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Table 1 number of controls and cases per cohort of the UK dietary consortium

Cohorts Breast cancer	N Controls	N Cases	N post-menopausal cases	Period of food diaries completion
EPIC-Norfolk	1297	360	291	1993-1998
EPIC-Oxford:	140	140	61	1993-1999
UKCWS (Leeds Dante)	184	41	28	1999-2002
Whitehall II	270	69	29	1991-1993
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1891</i>	<i>610</i>	<i>409</i>	

Table 2 Characteristics of controls (n=1891) and cases of breast cancer (n=610) of the UK Dietary consortium#

	Controls		Cases		p value*
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Age (y)	57.2	9.25	56.6	9.5	0.04
Age at first live birth (y)	25.4	4.8	26.0	4.6	0.02
Age at menopause (y)	49.4	4.2	49.7	3.9	0.12
Participant's height (cm)	161.47	6.43	162.7	6.6	<0.0001
Participant's weight (kg)	67.3	12.1	68.0	12.0	0.19
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	25.8	4.5	25.7	4.5	0.72
Parity (Number of children)	1.91	1.31	1.75	1.22	0.00
Physical activity (low, medium, medium-high, high) %	26/34/23/17		28/34/23/14		0.38
Menopausal status (pre-peri-post%)	19/9/72		18/15/67		<0.0001
HRT use ever(%yes)	32		30		0.55
Education level (0/1/2/3) %	34/21/29/16		31/21/27/21		0.07
Smoking status (never-former-current)	59/31/10		60/30/10		0.99
Social class (0-6) %	8/39/21/18/10/4		9/37/25/17/8/3		0.27
Family history (% yes)	7		11		0.00
Ever breastfed (% yes)	69		67		0.44
OC use ever (%yes)	52		54		0.41
Energy (kcal/day)	1740	403	1803	392	0.00
Energy (MJ/day)	7.34	1.69	7.60	1.65	0.00
Saturated fat (% FE)	12.7	3.1	12.6	3.2	0.39
PUFA (% FE)	6.4	1.8	6.5	1.8	0.37
Protein (% FE)	15.6	3.1	15.4	2.9	0.20
CHO (% FE)	47.2	6.4	47.0	6.8	0.40
Non-starch polysaccharides (NSP) (g/d)	14.7	5.3	15.4	5.5	0.005
Sucrose (% FE)	9.1	3.7	9.1	3.8	0.97
Cholesterol (mg/d)	186.2	85.1	186.2	82.8	0.99
Calcium (mg/d)	795	257	815	255	0.10
Ratio MUFA/SFA	0.94	0.22	0.96	0.24	0.05
Alcohol (g/d)	9.0	13.2	10.4	13.4	0.01
Fruit and veg (g/d)	310.6	178.6	321.1	183.6	0.21
Fish (g/d)	16.9	23.3	16.9	23.3	0.99
Meat and meat products (g/d)	92.8	64.0	93.3	66.1	0.87
Vegetables (g/d)	129.2	79.2	134.5	87.5	0.17
Legumes (g/d)	22.4	25.8	25.1	27.0	0.03
Whole grain cereals (g/d)	41.6	56.9	45.9	59.7	0.10
Dairy intake incl cheese (g/d)	271.9	154.8	275.1	155.7	0.65

\* P value based on t-test for continuous variables and chi-square for categorical variables

Abbreviations: BMI (Body Mass Index); HRT (hormone replacement therapy); OC (oral contraceptive); MJ (Mega-joule); FE (food energy); PUFA (poly unsaturated fatty acids); CHO (carbohydrate); NSP (non-starch polysaccharide)

# N was 1891 for controls and 610 for cases except for age at live first birth (n controls=1507, n cases=465), age at menopause (n controls=1539, n cases=450), participant's height (n controls=1883, n cases=603), participant's weight (n controls=1869, n cases=604), BMI (n controls=1866, n cases=602), education level (n controls=1816, n cases=562), smoking status (n controls=1874, n cases=598), social class (n controls=1714, n cases=460), family history of breast cancer (n controls=1481, n cases=401), ever breastfed (n controls=1580, n cases=530), OC use ever (n controls=1864, n cases=604)

TABLE 3 Odds ratios for breast cancer risk according to tertiles of Mediterranean Diet Score (MDS), with and without including alcohol in MDS score

	<b>n cases/ controls</b>	<b>Model</b>	Tertile 1	Tertile 2	Tertile 3	P trend\$
<b>MDS*</b>						
	610/1891	0	1.00 (ref)	1.05 (0.84;1.32)	1.22 (0.94;1.58)	0.12
	610/1891	1	1.00 (ref)	1.03 (0.82;1.30)	1.20 (0.92; 1.56)	0.15
	387/1430	2	1.00 (ref)	0.91 (0.70;1.18)	1.05 (0.77;1.43)	0.68
	387/1430	1adj	1.00 (ref)	0.91 (0.70;1.19)	1.06 (0.78;1.45)	0.62
<i>Post-menopausal</i>	409/1360	1	1.00 (ref)	0.90 (0.68; 1.19)	1.10 (0.80; 1.51)	0.46
<i>≥2 year after diagnosis</i>	518/1887	1	1.00 (ref)	1.08 (0.85;1.38)	1.22 (0.92;1.62)	0.16
<b>MDS no alcohol**</b>						
	610/1891	0	1.00 (ref)	1.02 (0.79; 1.32)	1.18 (0.85; 1.63)	0.32
	610/1891	1#	1.00 (ref)	0.99 (0.76; 1.29)	1.15 (0.83; 1.60)	0.40
	387/1430	2#	1.00 (ref)	0.99 (0.73; 1.35)	1.02 (0.69; 1.52)	0.92
	387/1430	1adj	1.00 (ref)	1.00 (0.74; 1.36)	1.04 (0.70; 1.53)	0.86
<i>Post-menopausal</i>	409/1360	1#	1.00 (ref)	0.95 (0.68; 1.32)	1.14 (0.76; 1.71)	0.57
<i>≥2 year after diagnosis</i>	518/1887	1#	1.00 (ref)	0.93 (0.70;1.23)	1.12 (0.79;1.59)	0.52

\*P interaction MDS score with study centre 0.16; \*\* p interaction MDS score without alcohol with study centre 0.22

\$ P for trend was based on median tertile score

Model 0: unadjusted

Model 1: adjusted for exact age, parity, use of HRT, weight, height, physical activity, and menopausal status

Model 2: adjusted for exact age, parity, use of HRT, weight, height, physical activity, menopausal status, family history of breast cancer, breast feeding, and education level

Model 1adj: see model 1 but now including a reduced number of cases and controls as in model 2

# This model was also adjusted for alcohol

TABLE 4 Odds ratios for breast cancer according to tertiles of the first factor score of dietary patterns derived with principal components analyses (PCA) using 42 predefined food groups.

	<b>n cases/ controls</b>	<b>model</b>	Tertile 1	Tertile 2	Tertile 3	P trend <sup>§</sup>
PCA factor 1	610/1891	0	1.00 (ref)	1.03 (0.81; 1.31)	1.18 (0.92; 1.52)	0.18
	610/1891	1	1.00 (ref)	1.03 (0.80; 1.31)	1.18 (0.91; 1.53)	0.19
	387/1430	2	1.00 (ref)	0.94 (0.71; 1.23)	1.02 (0.75; 1.39)	0.89
	387/1430	1adj	1.00 (ref)	0.95 (0.73; 1.25)	1.05 (0.78; 1.42)	0.74
<i>Post-menopausal</i>	409/1360	1	1.00 (ref)	1.04 (0.79; 1.38)	1.27 (0.93; 1.73)	0.13
<i>≥2 year after diagnosis</i>	518/1887	1	1.00 (ref)	1.05 (0.81;1.36)	1.16 (0.88;1.53)	0.29

Factor 1 was positively loaded by cheese, crisps and savoury snacks, fresh fruit, legumes, low-fat milk, nuts and seeds, other fruits, and negatively loaded by poultry, red meat and water (all scoring >0.25 factor loading)

§ P for trend was based on median tertile score

*Model 0: unadjusted*

*Model 1: adjusted for exact age, parity, use of HRT, weight, height, physical activity, and menopausal status*

*Model 2: adjusted for exact age, parity, use of HRT, weight, height, physical activity, menopausal status, family history of breast cancer*

*Model 1adj: see model 1 but now including a reduced number of cases and controls as in model 2*

TABLE 5 Odds ratios for breast cancer according to tertiles of RRR-derived dietary patterns using 42 predefined food groups using alcohol, total fat and fibre as response variables. Results are presented for tertiles of the factor loading score for the first dietary pattern.

RRR dietary pattern	n cases/ controls	model	Tertile 1	Tertile 2	Tertile 3	P trend\$
<b><i>First dietary pattern#:</i></b>						
<b><i>high alcohol</i></b>						
	610/1891	0	1.00 (ref)	1.04 (0.81;1.33)	1.29 (1.01;1.64)	0.02
	610/1891	1	1.00 (ref)	1.06 (0.83;1.36)	1.27 (1.00;1.62)	0.04
	387/1430	2	1.00 (ref)	1.04 (0.77;1.39)	1.28 (0.95;1.71)	0.08
	387/1430	1adj	1.00 (ref)	1.05 (0.78; 1.40)	1.33 (0.99; 1.77)	0.04
<i>Post-menopausal</i>	409/1360	1	1.00 (ref)	1.14 (0.84;1.55)	1.46 (1.08;1.98)	0.01
<i>≥2 year after diagnosis</i>	518/1887	1	1.00 (ref)	1.08 (0.82;1.42)	1.32 (1.01;1.71)	0.03
<b><i>Second dietary pattern:</i></b>						
<b><i>high fibre</i></b>						
	610/1891	0	1.00 (ref)	1.04 (0.82;1.31)	1.09 (0.86;1.39)	0.46
	610/1891	1	1.00 (ref)	1.04 (0.82;1.31)	1.08 (0.84;1.38)	0.55
	387/1430	2	1.00 (ref)	1.14 (0.86;1.50)	1.08 (0.81;1.44)	0.65
	387/1430	1adj	1.00 (ref)	1.15 (0.87; 1.51)	1.10 (0.82; 1.46)	0.56
<i>Post-menopausal</i>	409/1360	1	1.00 (ref)	1.10 (0.83;1.48)	1.23 (0.91;1.66)	0.18
<i>≥2 year after diagnosis</i>	518/1887	1	1.00 (ref)	0.99 (0.77;1.28)	1.10 (0.84;1.43)	0.48

The first dietary pattern was positively loaded by total wines, spirits, and beers and ciders (scores >0.2).

The second dietary pattern was positively loaded by fresh fruit, vegetables raw and boiled, high fibre bread, high fibre breakfast cereals, legumes, yoghurts (scores >0.2)

\$ P for trend was based on median tertile score

# P interaction of first RRR derived dietary pattern score with study centre 0.83

Model 0: unadjusted

Model 1: adjusted for exact age, parity, use of HRT, weight, height, physical activity, and menopausal status

Model 2: adjusted for exact age, parity, use of HRT, weight, height, physical activity, menopausal status, family history of breast cancer, breast feeding, and education level

Model 1adj: see model 1 but now including a reduced number of cases and controls as in model 2

**Supplementary TABLE 1 Factor loadings of PCA derived dietary patterns in full sample (n=2501) as well as random split sample (n=1242)**

	Factor 1		Factor 2		Factor 3	
	Full	<i>Split</i>	Full	<i>Split</i>	Full	<i>Split</i>
spirits, liqueur, alcopops	-14	-9	-6	-18	<b>-33</b>	-33
beers and ciders	1	-1	-11	-14	<b>-27</b>	-27
wines	7	10	-1	-43	<b>-53</b>	-30
biscuits and cakes	6	9	<b>-29</b>	42	38	-2
butters and animal fat	-1	-3	<b>-31</b>	20	4	-27
cereal based mixed meals	13	14	-24	10	-4	-12
cheeses	<b>40</b>	44	-3	-1	-10	-2
chocolate and confectionery	9	14	<b>-30</b>	45	35	-11
condiments	-5	5	1	24	<b>26</b>	10
crisps and savoury snacks	<b>26</b>	33	5	6	1	4
eggs	4	6	<b>-31</b>	17	3	-24
fish	-16	-14	18	-17	-10	8
fresh fruit	<b>27</b>	26	<b>55</b>	-11	22	56
fruit and vegetable juices	16	14	11	-20	-14	7
game and offal	-14	-19	9	-9	1	9
high fat milk and cream	-14	-8	-7	30	33	13
high fibre bread	15	3	<b>46</b>	-24	8	48
high fibre breakfast cereals	6	3	<b>26</b>	8	31	39
hot and powdered drinks	-3	0	-18	24	23	-3
ice cream	4	0	-13	20	14	2
infant nutrition	3	0	1	0	3	0
legumes	<b>50</b>	49	-4	11	13	5
low fat milk	<b>42</b>	38	3	7	10	9
low fibre bread	-4	7	<b>-58</b>	46	11	-45
margarine and vegetable oils	8	9	2	19	22	23
miscellaneous	-1	3	-12	-7	-17	-23
nuts and seeds	<b>39</b>	44	15	-1	5	17
other bread	18	17	-11	-10	-22	-22
other breakfast cereals	0	0	-12	9	0	-11
other fruit	<b>32</b>	33	12	-3	7	12
potatoes	<b>-25</b>	-21	-22	48	<b>35</b>	-9
poultry	<b>-31</b>	-19	21	-25	-20	-6
puddings	-7	-8	-11	31	<b>35</b>	16
red meat	<b>-45</b>	-47	-13	5	-1	-16
rice, pasta and other grains	<b>41</b>	43	5	-34	-34	-13
sauces	<b>25</b>	34	0	-4	-11	-7
soft drinks and squashes	-9	0	-3	-1	-15	-21
soups	9	2	12	-18	-13	4
vegetable mixed dishes	<b>51</b>	47	-1	-28	-28	-14
vegetables, raw and boiled	13	20	43	1	24	42
water	22	28	32	-16	-1	20
yogurts	15	20	35	-18	2	26

Factors loadings  $>25$  and non-overlapping are indicated in **bold**

Supplementary TABLE 2 Factor loadings of the first RRR derived dietary pattern in the full sample (n=2501) as well as random split sample (n=1242)

	Full sample	Split sample
wines	<b>0.739</b>	<b>0.716</b>
spirits, liqueur, alcopops	<b>0.469</b>	<b>0.451</b>
beers and ciders	<b>0.311</b>	<b>0.280</b>
rice, pasta, other grains	0.124	0.129
poultry	0.090	0.073
fruit and vegetable juice	0.089	0.052
soft drinks and squashes	0.087	0.078
cheeses	0.078	0.125
fish	0.064	0.093
vegetable mixed dishes	0.063	0.068
sauces	0.063	0.102
red meat	0.051	0.058
soups	0.044	0.026
cereal based mixed meals	0.036	0.026
miscellaneous	0.035	0.013
high fibre bread	0.023	-0.050
water	0.023	-0.043
bread other	0.014	0.026
vegetables, raw or boiled	0.011	-0.071
game or offal	0.004	0.000
other breakfast cereals	-0.002	0.006
crisps and savoury snacks	-0.004	0.007
hot and powdered drinks	-0.005	0.001
eggs	-0.012	0.059
legumes	-0.013	-0.086
infant nutrition	-0.019	-0.022
yogurts	-0.020	-0.074
other fruit	-0.022	-0.040
butters and animal fat	-0.027	0.047
condiments	-0.032	-0.017
low fat milk	-0.036	-0.055
nuts and seeds	-0.044	-0.048
potatoes	-0.045	-0.056
fresh fruit	-0.048	-0.172
high fibre breakfast cereals	-0.055	-0.120
low fibre bread	-0.059	-0.005
ice-cream	-0.065	-0.047
margarine and vegetable oils	-0.072	-0.088
high fat milk and cream	-0.088	-0.110
chocolate and confectionery	-0.096	-0.067
puddings	-0.108	-0.098
biscuits and cakes	-0.127	-0.107

Factors loadings  $|\geq 0.25|$  are indicated in **bold**