



Nutrition and behaviour research in the School of Experimental Psychology, University of Bristol

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EDHIT research meeting 8th July 2016











NBU research and funding

Expertise in

- experimental psychology
- biological psychology
- nutrition

Research on

- appetite and weight control
- food choice
- dietary effect on mood and behaviour

Funders include















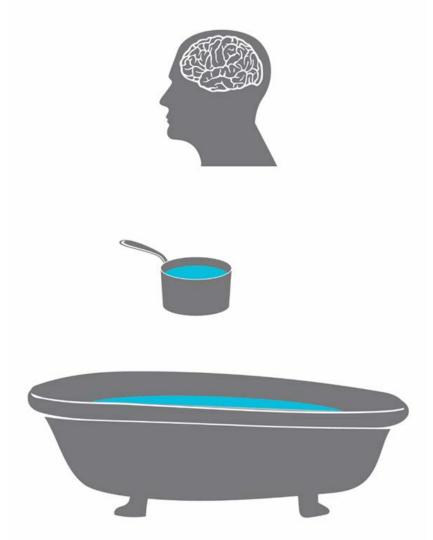


- Daily energy requirement of a moderately active lean person weighing 65 kg is about 2300 kcal
- Total energy stored in the body is about 75 x daily energy intake
 - Fat stores, 55 x daily energy intake
 - Protein stores, 20 x daily energy intake
 - Carbohydrate stores, <1 x daily energy intake
 - glycogen 18 h, free glucose 30 min



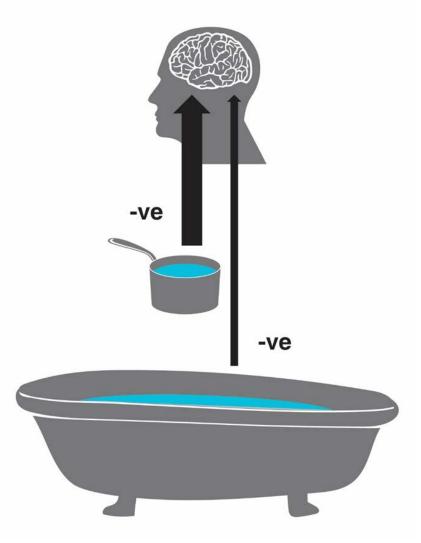
An analogy for human appetite and energy balancing

- Body energy stores (bath tub) are replenished via the gut (saucepan).
- Ratio of energy content of an average meal to body energy stores is about 1:180.
- So missing a meal can be expected to have a trivial effect on energy supply to the brain and muscle.

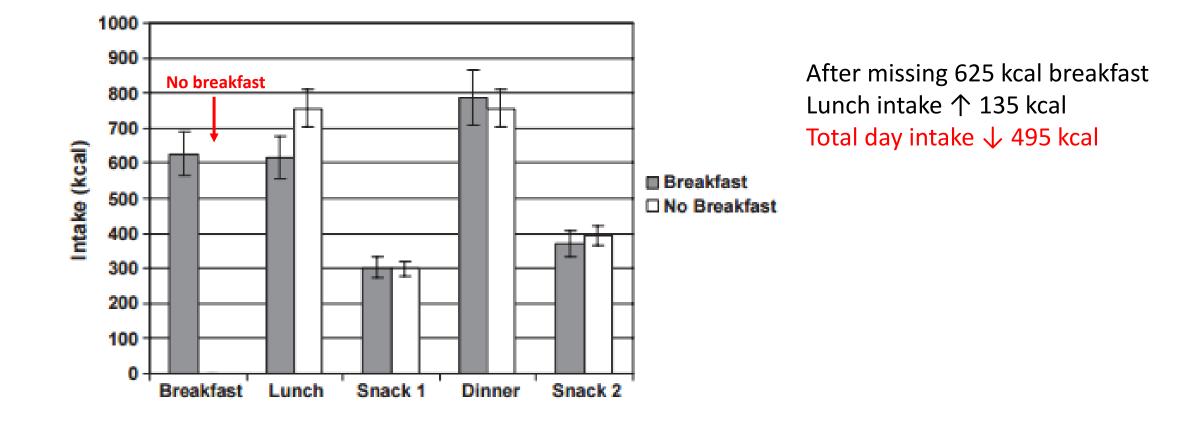


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- Both the gut and body fat stores resist being filled proportional to their contents (negative feedbacks).

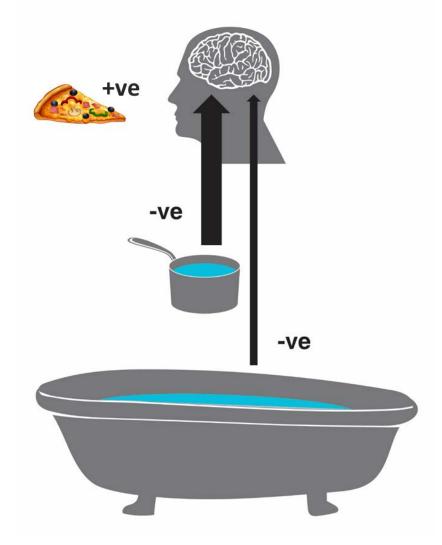


How to decrease energy intake – miss breakfast



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- So missing a meal can be expected to have a trivial effect on energy supply to the brain and muscle.
- Both the gut and body fat stores resist being filled proportional to their contents (negative feedbacks).
- We eat because eating is rewarding (pleasurable). Eating is more rewarding when we like the food and our gut is empty.



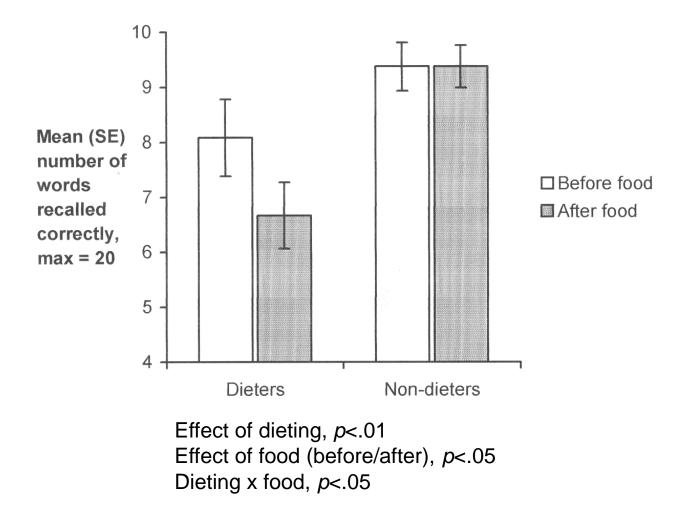
Cognitive performance and mood of current dieters and non-dieters before and after eating a Mars Bar

- Participants
 - 20 currently dieting, and 19 non-dieting women
 - Aged 19-47 years
- Methods
 - Mood and hunger

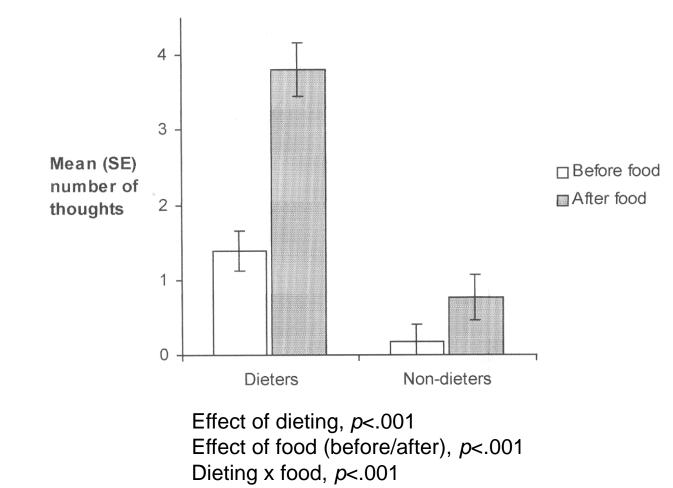


- Performance on tapping, RVIP, SRT and memory tasks
- Asked to eat a Mars Bar (option to withdraw from experiment repeated)
- Left alone for 15 minutes
- Mood and hunger
- Performance on tapping, RVIP, SRT and memory tasks
- Semi-structured interview about thoughts and feelings during the experiment

Immediate memory performance in current dieters and non-dieters before and after eating a Mars Bar

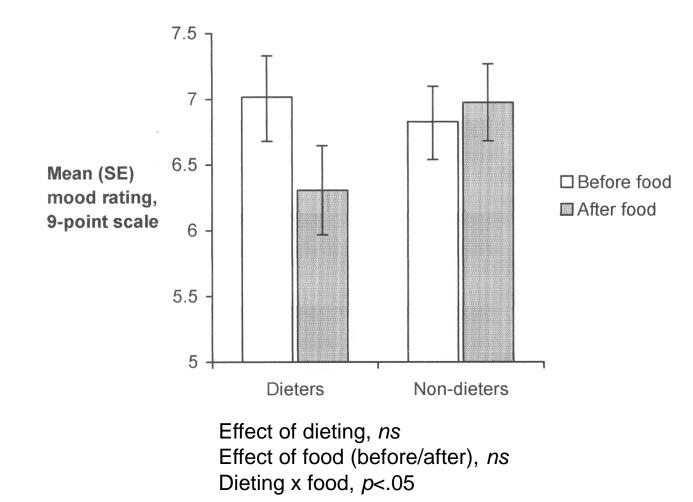


Thoughts about food and dieting in current dieters and nondieters before and after eating a Mars Bar



Jones & Rogers (2003) International Journal of Eating Disorders, 33, 185-192

Positive affect in current dieters and non-dieters before and after eating a Mars Bar



Jones & Rogers (2003) International Journal of Eating Disorders, 33, 185-192

Extracts from transcripts of interviews with dieters

- "I was aware in the number test and the memory test I was losing my concentration, and had to go back and think about it. Yes, some of my thoughts were about food... I'm feeling quite guilty at the moment because I haven't been to the gym for a while, so subconsciously that's been on my mind..."
- "It's just a Mars Bar, not the end of the world."
- "I had a weird sense of feeling that I wanted to do well on the tasks because I'd just done something naughty; it was guilt really, and I was trying to prove to myself that I was still in control."

'Top-down' influences on hunger and satiety

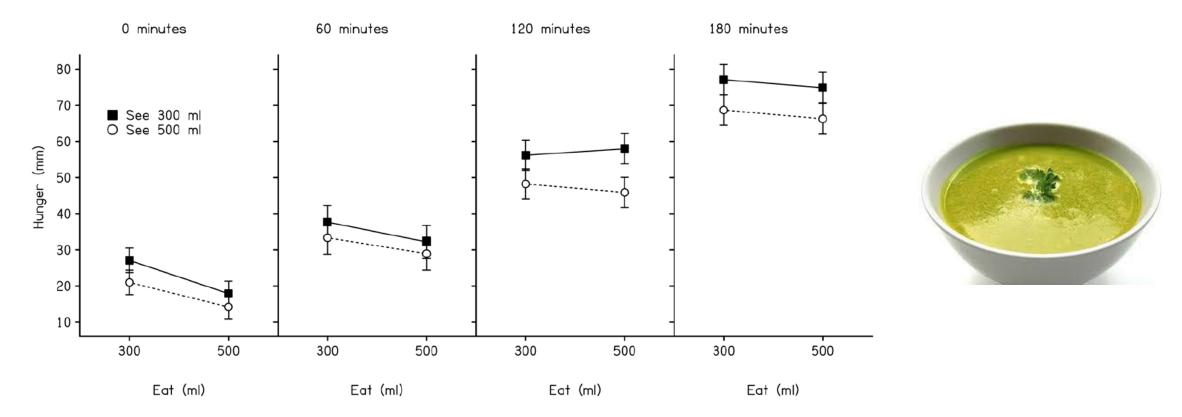


Figure 2. Estimated marginal means (+/- SEM) for hunger ratings (0-100 mm) taken 0, 60, 120, and 180 minutes after consuming the soup. Separate values are provided for participants in each condition. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0050707.g002

'Top-down' influences on hunger and satiety

Beverage consumption, appetite, and energy intake: what did you expect?¹⁻³

Bridget A Cassady, Robert V Considine, and Richard D Mattes

Am J Clin Nutr 2012;95:587–93.

Results: Oral-liquid and perceived gastric-liquid preloads elicited greater postprandial hunger and lower fullness sensations, more rapid gastric-emptying and orocecal transit times, attenuated insulin and glucagon-like peptide 1 release, and lower ghrelin suppression than did responses after oral-solid and perceived gastric-solid treatments (all P < 0.05). Faster gastric-emptying times were significantly associated with greater energy intake after consumption of perceived gastric-liquid preloads (P < 0.05). Energy intake was greater on days when perceived gastric-liquid preloads were consumed than when perceived gastric solids were consumed (2311 ± 95 compared with 1897 ± 72 kcal, P = 0.007).

