

V World Pasta Congress. *October, 25-27 2015, Milan Italy*
Consensus conference: **The Healthy Pasta Meal**



THE PERILS OF SPREADING MISINFORMATION



Prof. Luca PIRETTA

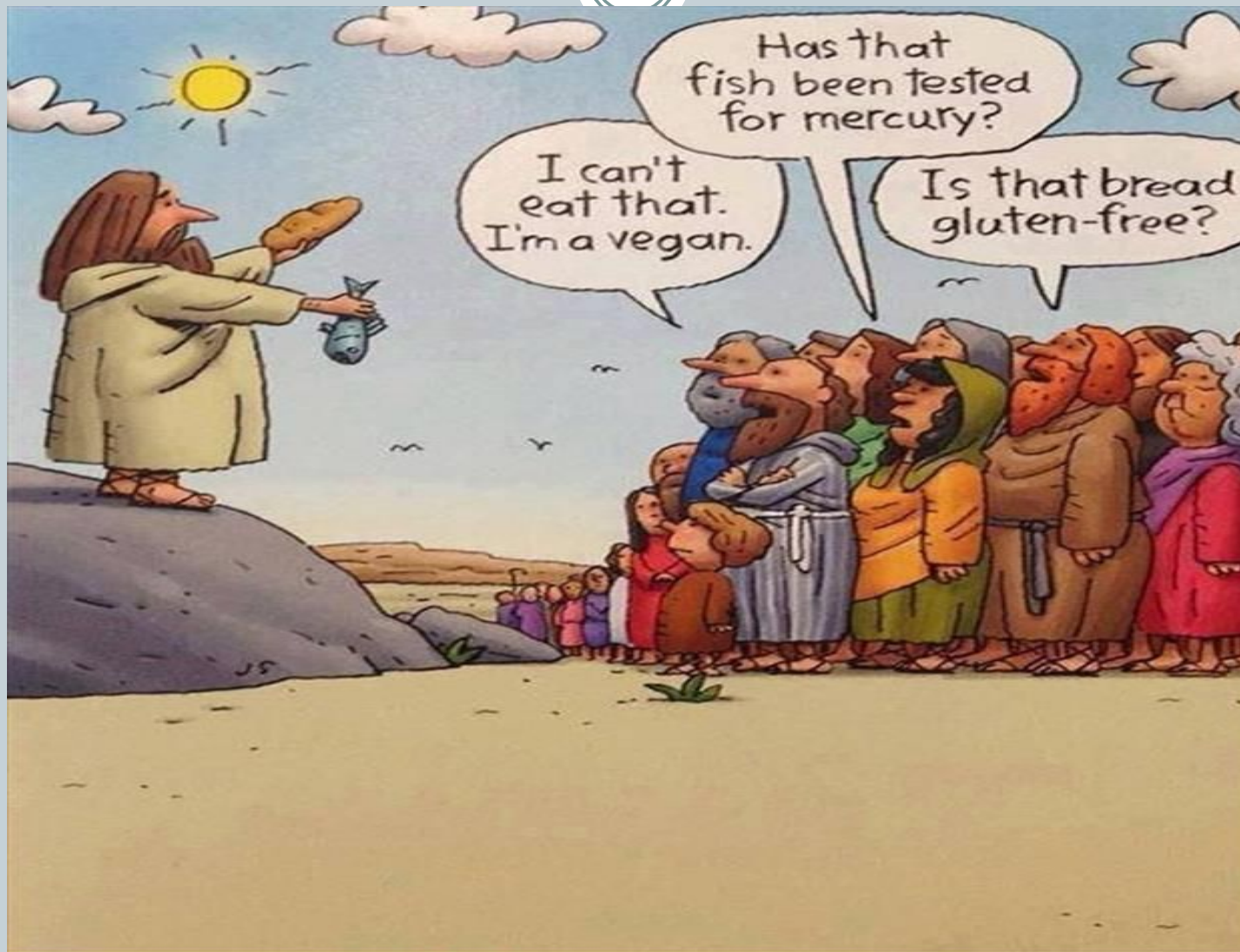
Cattedra di Gastroenterologia A, Sapienza Università di Roma

SANUM, Università Campus Biomedico di Roma

SISA (Società Italiana Scienza Alimentazione)



Levels of knowledge



Obesity Epidemic

CHO restriction is one of the most frequent nutritional behaviors

Spread of high-protein diets aimed to weight-loss.

Widespread belief that western diets are excessively sugar-rich.



“Carbophobia” a term indicating the philosophy of all low-carb diets (Atkins, Zone, Dukan, paleolithic)

Role of Macronutrients

- CHO and lipids

ENERGY
FUNCTIONALITY



- Proteins

FUNCTIONALITY
PLASTICITY



Lose weight or lose fat

Not only “weight loss” but mainly decrease fat mass preserving free fat mass.

Brain feeds almost exclusively with glucose

Low carb diet= free fat mass loss to synthesize glucose from proteins (neoglucogenesis)



Role of each macronutrient is not easily relievable by another.

Risk of “normal weight” obesity

LARN 2012 (Italian Guidelines)



Based on epidemiological evidence of risk for the Italian population were established **reference intervals** (RI) (pointing to the middle of the range) for carbohydrates and lipids

- **CHO 45-60%** of calories (healthy adult)
- **Lipids 25-30%** of calories (healthy adult)

For proteins it has been established a **population recommended intake value** (PRI) which corresponds to the level of intake sufficient to meet the nutrient requirements of nearly all (97.5%) healthy individuals in a specific population group.

- **Proteins 0,90 gr/kg/die** (healthy adult)

Carbohydrates: Sugar or starch



Starches of pasta and other cereals represent the best way to introduce glucose with diet, even for diabetics.



Sugars must not exceed 10% of daily calories
(Italian Guidelines LARN)



... and what about gluten ?



Gluten related disorders:

CELIAC DISEASE



Gluten is the protein fraction responsible for celiac disease




Its elimination from the diet is still the only possible treatment.

Celiac disease may be defined as an autoimmune disease in which the creation of autoantibodies leads to the flattening of mucosal villi.

Gluten related disorders:

CELIAC DISEASE



In Italy, the spread of celiac disease saw a surprising increase in recent years, from a prevalence of 1/1000 inhabitants in the early '90s to 1/100 in 2015.



This is due in part to greater ease of diagnosis but maybe even to an actual increase in its incidence.

Gluten related disorders:

GLUTEN SENSITIVITY

- A recently recognized condition, the **gluten sensitivity**, (also known as non-celiac gluten sensitivity) appeared to further confound relationship between gluten and related disorders.



Gluten related disorders:

GLUTEN SENSITIVITY



Syndrome characterized by multiple intestinal and / or extra intestinal symptoms occurring shortly after the intake of gluten and which improves or disappears through following a gluten-free diet in subjects in which celiac disease or wheat allergy have been excluded.

This condition is more frequent among adults, and intestinal **microbiota** seems to play a very crucial role.



Gluten related disorders:

IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME ?



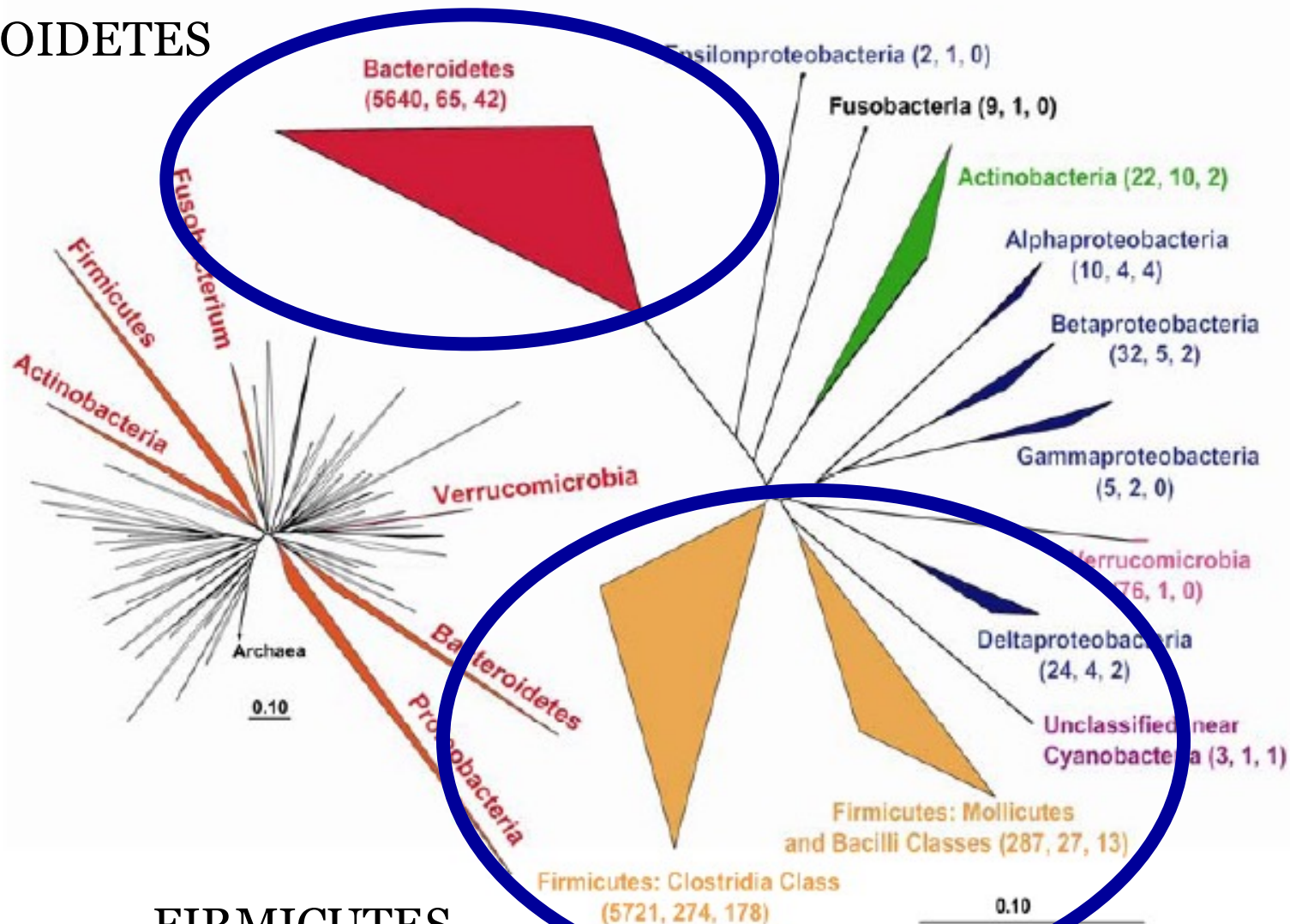
Gluten has been also involved in functional gastrointestinal disease as Irritable Bowel Syndrome

We recently demonstrated that gastrointestinal symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome such as bloating and abdominal pain improved with a diet low in FODMAP (oligo and polysaccharides easily fermentable), regardless of the presence or absence of gluten in the diet

(Piacentino, Piretta et al, Gastroenterology 2015)

COMPOSITION OF THE GUT BACTERIOME: MOLECULAR APPROACH

BACTEROIDETES



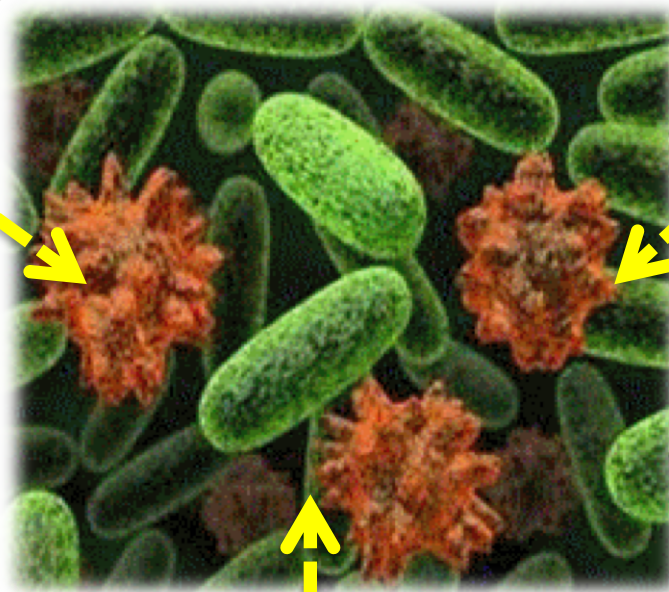
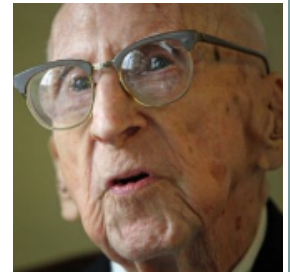
FIRMICUTES

Factors affecting microbiota

DIET



AGE



ORIGIN
(GENETIC PATTERN)



GUT MICROBIOTA COMPOSITION IN GLUTEN-RELATED DISEASES

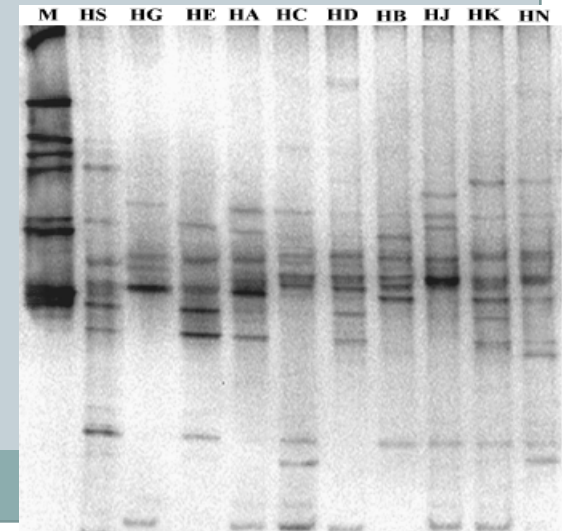
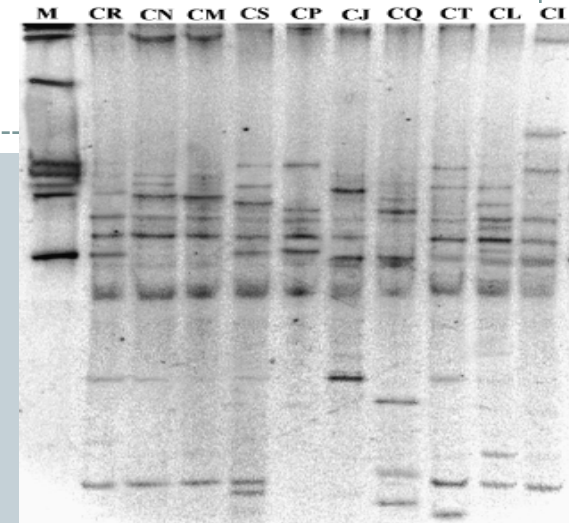
PCR and DGGE analysis (stool)

CELIAC CHILDREN (GCD)

- ❖ Higher diversity of the faecal microbiota
- ❖ *Lactobacillus curvatus*, *Leuconostoc mesenteroides*, *Leuconostoc carnosum*

HEALTHY CONTROLS

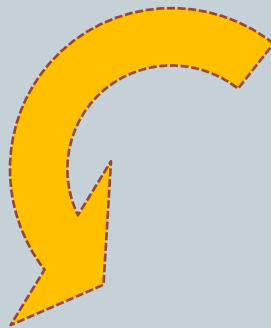
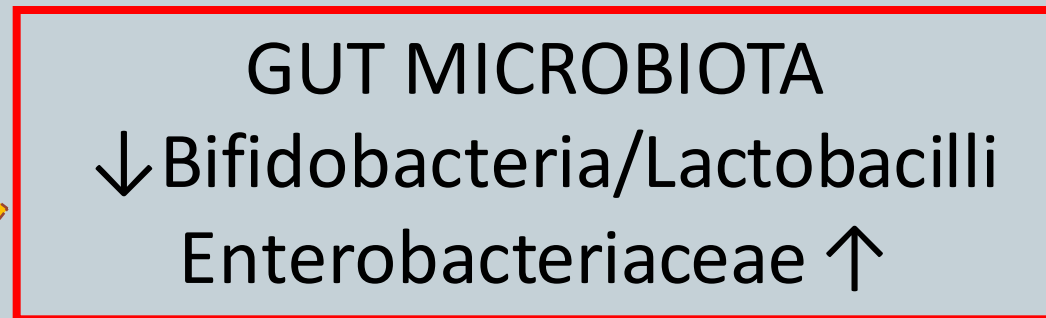
- ❖ Higher diversity in *Bifidobacterium* population
- ❖ *Bifidobacterium adolescentis*
- ❖ *Lactobacillus casei* group



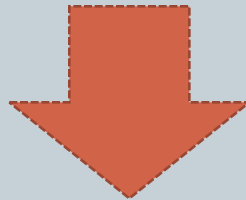
GFD and GUT MICROBIOTA: possible interactions

GLUTEN-FREE DIET

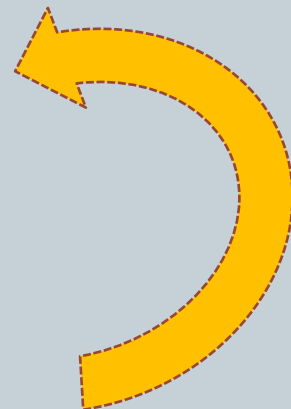
↓ Polysaccharide intake



↓ Immunomodulatory role
via cytokine induction

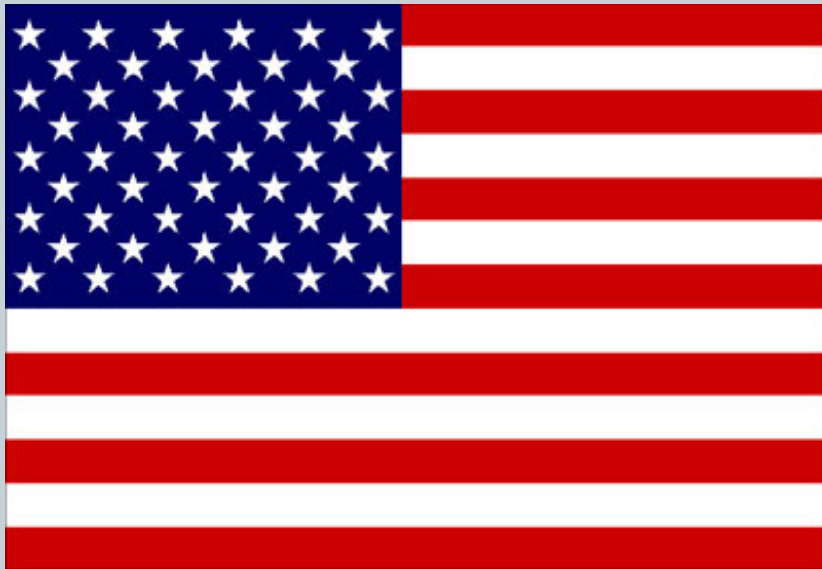


↓ SCFA



Gluten-free diet: a healthy diet ?

- As a consequence of the increasing diagnosis of celiac disease and gluten sensitivity, media and public opinion leaders tend to consider a gluten-free diet as a healthy way of eating, although there is no scientific evidence supporting this conclusion.



USA TODAY 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST 2011

Gluten-free diet: a healthy diet ?

- Many websites, magazines, food companies and public testimonials supporting the hypothesis that gluten-free diet helps to prevent diseases in healthy people or improve symptoms in no celiac patients or even facilitate weight loss in overweight/obesity are today widespread.



Gluten-free diet to lose weight: a big misunderstanding

- If following a gluten-free diet means significantly reducing the intake of bread and pasta, it is not surprising to observe a consequent weight loss, which is obviously related to the reduction of calories, not to the absence of gluten.

LARN 2012 (Italian Guidelines)
CHO 45-60%
of calories (healthy adult)



Gluten-free diet: not for all !



- Inversely, some studies reported that the gluten-free diets are richer in fats to compensate reduced daily carbohydrate (Ansaldi, Riv Italian Ped 1994, Pellegrini, J Sci Food Agric 2015, Segura, Plant Food Hum Nutr 2011) and this results in a higher caloric intake.
- Some gluten-free industrial products often contain additives (E 471) such as mono-diglycerides (even saturated or trans).
- There is no scientific evidence to believe that a gluten-free diet may play any role in weight loss. Gluten is a part of the protein content of cereals. The protein amount is around 10-12% and 8-10% in gluten containing and gluten free cereals respectively without any substantial caloric difference.

Conclusions



- Literature data agree in considering gluten free diet the only effective therapy for patients with celiac disease or gluten sensitivity
- There is no evidence that this diet could be useful in other patients, obese or healthy people
- Some data suggest that gluten free diet is often a fat rich diet
- Therefore correct information becomes extremely necessary to prevent the spread of misleading data that leads to demonize foods (such as pasta) and the resulting restriction that may be the first step towards malnutrition



HEALTH THROUGH HERITAGE

HEALTHY PASTA MEALS

DICHIARAZIONE DI CONSENSO SCIENTIFICO SUI BENEFICI DELLA PASTA 2015

Agreed in Milan, 26 October, 2015

1. La ricerca scientifica sostiene l'importanza di una dieta completa, piuttosto che dei singoli alimenti.
2. La pasta è un componente chiave di molti modelli alimentari tradizionali, come la dieta mediterranea, la cui validità è scientificamente provata. La maggior parte dei modelli alimentari basati sulla prevalenza di alimenti di origine vegetale contribuisce a prevenire e a rallentare lo sviluppo di gravi malattie croniche, apportando maggiori benefici per la salute rispetto agli attuali modelli occidentali.
3. Molti studi clinici confermano che sono le calorie in eccesso, non i carboidrati, a causare l'obesità. Le diete che effettivamente consentono un calo di peso corporeo possono promuovere il consumo di carboidrati salutari, proteine e grassi. Tutti e tre questi macronutrienti sono essenziali, nel giusto equilibrio, per impostare una dieta personale sana che chiunque può seguire nel lungo periodo. Inoltre, le diete molto povere di carboidrati possono non essere sane, soprattutto nel lungo periodo.
4. La pasta dà sazietà più a lungo. Se la porzione è corretta e il condimento non è troppo calorico, un piatto di pasta può avere un contenuto di calorie moderato.
5. In un'epoca in cui il diabete e l'obesità fanno la parte del leone in tutto il mondo, i piatti a base di pasta e altri alimenti a basso contenuto glicemico contribuiscono a tenere sotto controllo i livelli di glucosio nel sangue e il peso, soprattutto nelle persone sovrappeso. L'indice glicemico è un fattore che misura la salubrità dei cibi ricchi di carboidrati. Il modo in cui la pasta viene prodotta ha effetti benefici, in quanto il processo produttivo ne riduce la risposta glicemica. Anche la pasta integrale, con un maggiore contenuto di fibre, rappresenta una buona soluzione.
6. La pasta è una scelta sana ed economica, disponibile in quasi tutte le società. La promozione dell'economicità e dell'accessibilità dei piatti a base di pasta può contribuire a superare il pregiudizio secondo cui i cibi sani siano troppo costosi.
7. La pasta consente di introdurre in modo gustoso più verdure, legumi e altri alimenti sani spesso trascurati. La pasta è anche uno strumento per introdurre altri alimenti della dieta mediterranea (ovvero altre tradizioni culturali), soprattutto nel caso dei bambini e degli adolescenti.

8. La pasta figura nelle tradizioni culinarie di tutto il mondo, in quanto è simile alla tela di un artista: è versatile e si adatta facilmente agli ingredienti stagionali locali e nazionali.
9. La maggior parte della popolazione può mangiare la pasta e non deve scegliere un prodotto senza glutine se non è affetta da un disturbo glutine-correlato correttamente diagnosticato. Per chi è intollerante o allergico al glutine o soffre di celiachia esistono alternative senza glutine.
10. La pasta è un alimento di origine vegetale semplice, con un basso impatto ambientale.
11. Il consumo di pasta è indicato per chi fa attività fisica e in particolare pratica sport. La pasta, come altri cereali, fornisce carboidrati ed è anche una fonte di proteine. Per una migliore prestazione fisica, la pasta può essere consumata scondita o con poco condimento prima di un allenamento oppure insieme ad altri alimenti dopo aver praticato attività sportiva. Le diete ad alto contenuto proteico e con pochi carboidrati sono sconsigliate per le persone attive.
12. I medici, i nutrizionisti e altri professionisti della salute dovrebbero educare i consumatori a prediligere piatti vari e bilanciati a base di pasta per una buona salute.

Signatories of the Scientific Consensus Statement ***Consensus Committee Members***

Joel Abecassis, PhD, National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) (Montpellier, France)
Sara Baer-Sinnott, President, Oldways (Boston, USA)
Nuno Borges, PhD, University of Porto (Porto, Portugal)
Hector Bourges, MD, PhD, Salvador Zubiran National Institute of Medical Sciences and Nutrition (Mexico City, Mexico)
Sergio Britos, University of Buenos Aires (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Furio Brighenti, PhD, University of Parma (Parma, Italy)
Michel de Lorgeril, MD, Joseph Fourier University (Grenoble, France)
Mauro Fisberg, PhD, Federal University of Sao Paulo (Sao Paulo, Brazil)
Michelangelo Giampietro, MD, Sapienza University (Rome, Italy)
Marta Garaulet Aza, PhD, DrPH, University of Murcia (Murcia, Spain)
Giancarlo Logroscino, MD, PhD, University of Bari (Bari, Italy)
Alessandra Lugio, Nutritionist (Sao Paulo, Brazil)
Pietro Migliaccio, MD, President, and **Maria Teresa Strumendo, MD**, Societa Italiana di Scienze dell'Alimentazione (Rome, Italy)
Luca Piretta, MD, Sapienza University (Rome, Italy)
Andrea Poli, MD, Nutrition Foundation of Italy (Milano, Italy)
Gabriele Riccardi, MD, Federico II University (Naples, Italy)
Kantha Shelke, PhD, Corvus Blue (Chicago, USA)
Joanne Slavin, PhD, University of Minnesota (Minneapolis, USA)
Kelly Toups, MLA, RD, Oldways (Boston, USA)

