

# Disclosures for: [Ailsa Welch]

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# DIET AND BREAST CANCER: NEW APPROACHES ARE NECESSARY

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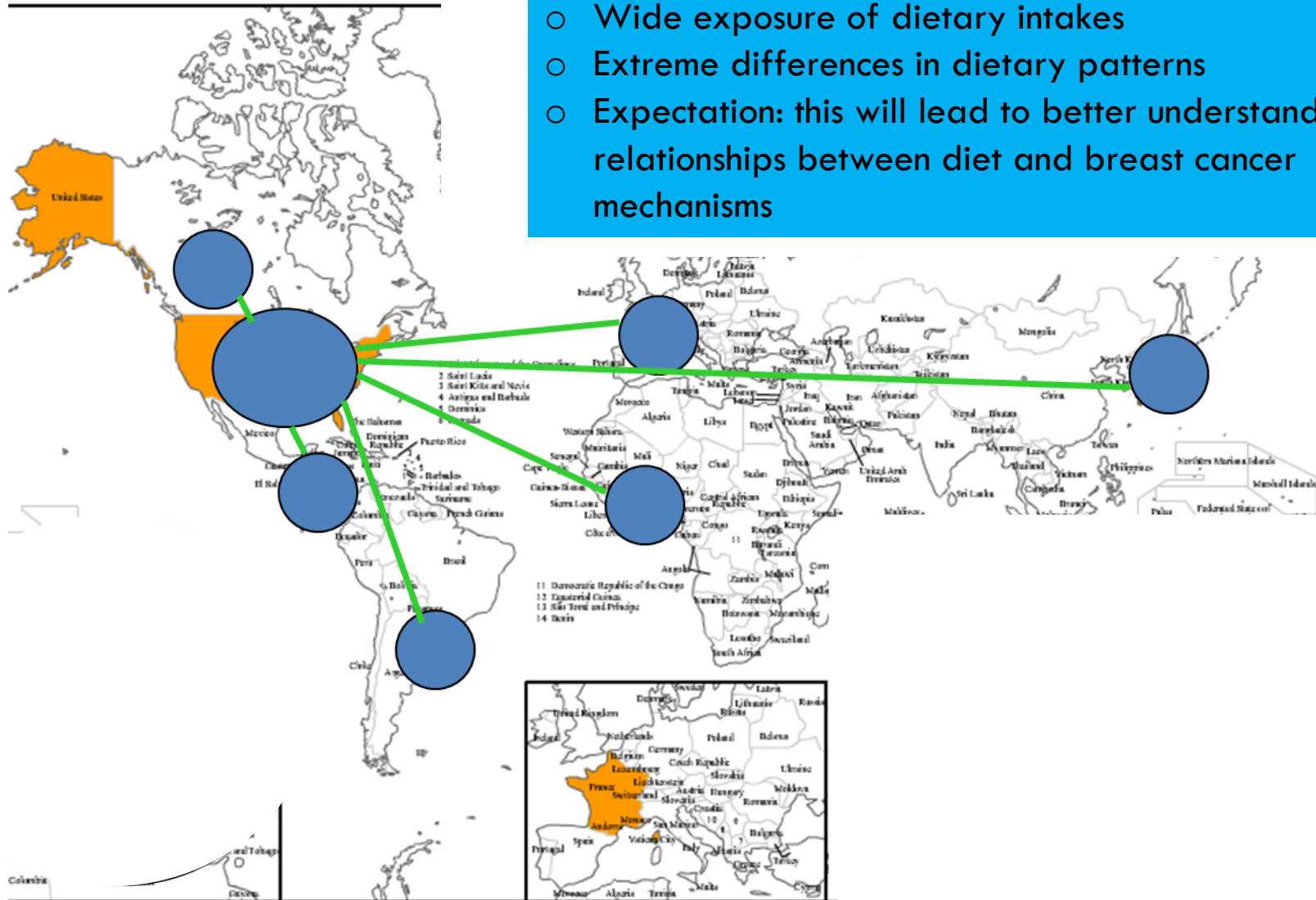
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# Overview

- Aims and challenges for the IBCN
- Dietary assessment
  - ▣ Methodological challenges
  - ▣ Measurement error
- Biomarkers of nutritional intake
- Experiences of measuring nutrition in the European Prospective Investigations into Cancer and Nutrition Study (EPIC-Europe, EPIC-UK, EPIC-Norfolk)
- New methods for the IBCN

# Diversity of Diet

- Wide exposure of dietary intakes
- Extreme differences in dietary patterns
- Expectation: this will lead to better understanding of relationships between diet and breast cancer mechanisms



# Purpose of new approaches for IBCN

- Overall aim: to capture diet more accurately than previously possible, at same time as obtaining breast cancer tissue samples
- Aim to collect
  - ▣ Dietary intakes
  - ▣ Diet composites
  - ▣ Biomarkers/nutrient status measurements (indicators of nutritional exposure)
- Aim to relate dietary composition to epigenetics in breast cancer tissue samples

# Challenges

- Diverse populations
- Capturing diet by self report complex
  - ▣ Some challenges with measurement error in dietary assessment
- Biomarkers
  - ▣ Some challenges with measurement and interpretation
- Some problems to be faced:
  - ▣ Literacy
  - ▣ Computer availability
  - ▣ Trust of researchers

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# Assessment of dietary intake

- Self-reported or interviewed reports of intake
  - Current or retrospective
- Dietary composites – direct analysis of composition of foods
- Biological markers (biomarkers) of nutritional status



# Examples of dietary methods: Open ended versus fixed structure (used in EPIC-Norfolk cohort)

Current

Record/Diary

Frequency/FFQ

Retrospective

The image shows a 7-day diary form. At the top, there is a grid of 14 small food photos arranged in two rows of seven. Below the grid is a table with columns for 'DATE', 'DAY OF WEEK', 'FOOD/DRINK', 'DESCRIPTION AND PREPARATION', and 'AMOUNT'. The table is divided into sections for 'BEFORE BREAKFAST', 'BREAKFAST', 'MID MORNING - between breakfast time and lunch time', 'LUNCH', and 'TEA - between lunch time and the evening meal'. The form is filled out with handwritten entries for a 7-day period.

7-day diary

Detailed text information

Requires interpretation

Labour intensive

Welch AA, PHN, 2001

The image shows a Food Frequency Questionnaire (FFQ) form. It has a table with columns for 'FOOD/DRINK', 'DESCRIPTION AND PREPARATION', and 'AMOUNT'. The table is divided into sections for 'BEFORE BREAKFAST', 'BREAKFAST', 'MID MORNING - between breakfast time and lunch time', 'LUNCH', and 'TEA - between lunch time and the evening meal'. The form is filled out with handwritten entries for a 7-day period.

FFQ (Food Frequency Questionnaire)

Epidemiology

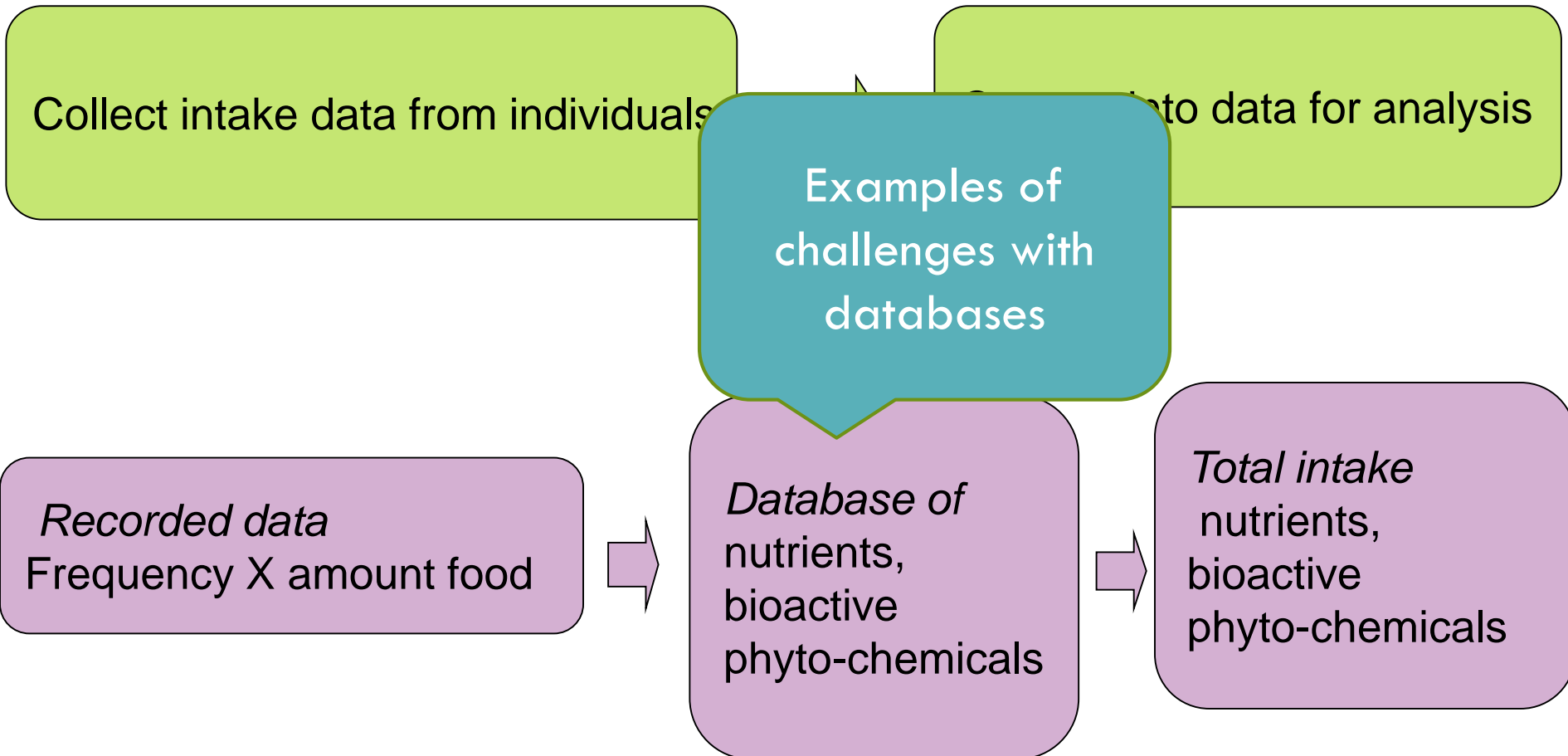
Simpler, limited food list. Fixed structure

> Intakes many nutrients

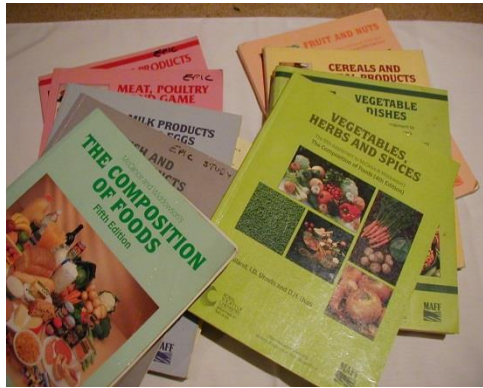
> Measurement error

Welch AA, J Hum Nut Diet, 2005

# Methods – principles of obtaining dietary data for analyses in studies



# Food nutrient databases: challenges



UK food composition database series  
(Royal Society of Chemistry 2012)



West African Food Composition Table (FAO  
2012)

- Limited food coverage
- Infrequently updated
- Limited coverage nutrients/  
bioactives
- Nutrient variability: carotenoids
- Different analytical techniques eg  
fibre, AOAC, Englyst
- Not all databases are consistently  
comparable across countries (potential  
bias)

# Measurement error in dietary assessment

- Definition: difference between the measured exposure and the true exposure for diet
- Potential contributory causes for IBCN
  - Questionnaires – omitted foods
  - Length of period of recording
  - Respondent/social desirability bias
  - Interviewer bias
  - Data entry and issues with supporting databases

# Example of importance of differences between diet methods



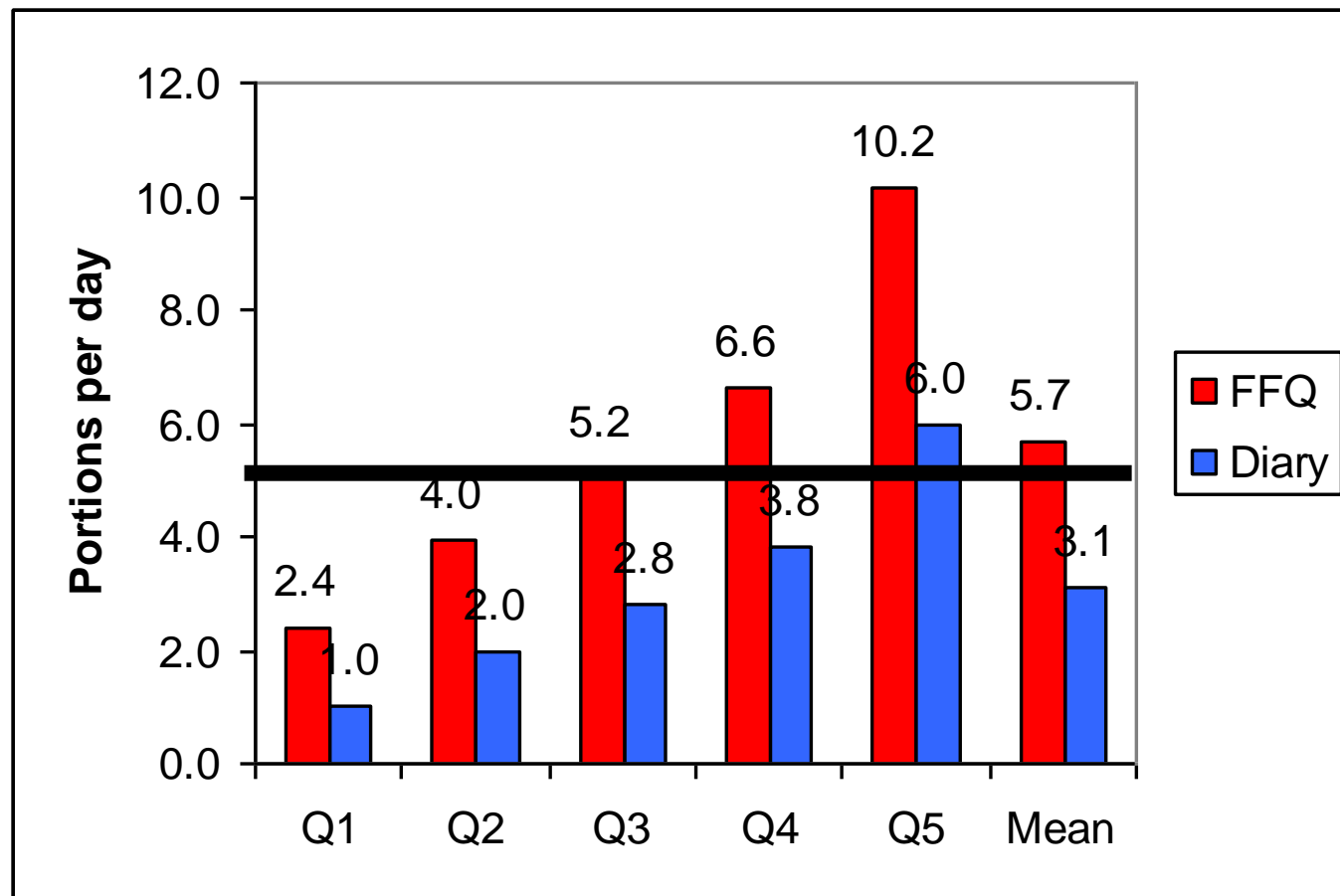
# Effects of methodological differences in estimates of consumption on population monitoring (same subjects within same cohort) – fruits and vegetables

FFQ > estimates fruit & vegetables than 'real time/record' methods

Compared with 5-a-day recommendations

challenges for policy

Methods ranked similarly against plasma vitamin C



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# Biomarkers

- Nutritional biomarkers are indicators of nutritional exposure:
  - Nutrients
  - Bioactives
  - More recently: other metabolites



# Examples of biomarkers for estimating intake of nutrients/bioactive compounds

## *Quantitative recovery*

Absolute value over period of time (integrates over time), 24-hr urine

- N, Na, K, sucrose, fructose, thiamin
- Energy – Doubly Labelled Water (DLW)
- Fruit & vegetables: hippuric acid (Krupp D, 2012)
- Whole-grain: Total alkylresorcinol, DHBA (3, 5-Dihydroxybenzoic acid), DHPPA (3-(3,5-Dihydroxyphenyl)-Propanoic acid) (Hedrick V, 2012)

## *Concentration*

Relative ranking blood/skin

- *Nutrients*: vitamins C, E, D, B12, folate, fatty acids, carotenoids (recent skin – Mayne S, 2013)
- *Bioactives*: flavonoids, isoflavones

Adipose tissue

- Fatty acids, fat soluble vitamins

# Biomarkers of nutritional intake

Utility for direct measurement of diet influenced by:

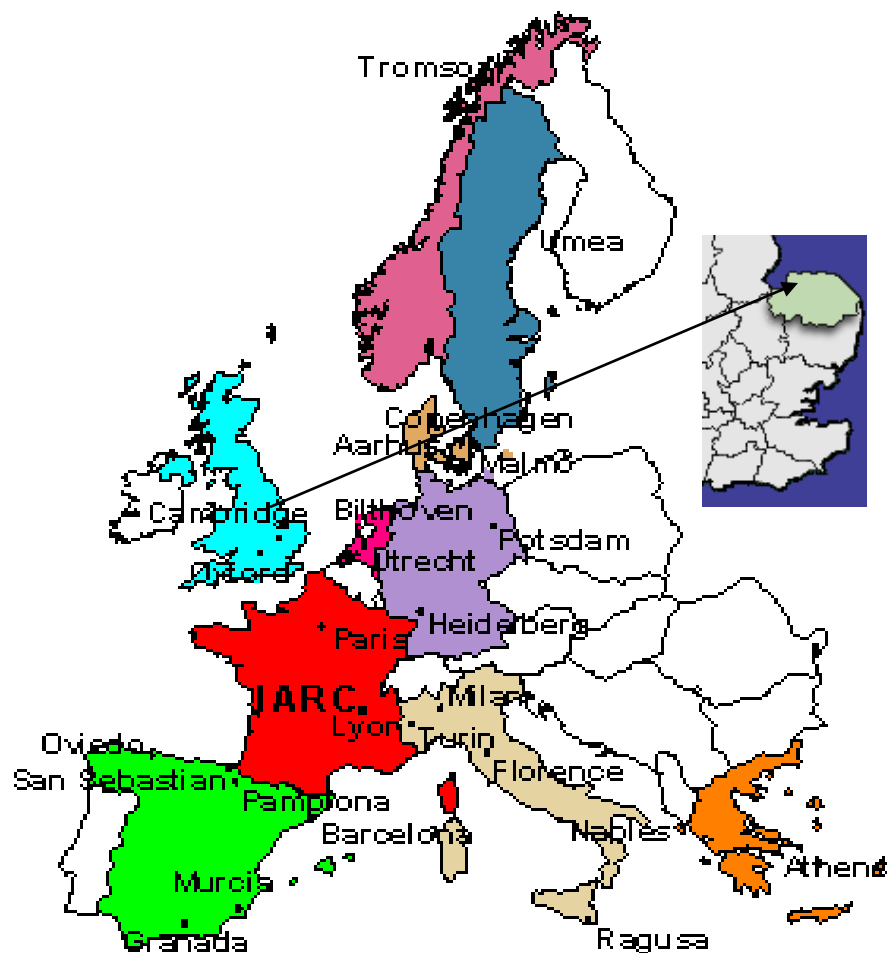
- Genetics
- Gender
- Homeostatic influences – integrated effects of metabolism
- Physiological effects (plasma vitamin C lower with higher waist:hip ratio)
- Behavioural influences (smoking & plasma vitamin C)
- Non-linear associations (vitamin C plateaus)
- Measurement error in lab
- Limited number available, though number expanding (metabolomic approaches)



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# European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition



- EPIC-Europe multi-center cohort study of diet and cancer
- 10 countries – started 1993
- 450,000 participants
- **EPIC-Norfolk cohort** 25,000 people 45-74 Y
- Extended to other chronic diseases eg CVD, diabetes, osteoporosis
- Diverse dietary patterns
- Different dietary assessment methods – literacy challenges
- Different food composition databases

# Solutions within EPIC

## Databases - standardisation

- Developed European Nutrient Database (ENDB)
- Standardised food composition tables for Europe, to be used between countries
- 550-1550 food items
- National compilers, food chemists, EPIC nutritionists (Slimani et al, EJC 2007)

## Biomarker validation

- Biomarkers in subsets of the populations for validation of dietary methods. Used urine N, K & blood carotenoids (Bingham SA et al IJE, 2008)

## Dietary calibration

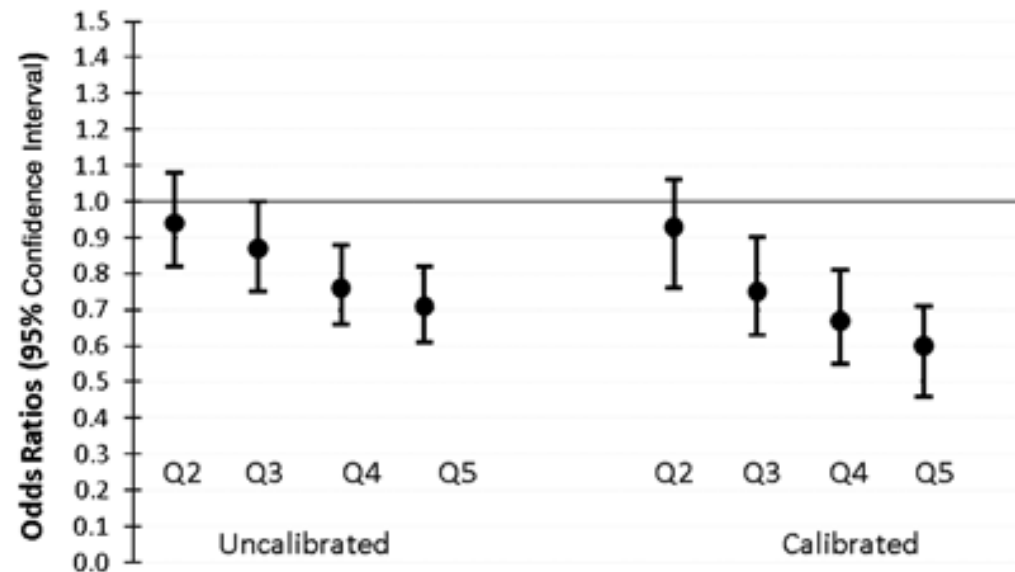
- Development of standardised computer program for 24-hour dietary recall
- Collection of descriptors for foods
  - Portion sizes
  - Food waste, food wastage, cooking changes
- Interviews in subset of each cohort
- Data used to 'calibrate' main study analyses relating diet to cancer incidence (Bingham SA, Lancet 2003)

Highly labour intensive

# Example of solution to measurement error: using calibration of dietary intake with a biomarker in relation to disease outcome

- ❑ **Protein intake & frailty** (Beasley JM, J Am Ger Soc, 2010). Debate on protein recommendations for frailty prevention.
- ❑ Calibrated using DLW & N excretion in subsample
- ❑ Calibrated values of FFQ used to estimate incident frailty (covariates: BMI, age, race, education, income, smoking & physical activity)
- ❑ > association with calibrated % protein intake (per 20% increase in protein versus uncalibrated protein intake)

OR of incident frailty in women 65-79Y



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- Overall aim: to capture diet more accurately than previously possible, at same time as obtaining breast cancer tissue samples
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# Proof of principle study

Aim to test feasibility of international sample collections

## Phase 1 – diet composites

- Design 1 or 2 dietary patterns that represent common eating patterns in your region. Ideally from nationally representative data. To reflect appropriate energy intake for a woman 18-45 year old

- Phase 2 – 24 H diet record, diet composite, fasting blood & urine
- Collect samples from generally healthy subjects consuming diets representative of the region.
- Record all eaten and drink
- Collect duplicate composite
- Following day – collect fasting blood and urine sample

# Summary of participation in the IBCN project: Phase 1

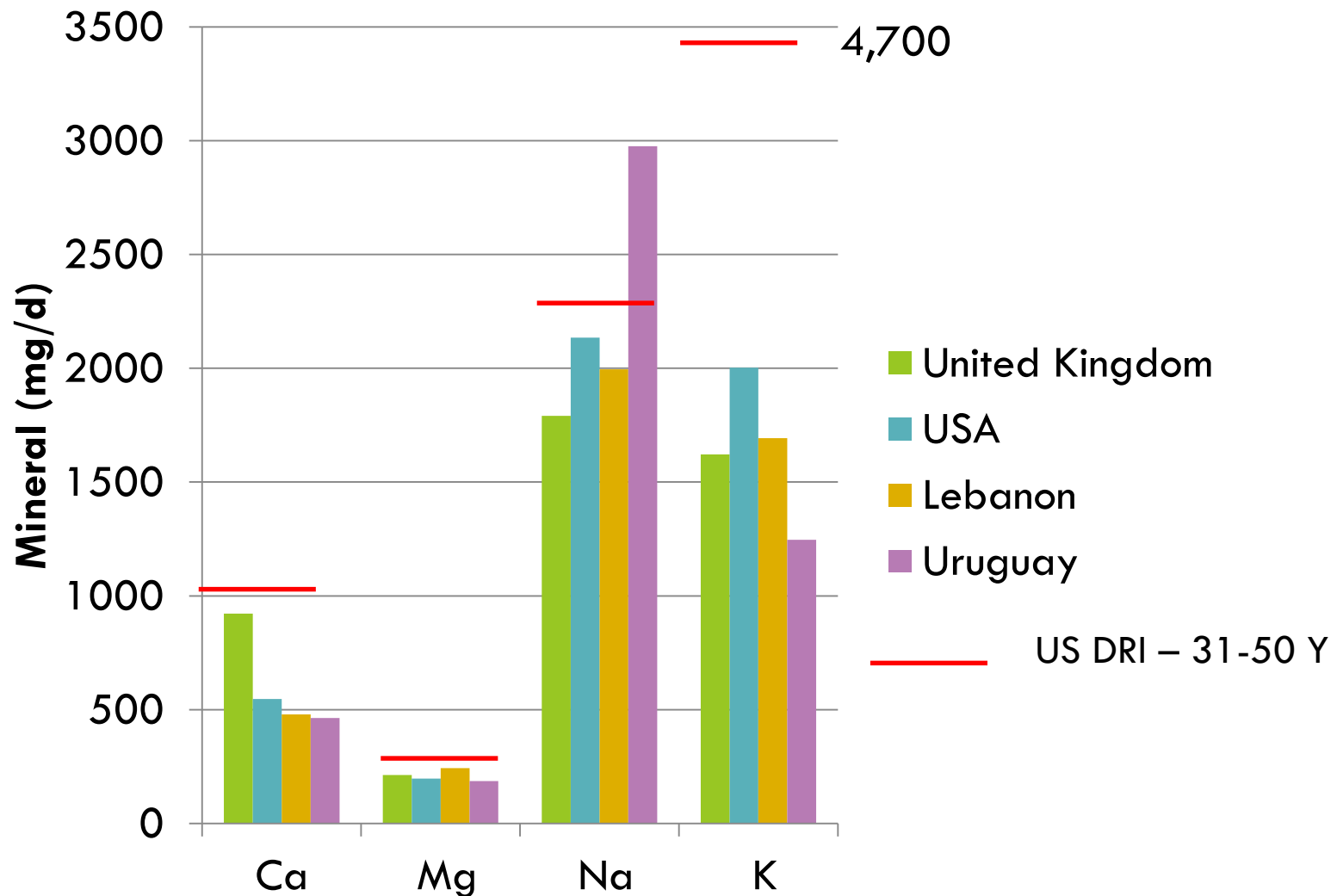
<b>Country</b>	<b>Diet Pattern</b>	<b>Basis for Diet Pattern</b>	<b>Diet Homogenate</b>
Lebanon	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
France	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
USA	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
China	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>
England	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>
Uruguay	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>
Ghana			

# Results: Dietary diversity, number of food items

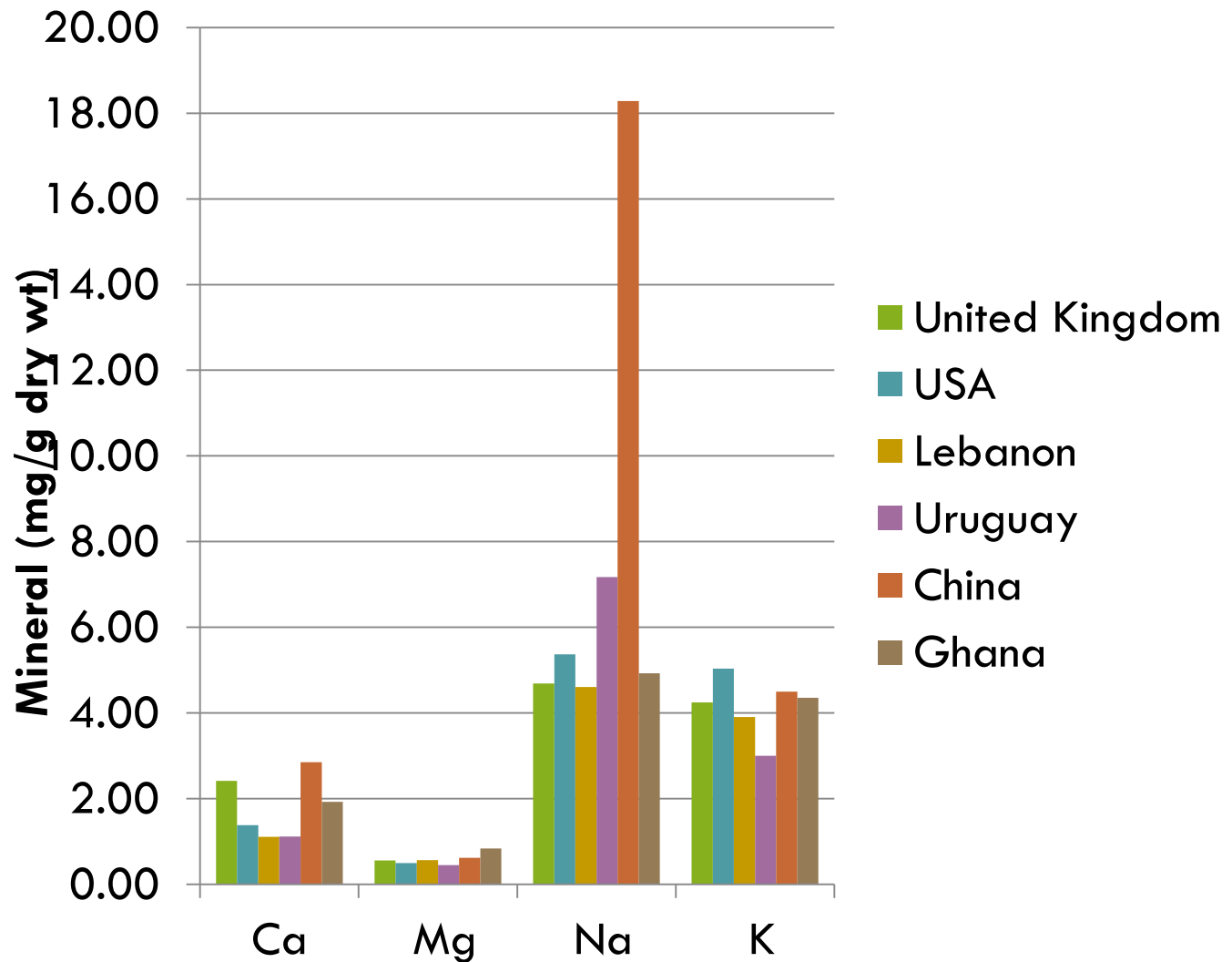
Country	Number of foods	Beverages	Condiments, etc.*
China	6	0	
UK	17	8	1
USA	10	5	4
Lebanon	11	3	2
Uruguay	6	4	2
France	13	4	3

\*Includes butter, jam, salt, oil, sugar, salad dressing, cream

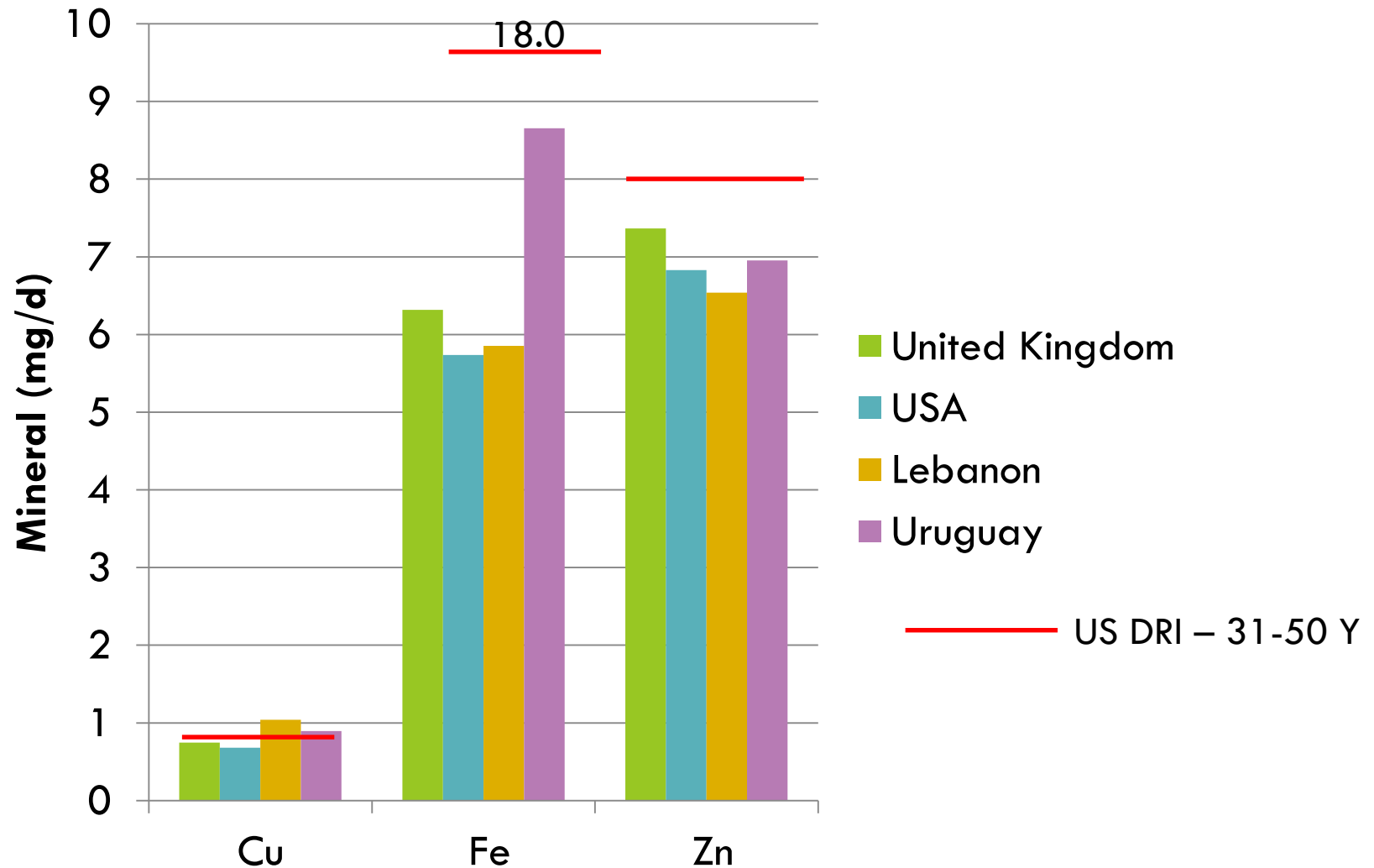
# Results: mineral intakes in 4 countries (Ca, Mg, Na, K)



# Results: mineral intakes in 6 countries (Ca, Mg, Na, K)



# Results: mineral intakes in 4 countries (Cu, Fe, Zn)



# Summary of progress on phase 2

Country	Ethics Approval	Number Enrolled	Diet Homogenate Received	Menu & preparation Data	Blood samples Received
Lebanon	**				
France					
USA	X				
China					
England					
Uruguay	**				
Ghana	X	2	X		

\*\* Close to having approval

# Learning points & experiences

1. Some countries required special letters from Purdue indicating the contents and reason for shipping the diet homogenates.
2. Shipping generally completed in 4-9 days
3. Requirements for ethics approval vary greatly. Requests from various countries:
  - A proposal for the entire project
  - Record of human subjects training approval (CITI) for Dr. Weaver
  - A literature review on the topic
  - Many countries have not completed the ethics approval as the process is slow and complicated depending on the institutional infrastructure.
  - Memorandum of Agreement with Purdue University required (1 country)
4. US cannot ship supplies for Part 2 until a copy of the ethics approval has been obtained from the country institution.



# Further learning points

- There was variation in the type of information received with the diet shipments (weights, menus) so the documents and instructions need to be improved
- Emphasizes the problems working across cultures & disciplines
- Setting up a protocol is not enough when working across countries
  - ▣ Solution is potential training

# Conclusion



- Extensive progress
- Completion of first stages demonstrate the project is possible
- THANK YOU FOR LISTENING