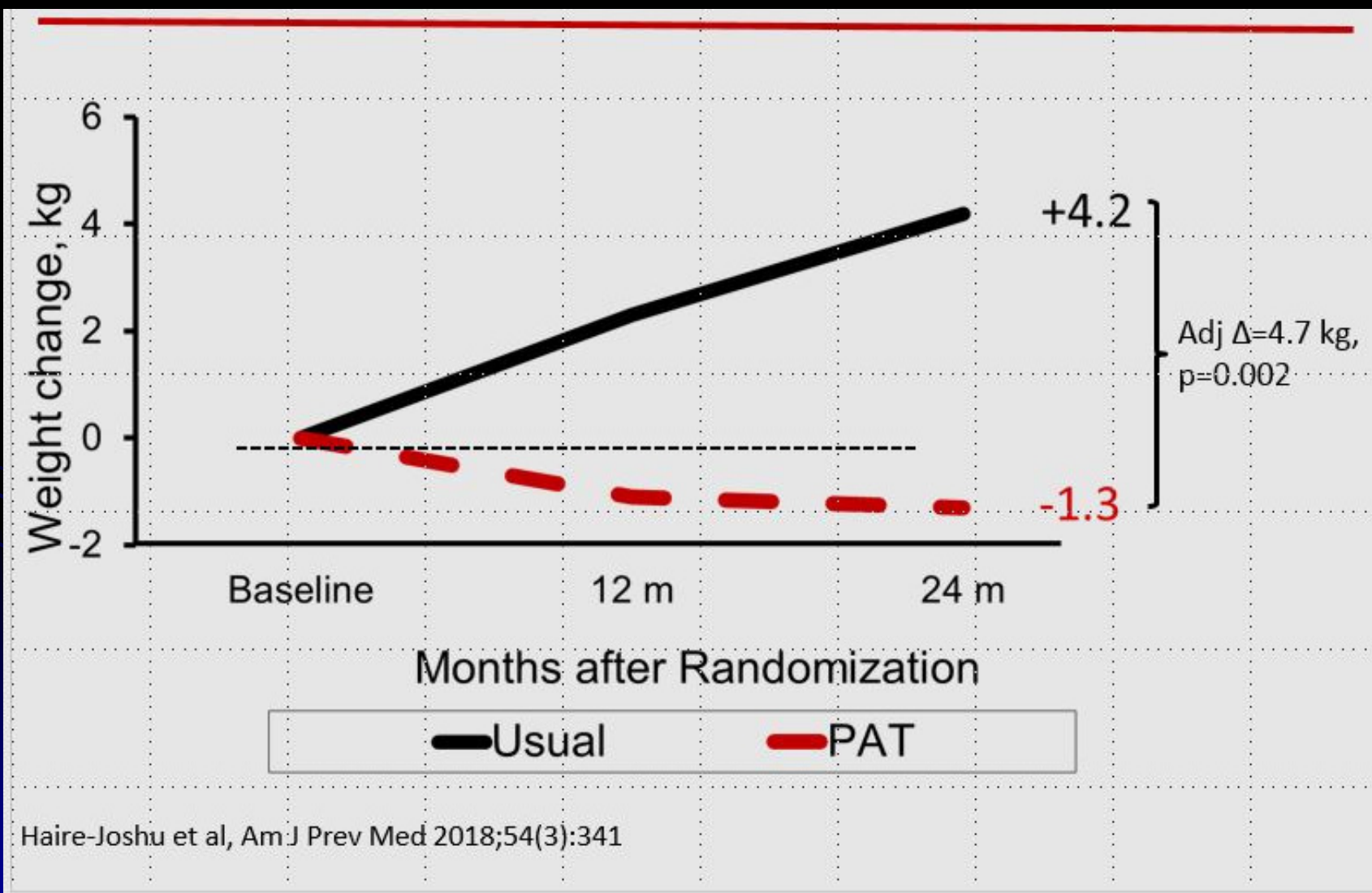
# Healthy Eating And Active Living Taught At Home (HEALTH): What to embed within routing practice

- Simple 'real world' behaviors taught by 'non-health' parent educators
- Eating: e.g. SSB, healthy snacking, portion control
- Activity: e.g. Exercise with child, walking, limit TV
- Parenting: e.g. lack of sleep and appetite, eating out, food cost, introducing healthy foods to child
- Skills: e.g. recipe modification, food labels





# Effects of a Modified “Parents as Teachers’ (PAT) Home-based Intervention



Haire-Joshu et al, Am J Prev Med 2018;54(3):341



# Summary

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- BP epidemic and its CVD consequences are massive problems that will require both public health and clinical approaches
- Optimal dietary approach to lower BP is combination:
  - Reduced sodium
  - Improved diet (DASH or vegetarian)
  - Weight control
- Steep age-related rise in BP in children warrants focus on lifestyle improvements at young ages
- Dietary changes have tremendous potential to:
  - prevent BP-related CVD
  - reduce racial disparities

# Simple Advice\* for Your Patients (and Yourself)

- Eat less
- Eat right
- Move more

*\* Adapted from Neil Stone and others*



**"You're eating too much fiber."**

# Reaction Panel

## Moderator

**Clint Koenig, MD**

**Medical Director, Ohio Department of Health**

## Panelists

**Mamle Anim, MD**

**Lawrence Appel, MD**

**Diane Gatto Barrett, MSSA**

**Donald Wharton, MD**