



## **Effect of Diet on Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease**

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### **Authors' contributions**

*This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.*

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## **ABSTRACT**

Non - alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) is instantaneously progressing to the commonest and dangerous liver disease, with a diverse variety of fat-liver diseases that can progress to extreme hepatic disorders and cirrhosis. Inflammatory processes influence aetiology of non-alcoholic fatty liver disorder. There is presently zero agreement on how to manage NAFLD with medication. However, the foundation of NAFLD care is behavioral modifications focused on the workout and a well-balanced diet for both volume and quality. The Mediterranean diets (MD), high in omega-3s, polyphenolic compounds, vitamins, and carotenoid products, are helpful in reducing heart disease risk due to their generally pro-anti-oxidant properties. MD has had a massive impact on lowering the dangers of metabolic disorders in adulthood. Nevertheless, there is little research on its impact on the diet in aged and juvenile NAFLD patients. As a result, the motive of a thoroughly comprehensive survey is to examine the existing clinical data on the influence of MD in patients with NAFLD and outline the possible major mechanisms of MD ingredients on this disease. NAFLD encompasses a broad array of diseases associated with the hepatic system, from basic steatosis to hepatic necrosis and inflammation culminating in NASH. Although the frequency of such multimodal illnesses is steadily rising in the community, there is currently no clear therapeutic strategy other than maintaining an appropriate body weight and modifying the standard of living

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plus behaviors, like calorie-restricted foods and burning calories with proper workout plans. According to this approach, several dietary bioactive and eating practices are beneficial for correcting and avoiding the beginning of various illnesses.

**Keywords:** *Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease; mediterranean diet; adulthood; hepatic steatosis; omega3.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

One frequent reason for persisting liver disorders is non-alcoholic fatty liver disorder (NAFLD) [1,2]. It constitutes a diverse variety of liver failure that could develop into severe hepatic disease, including cirrhosis and carcinoma [3]. Fatty liver affects children and young adults, causing improper glucose and lipid balance. As a result, NAFLD is now regarded as a significant part belonging to metabolic syndrome (MetS) [4]. The liver damage process in NAFLD is thought to cause a rise in liver fat and causes inflammation due to a combination of factors [5]. According to several research, when therapies are carried out in a multidimensional manner, utilizing multiple bioactive substances that operate on complimentary targets, greater results are produced. As a result, existing options for treatment NAFLD and NASH using multiple ingredient supplementation else the Mediterranean balanced diet, food trend high in bioactive components, are discussed in this paper. It is also highlighted how omics approaches may be used to construct effective multi-ingredient dietary therapies as well as forecast and evaluate individual responses to various illnesses.

Furthermore, lipid buildup inside the liver is the first sign of NAFLD, accompanied by insulin resistance and influenced by variables including hyperenergetic foods, unhealthy lifestyles, and genetic vulnerability. Because of increasing circulating fatty acids, cholesterol, and existing metabolites of lipids, fat buildup inside the liver is linked to lipotoxic hepatocellular damage. As a result, mitochondrial malfunction with oxidative damage and stress-related processes in the endoplasmic reticulum activates [6]. Being overweight is a crucial component for growth of NAFLD, and the bulk of NAFLD sufferers are morbidly obese. On the other hand, NAFLD has indeed been documented in thin people. Individuals having fatty liver and a healthy BMI are classified as "lean" NAFLD. Compared with slim normal participants, these individuals are frequently resistant to insulin and have HDL - C and greater cholesterol levels [7]. The much

more common triggers for lean NAFLD are abdominal adiposities (contrasted to generalized overweightness), tolerance to insulin, more fructose and more cholesterol consumption, while hereditary factors can play a significant role.

The NAFLD detection necessitates verification of steatosis, which would be accomplished in medical practice using imaging methods. The yardstick for addressing such identification is hepatic biopsy, which is the only viable way to distinguish NASH versus hepatic steatosis. Nevertheless, doing a liver biopsy on all potential cases would be neither possible nor acceptable. Fat accumulation of the liver could still be detected using noninvasively methods like ultrasonography, computerized tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and proton magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS) [8-10]. Because of its minimal price, accessibility, and security, US is likely the much more practicable approach to evaluate liver steatosis. The poor sensitivity and specificity of such an user approach for identifying and measuring hepatic steatosis is a serious drawback. Since it can quantify the true content of triglycerides inside hepatocytes, Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy is regarded the standardized protocol inside the evaluation of hepatic fat metabolic process. Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy, but on the other hand, is too painstaking for normal medical care. It necessitates professional operators to do all the inspection, analyze the information, and evaluate the findings accurately. MRI has already shown significant potential for such quantity estimation of liver fibrosis in people of all ages. The modified Dixon technique [8] was perhaps the most extensively utilized approach till now. As in lack of magnetic field non-homogeneity and ferrous precipitation, such photographic approach is effective. The proton density fat-fraction [(PDFF): The proportion of the hepatic protons concentration acute hepatic lipid, which is an intrinsic feature of tissues and just a straightforward assessment of hepatic lipid contents, may now be measured using MRI. MRI-PDFF has been verified versus hepatic biopsy including both adults and kids [9,10], so it

is precise and trustworthy for assessing hepatic steatosis.

There seems to be inconclusive evidence about the pharmaceutical therapy of NAFLD. Nevertheless, exercising and food for both in proportions and its standard are regarded as the main cornerstones of NAFLD therapy [11]. This diet that would be high in fibre, PUFA and antioxidant, has indeed been linked to reduction in the dangers of cardiac disorders (CVD). MD is being effective in lowering the incidence of MetS amongst adults [12-15]. Nevertheless, less info on the benefits of MD in parents and kids with NAFLD is known. Nonetheless, limited data on the benefits of MD in parents and kids with NAFLD are known. As a result, the goal of such a systematic review is to provide a conclusion of the existing study on the impact of the MD in people with NAFLD, as well as to outline the major mode of action of MD ingredients on this disease. The growing body of research indicating to a multiple factors etiology of NAFLD and NASH has resulted in therapy options that combine medications to address the several impacts that happen even during the establishment and progression of these diseases. The major goal of this study is to examine existing techniques for treating NAFLD and NASH by integrating several dietary treatments to modulate various components of illness. Moreover, we highlight the utility of omics techniques in identifying the optimum combination of components to construct successful multi ingredient dietary treatments and its prospective for improved clinical predictions and surveillance. Such techniques could be used to develop therapeutics for NAFLD and NASH in the coming.

## 2. DIET IN NAFLD TREATMENT

Research on pharmaceutical approaches for treating NAFLD have yielded mixed results [11]. There at times, the recommended remedy for NAFLD is a mass loss lifestyle intervention [11]. Histological improvements, settlement of hepatic fat, necrosis and inflammation, and scarring are all linked to a 7percentage points to 10percentage - point body mass following calorie restriction and/or periodic exercise activity [16,17]. Despite the fact that losing weight is by far the most excellent remedy for NAFLD, certain regimens which entail extreme and/or dramatic mass loss (- for example, extremely carbohydrate - restricted, total fat meals) can potentially induce or aggravate da condition by

causing insulin tolerance [18,19]. Because losing body mass is a result of exercise as well as a "good diet," food choices may cure NAFLD instead of losing weight parse [18]. Food therapy for losing weight should include both mixed method qualities. Many research suggests that calorie restriction by itself is insufficient to cure NAFLD [20], and also that nutrition, including macronutrient and micronutrient manipulation, is critical [21]. As just a result, the optimum treatment strategy in NAFLD is currently believed to be good diet and modest losing weight The initial medication to treat NAFLD, as per worldwide standards, would be to reduce calorie consumption, fat consumption (saturated fatty acids, trans fatty acids), and fructose consumption while increasing lots of protein, fibre, and POLYUNSATURATED FAT ACIDS (PUFA) intake [15]. THE MED DIET seems to have been a viable food alternative for losing weight with a physiological advantage for people with NAFLD.

## 3. MEDITERRANEAN DIET

MD is a dietary concept that originated in the Eastern Mediterranean region of the U.S. As just a result, the people who lived in such areas utilized that in the past. That although the trend varies by nation and state resulting from cultural ethnocultural, spiritual, and farming discrepancies, prevalent MD network is composed of having eaten mostly unpolished grains, veggies and fruits salad, olives, and almonds; in moderate amounts, fish consumption, lightly cooked, and lentils; limiting animal protein, prepared foods, and desserts; and in moderate amounts, consuming red wine. As just a result, the primary features of MD is essential fatty acid profile particularly for less saturated fat and cholesterol usage and ,on either hand, a strong monounsaturated fatty acid (MUFA's) intake with such a equitable PUFA omega-6 to omega-3 ratio, as well as a higher amount of refined carbs. Ancel Keys performed massive international research in the1951s-1979 [22-24], was the one to indicate that folks residing in Greece - and maybe even some sections of Italy and the Slovak Republic - had a reduced number of deaths from Atherosclerosis and malignancy than some other groups. Despite this, MD has indeed been presented as a predictor of lifespan in such population [25-30]. Several studies show that the anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant characteristics of MD's ingredients are primarily responsible because of its beneficial benefits. Its nutritional impact of

biologically active components and phytonutrients with anti-oxidant and anti-inflammatory capability, including such fibers, monounsaturated and omega-3 fatty acids, and phytosterols, has been related to MD's ability to lessen the dangers of NAFLD formation and progression [31,32]. NAFLD's has been linked to abdominal adiposity, tolerance to insulin, abnormal lipid metabolism, and persisting inflammatory, that are all characteristics of METs. By controlling these variables' existence, MD might help ameliorate NAFLD. the antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects, along with lipid-decreasing consequences and intestinal microbial metabolites synthesis, are the primary indicators through which MD might affect metabolic health and NAFLD.

#### **4. MECHANISMS OF MEDITERRANEAN DIET**

##### **4.1 Anti-Inflammatory and Antioxidant Effects of MD Components**

Mediterranean Diet is focused upon provocative and anti-oxidative substances like polyphenol, vitamins, minerals, and other macromolecules. It appears to just be significant, as irritation and peroxidation stress are key causatives for the advancement to Alcoholic disorder of hepatic parenchyma. Pretty much the entire grains, greens and fresh produce, olive oil, almonds, and red wine all contain antioxidants. These are a heterogeneous category of biologically active metabolites with a phenolic structure, including numerous water soluble antioxidants [33]. Phenolics were divided into two groups based on its chemical composition: flavonoid polyphenol and non-flavonoid polyphenols [34].

Flavones are phytochemicals chemicals that really are present almost everywhere [35] and give fruitiest and veggies their taste and color. These have hepatoprotective properties because of their anti-oxidant properties [36,37-39.] "Resveratrol" a stilbene polyphenolic compound found in wines, has indeed been demonstrated to display liver's protection effect by influencing 3 interconnected elements of cellular metabolism: the vasculature, thrombocytes, and thrombosis, as well as the blood coagulation network of plasma [40,41]. Nutrients, which seem to be essential for MD, are also seen as natural antioxidants. They minimize cell damage and, as a result, perform a significant function in limiting the advancement of NAFLD. Vit E has indeed

been demonstrated to alleviate NASH histopathological characteristics [42-45]. Vitamin D has immune-modulating, anti-inflammatory, and anti-fibrotic characteristics because it has been shown to improve the histology of NAFLD [46,47]. Vit C, demonstrated in reduction of mitochondria's ROS production while increasing enzymatic antioxidants concentrations and electron transport system function if treated using isolated rat liver [48].

Carotenes are a part of organic fat-soluble pigments that act as antioxidants and maybe find in a wide variety of fruit and veggies [49] Because of its high antioxidant properties, lycopene has been explored as a possible preventive treatment in NAFLD[50]. Lycopene has indeed been proven in research on lycopene-fed mice to avoid clinical NASH via lowering steatosis, inflammatory, and reactive tension [51].

##### **4.2 Lipid-Lowering Effect of MD Components**

MD's significant improvements on liver fat digestion, and therefore on NAFLD avoidance, are significantly determined by its fatty acid profile, which would be attributed to high MUFA subject matter and an equitable PUFA omega-6 to omega-3 proportion because of the large amounts in veggies, lentils, nut, oil derived from olives and fish (rather than meats) [52]. This was demonstrated that MUFA consumption can help avoid NAFLD by lowering plasma triglyceride levels, minimizing fat mass buildup, and lowering postprandial adiponectin expression [53,54.] PUFAs influence three key regulatory elements that govern various liver glucose and lipid metabolic processes. PUFAs influence 3 important transcriptional elements that govern various liver glucose and lipid metabolic processes. PUFA stimulation of sterol signaling molecule binding protein-1 (SREBP-1) and carbs governing binding domain (ChREBP)/Max-like factor X (MLX) inhibits glycolysis and lipid synthesis, whilst also PUFA deprivation of sterolic regulatory element binding protein-1 (SREBP-1) and carbohydrate regulatory element binding protein (ChREBP)/Max-like factor X (MLX) inhibits glycolysis and lipid synthesis. As a result, PUFA encourage a metabolic shift across fatty acid catabolism rather than its production and storage, which might benefit NALD [55,56]. In terms of reducing steatosis, PUFA may have an antioxidant impact by suppressing tumour necrosis factor and il6, which are both involved in

NASH inflammation [57]. The involvement of n-6 PUFA in NAFLD has already been discovered to be having opposing health implications. Because of their strong correlation with the formation of arachidonic acid, N-6 PUFAs like linoleic acid may have a pro-inflammatory function (AA). Amino acid is converted to produce the eicosanoid class of pro-inflammatory cytokines, which control inflammatory cytokine production [58]. Increased omega-6 PUFA and a high omega-6 to omega-3 ratio was linked to development of a variety of disorders, particularly heart events, malignancy, and inflammation, and immune system disorder [59]. A large percentage of n-6 PUFA in the diet is regarded as pro-inflammatory and might even be linked to an expanded hazard of MetS. As a result, not just to PUFA consumption as well as the proportion of N-6 PUFA to N-3 PUFA is essential.

Lower consumption of trans fat has been linked to lower blood content of absolute cholesterol extremely low - density lipoproteins (LDL)-cholesterol, and triglycerides in many studies [60]. People who eat a lot of water-soluble fibers found in the highest quantity in various MD elements, namely legumes, fruits and veggies, and whole-grain cereals, can also help decrease serum cholesterol. Water-soluble fibers have indeed been demonstrated to promote bile outflow, lowering total and LDL cholesterol in the blood [61].

### **4.3 Mediterranean Diet and Liver Steatosis**

Because the NALFD can advance in liver failure and its consequences, especially carcinoma, and is linked to high blood pressure and heart illnesses [62,63], measures to diagnose, manage, and cure it are required now and in the foreseeable. Several hereditary variables that predispose to NAFLD point to cholesterol homeostasis and inflammation as significant aspects that alter the internal production of free radicals [64,65]. The p.I148M genetic variation in the PNPLA3 gene promotes adipogenesis in liver cells, Certain anomalies influence -oxidation of fatty acids and lipid synthesis, and disturbance of the Nrf2 signaling cascade affects the expression of genes involved antioxidant polypeptides as well as the inflammatory mediators Nf-B signaling pathway [65]. The systematic approach, with a team including a nutritionist, therapist, and regular exercise coach, has shown the greatest results regarding the risk elements

influencing the formation of NAFLD, but it is the appropriate way in the therapy of NAFLD subjects [66]. Any individual pharmaceutical alternative is less successful than a nutritional therapy that promotes adherence to a Mediterranean eating habit and regular activities [67]. NAFLD management necessitates a continuous shift in healthy behaviors. The health advantages of fat loss and workout have been noted in research and worldwide recommendations [68,69]. Aerobic workouts of 200–300 minutes per week is recommended for weight reduction and maintenance, and has an autonomous favorable impact on NAFLD therapy [70-72]. Indeed, the unavailability of a systematic pharmaceutical strategy to NAFLD/NASH treatment emphasizes therapy on related illnesses such as diabetes, non-communicable diseases, obesity, and hepatic disorders in order to stabilize hepatic function, glycemic, and lipid profile [73,74]. Given the current evidence, the below dietary advice for subjects with NAFLD may be summarized: (1) projected fat loss in 6 moths: five–seven% in NAFLD, seven–ten % in NASH; (2) predicted rate of weight loss: 0.5–1 kg/week, 1.5 kg/week in morbid obesity; (3) caloricity of the diet: women: 1200–1500 kcal/day, 1500–1800 kcal/day for males [68,75]. Improvements in hematological and biochemical markers happen as a consequence of MD compliance in individuals with NAFLD. MD, in specific, improves diagnostic features including weight, waist measurement, fat in the liver accumulation, levels in blood of transaminase blood profile, insulin tolerance , as well as inflammatory biomarker such as integrins, cytokines, and particles linked to atheromatic plaque 's stabilization [76-80].

## **5. CONCLUSION**

In just this sense, the Mediterranean diet appears to become optimal dietary intake for people with NALD, not only because of its efficacy on hepatic health, which results in improved insulin responsiveness and lipidic panel, but because it would be a dominant method of metabolic disease control.

## **CONSENT**

It is not applicable.

## **ETHICAL APPROVAL**

It is not applicable.

## COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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