

Abstract Submitted
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Food category consumption and obesity prevalence across countries: an application of Machine Learning method to big data analysis.

JOCELYN DUNSTAN, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Public Health School, SAEIDEH FALLAH-FINI, Cal Poly Pomona, CLAUDIA NAU, THOMAS GLASS, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Public Health School, GLOBAL OBESITY PREVENTION CENTER TEAM — The applications of sophisticated mathematical and numerical tools in public health has been demonstrated to be useful in predicting the outcome of public intervention as well as to study, for example, the main causes of obesity without doing experiments with the population. In this project we aim to understand which kind of food consumed in different countries over time best defines the rate of obesity in those countries. The use of Machine Learning is particularly useful because we do not need to create a hypothesis and test it with the data, but instead we learn from the data to find the groups of food that best describe the prevalence of obesity.

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