

Omega-3 Fatty Acid Deficiencies in Psychiatric Disorders

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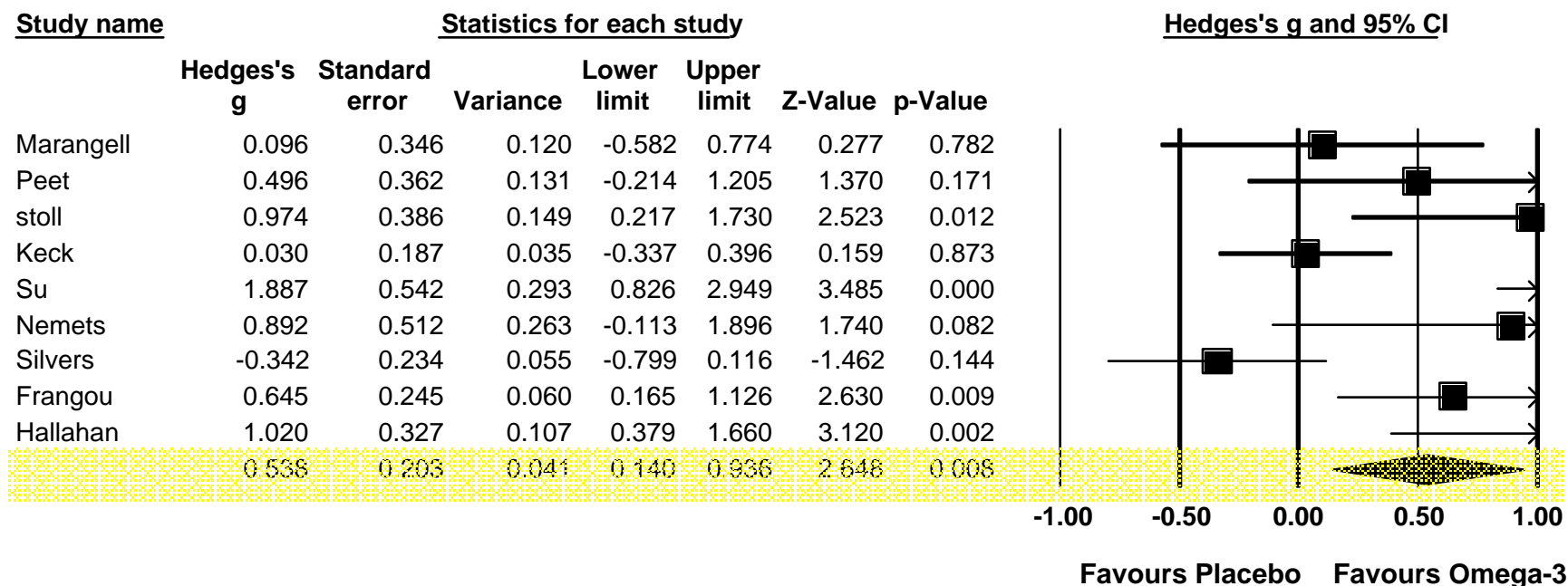
Hierarchy for Clinical Efficacy in Evidence Based Medicine

- Hypothesis
- Epidemiological association (Ecological)
- Direct case based observational associations
- Plausible biological mechanism
- Open (non-blinded) intervention trials
- Randomized masked placebo controlled trials
- Large scale, multi-center placebo controlled trials
- Meta-analysis, weighted analysis of efficacy

- Treatment recommendations

**Meta-analysis of omega-3's on depressive symptoms,
randomized placebo controlled trials, effect size = 0.54, p<0.008**

Omega-3 EFA in Affective Disorders



Effect Size g, SE, Variance 95% CI Z and P (Best Case)

**Freeman M, Hibbeln JR, Davis JM et al.
American Psychiatric Association's treatment recommendations for
omega-3 fatty acids in psychiatric disorders. J Clin Psychiatry 2006**

How much EPA and DHA should I eat
each day?

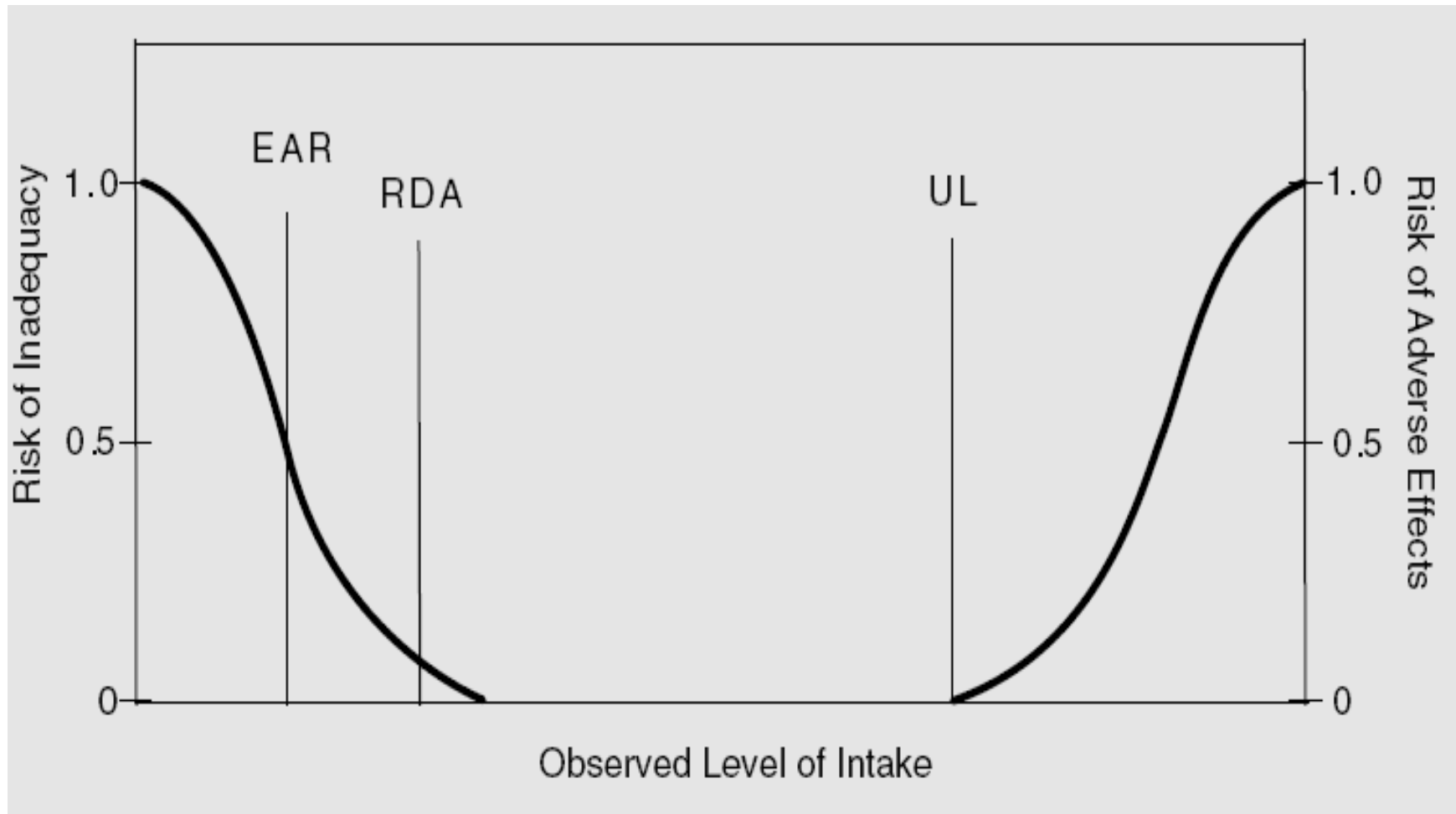
Calculation of daily intakes based on
RDA criteria to prevent deficiencies.

Use of RDA criteria for estimating LC-omega-3's

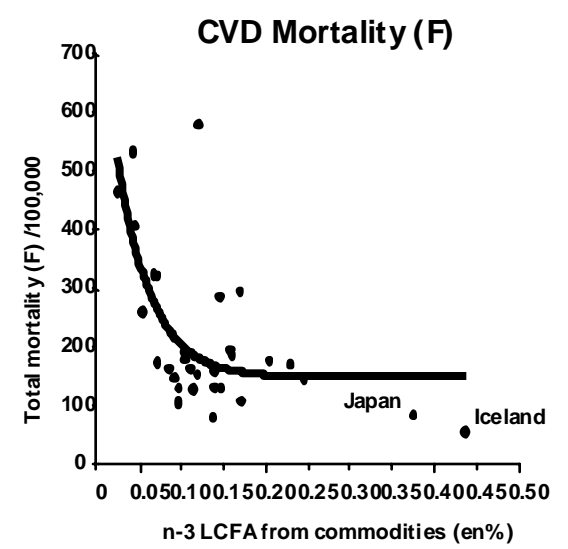
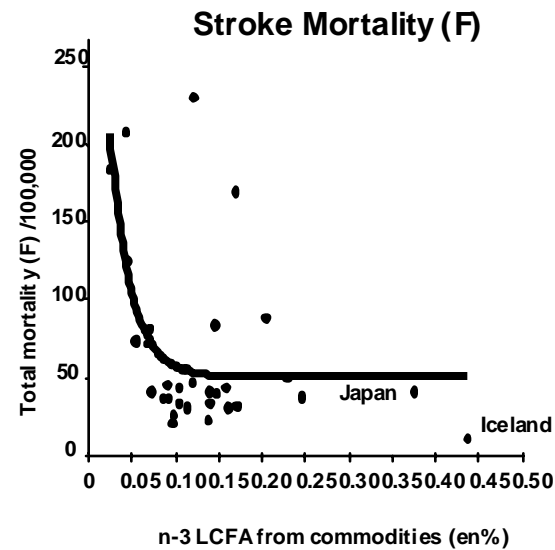
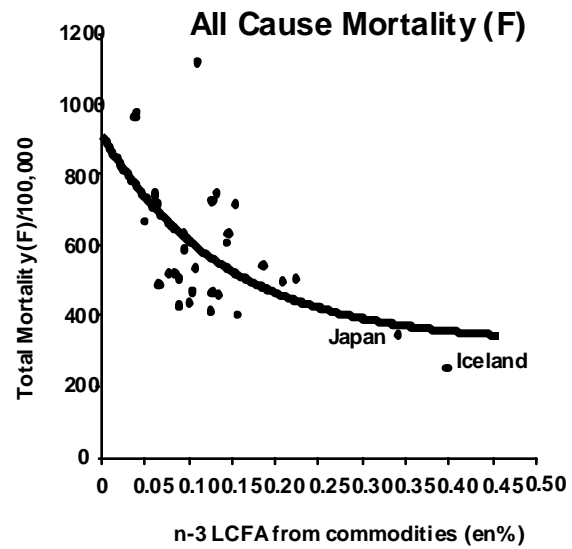
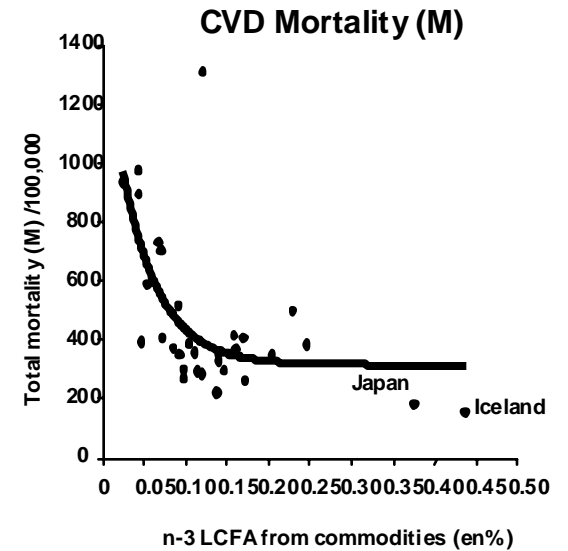
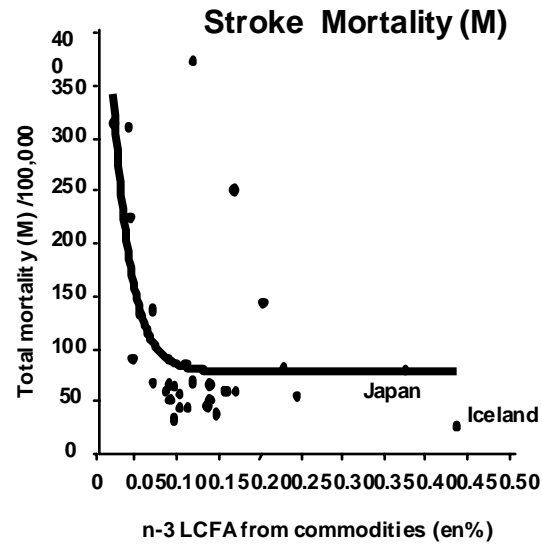
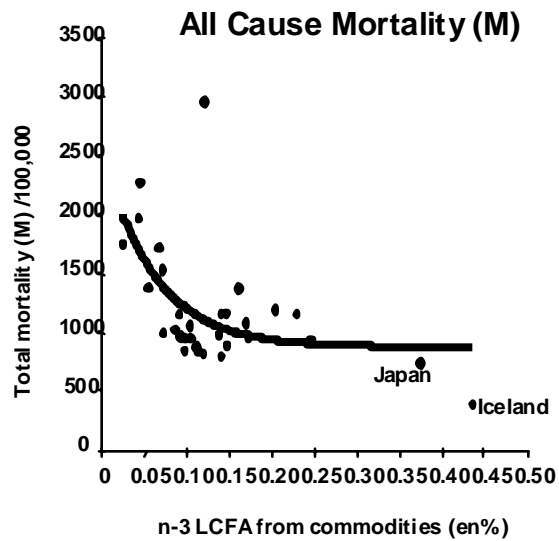
Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA): the average daily dietary nutrient intake level sufficient to meet the nutrient requirement of nearly all (97 to 98 %) healthy individuals in a particular life stage and gender group.

- 1. Requires a pathological condition resulting from nutrient deficiency.
(Here chronic, cardiovascular psychiatric illnesses)**
- 2. Requires population based dose response data.
(Here cross-national ecological data)**
- 3. Tissue compositions considered.**
- 4. Requires estimation of upper level of benefit.
(Here we do not know if the absence of depression or aggression is the upper level of benefit or if further improvements of happiness are possible)**

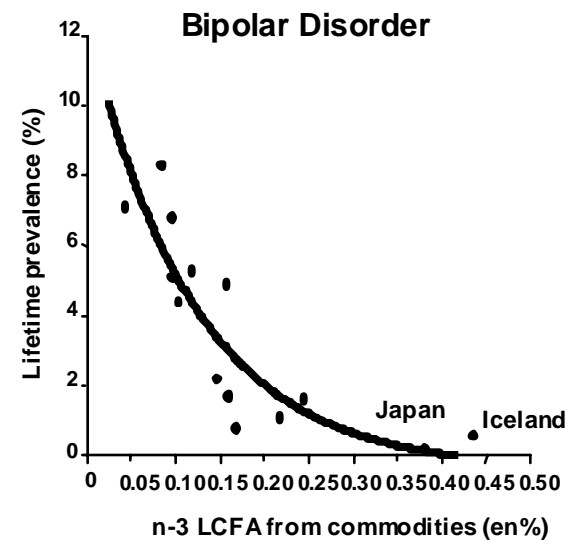
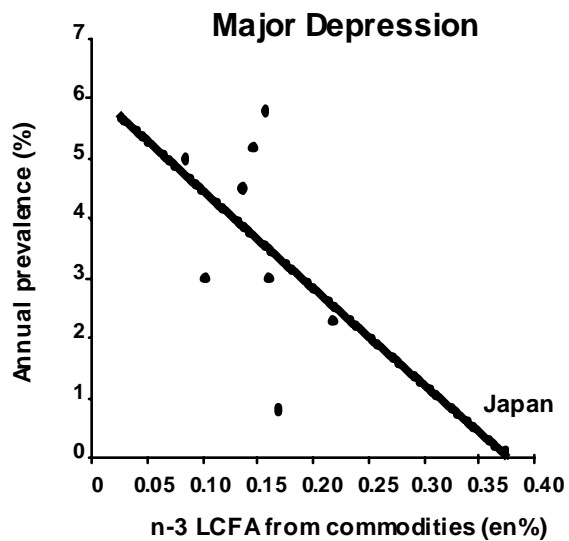
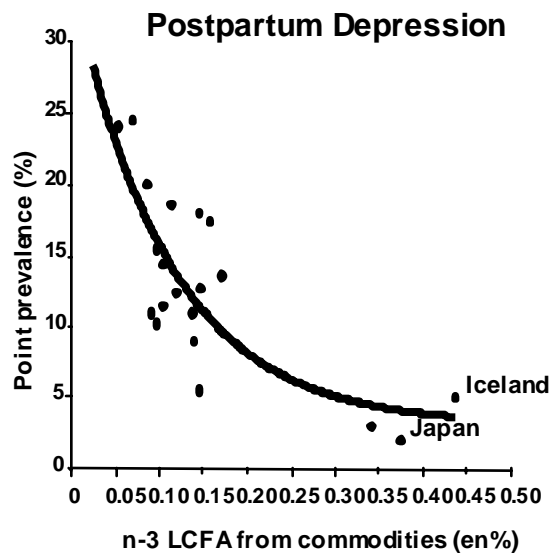
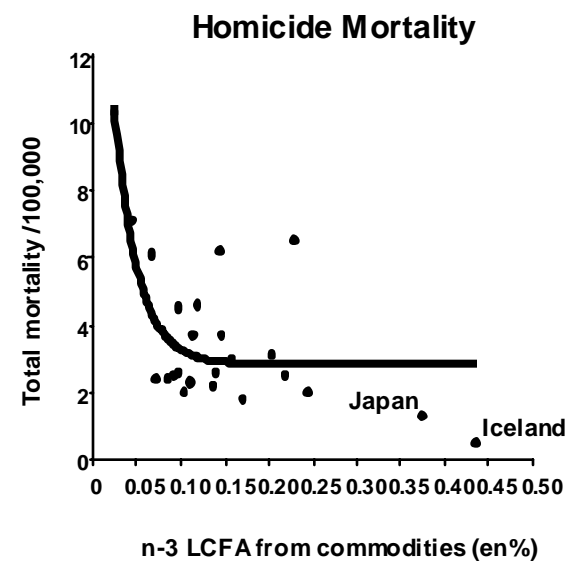
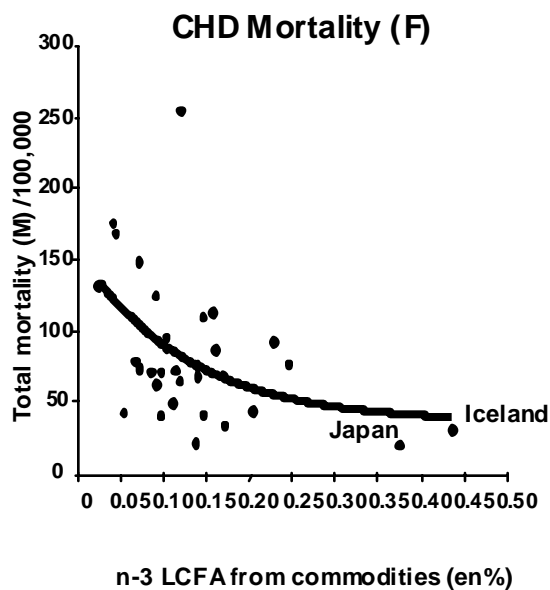
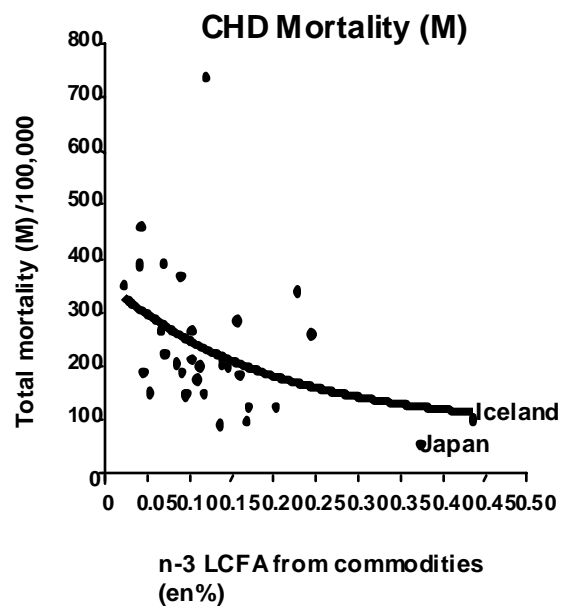
Dietary Reference Intakes: Guiding Principles for Nutrition Labeling and Fortification Committee on Use of Dietary Reference Intakes in Nutrition Labeling. National Academies Press, 2003



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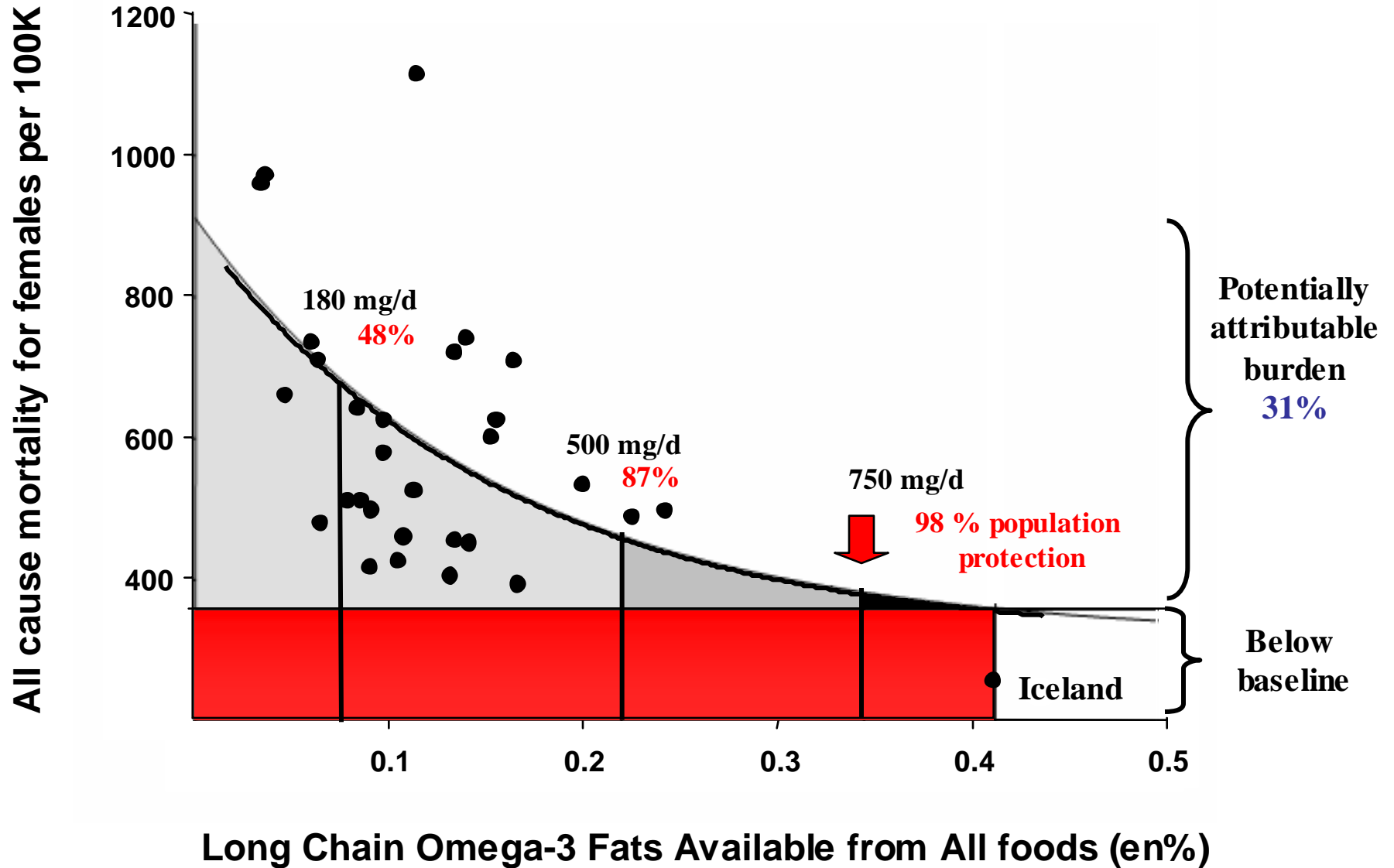


Hibbeln et al Am J Clin Nutr 2006; 83; 1483S-93S



Hibbeln et al Am J Clin Nutr 2006; 83; 1483S-93S

All cause mortality for females



Hibbeln et al Am J Clin Nutr 2006; 83; 1483S-93S

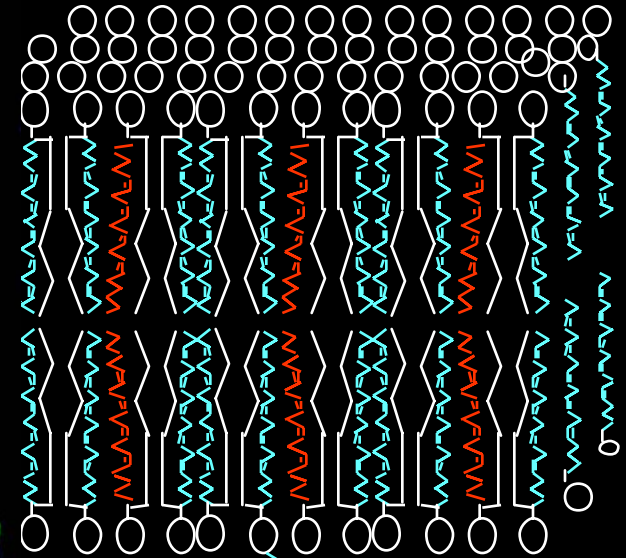
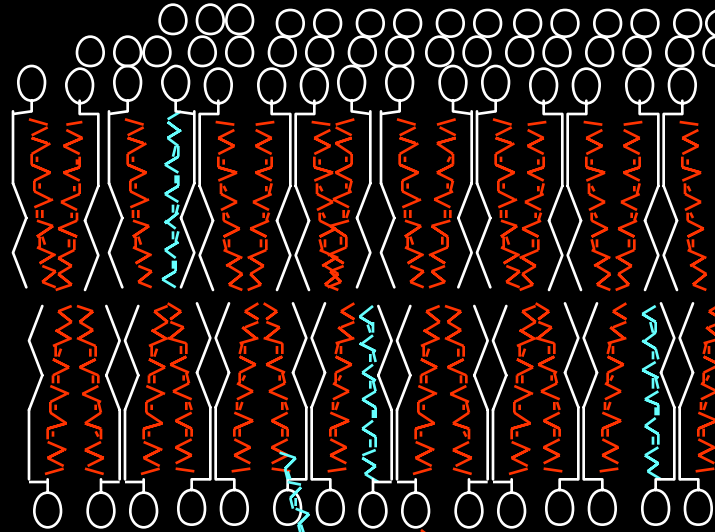
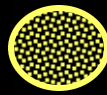
Disease/Disorder Model	Disease burden potentially modifiable by n-3 HUFAs	Percent vulnerable population protected from illness (%)		
		Model Advice for n-3 HUFA Intake		
		0.08 en% (180 mg/d)	0.22 en% (500 mg/d)	0.34 en% (750 mg/d)
CHD mortality M	41.2%	45.2	85.4	97.9
CHD mortality F	42.5%	52.4	89.7	98.6
Stroke mortality M	32.9%	97.7	99.9	>99.9
Stroke mortality F	31.1%	96.4	99.9	>99.9
CVD mortality M	26.1%	83.4	99.3	>99.9
CVD mortality F	29.1%	86.9	99.6	>99.9
All Cause mortality M	20.8%	73.6	97.7	99.8
All Cause mortality F	31.5%	48.3	87.3	98.2
Homicide mortality	28.4%	95.6	>99.9	>99.9
Postpartum depression	65.5%	55.7	91.3	98.9
Major depression	98.5%	38.5	83.2	99.2
Bipolar disorder	99.9%	56.1	92.3	99.5

Hibbeln et al Am J Clin Nutr 2006; 83; 1483S-93S

Tissue
is the
Issue

U.S. Diet

Japanese Diet



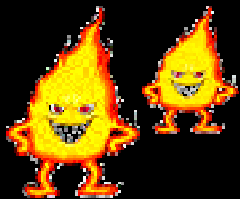
PLA₂

Aspirin
Other drugs
>\$ 10 Billion

~~COX 1-2~~

PGE₂

TXA₂



Thrombosis

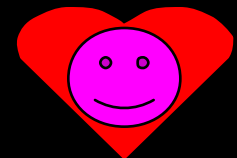


Gene
Expression

COX 1-2

PGE₃

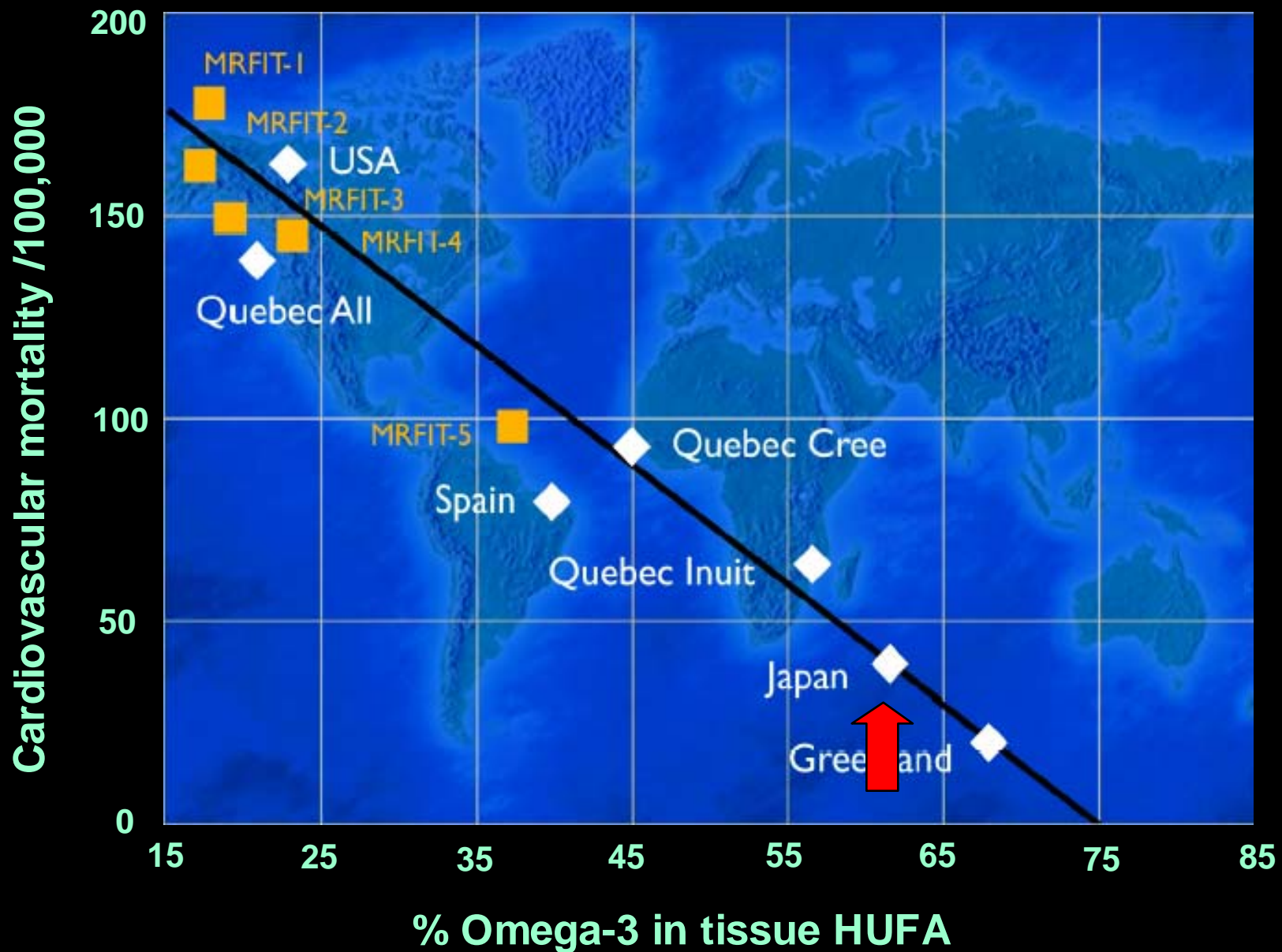
TXA₃



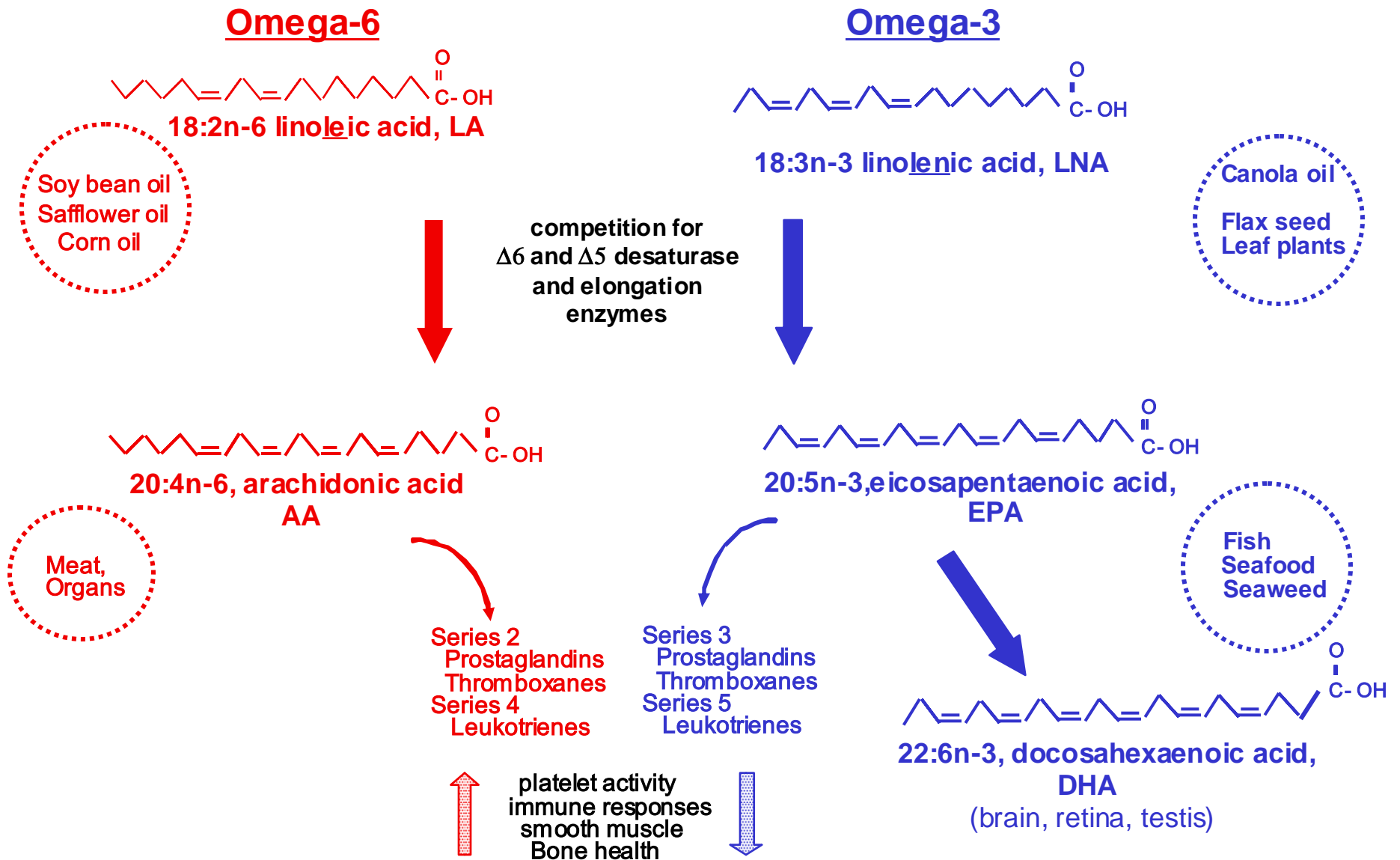
↓SREP1

↓ Triglycerides

Cardiovascular deaths and Omega-3 in tissues

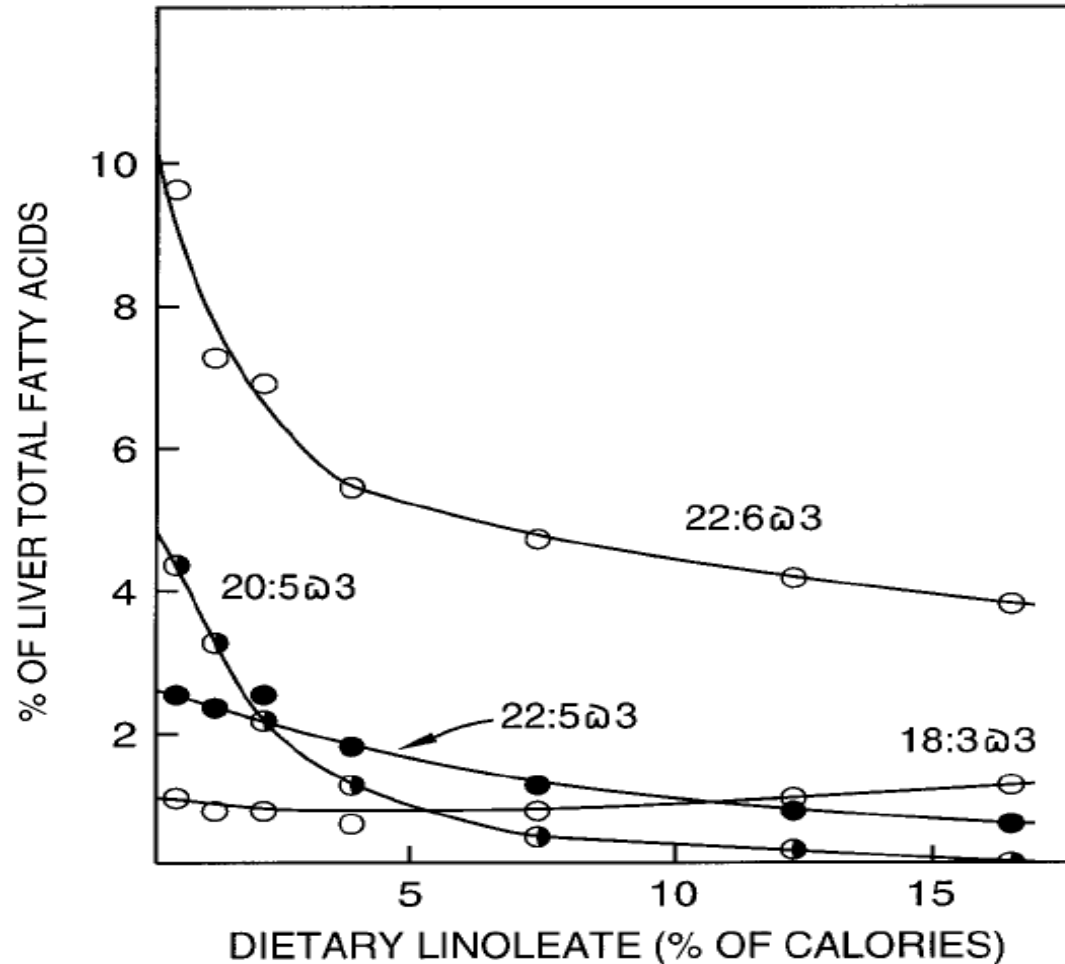


Essential Fats: Metabolism and Dietary Sources



Dietary LA (18:2n-6) reduces tissue DHA and EPA

Molhauer and Holman, 1963



Ralph T. Holman J. Nutr. 128: 427S-433S, 1998.

The Slow Discovery of the Importance of ω-3 Essential Fatty Acids in Human Health

	Tissue target	Concurrent dietary intake (en%)			n-3 HUFA required to meet tissue target in each country	
COUNTRY	% n-3 in LCFA	LA	α-LNA	AA	(en%)²	(mg/d)³
Philippines	60%	0.80	0.08	0.06	0.125	278
Denmark	60%	2.23	0.33	0.09	0.45	1000
Iceland	60%	2.48	0.33	0.10	0.54	1200
Colombia	60%	3.21	0.24	0.04	0.51	1133
Ireland	60%	3.57	0.42	0.06	0.62	1378
UK	60%	3.91	0.77	0.07	0.72	1600
Netherlands	60%	4.23	0.28	0.08	0.88	1956
Australia	60%	4.71	0.49	0.07	0.90	2000
Italy	60%	5.40	0.51	0.06	0.95	2111
Germany	60%	5.57	0.62	0.06	1.00	2222
Bulgaria	60%	7.02	0.06	0.05	1.25	2778
Israel	60%	7.79	0.67	0.07	1.45	3222
USA	60%	8.91	1.06	0.08	1.65	3667

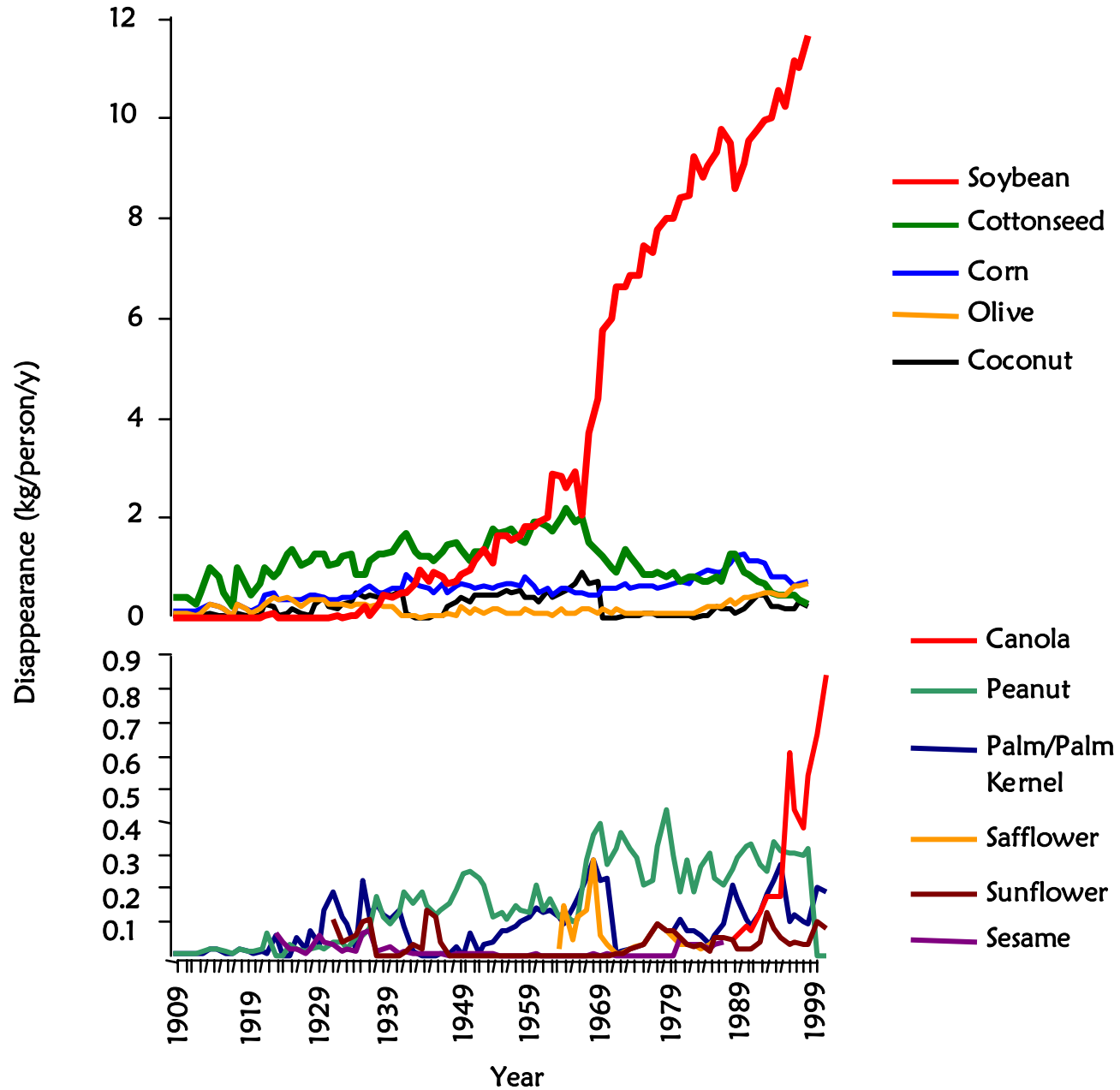
Hibbeln et al Am J Clin Nutr 2006; 83; 1483S-93S

Dietary intakes of long chain omega-3 fats vary more than 10-fold necessary to achieve Japanese tissue levels (98% protection) of long chain omega-3 fatty acids

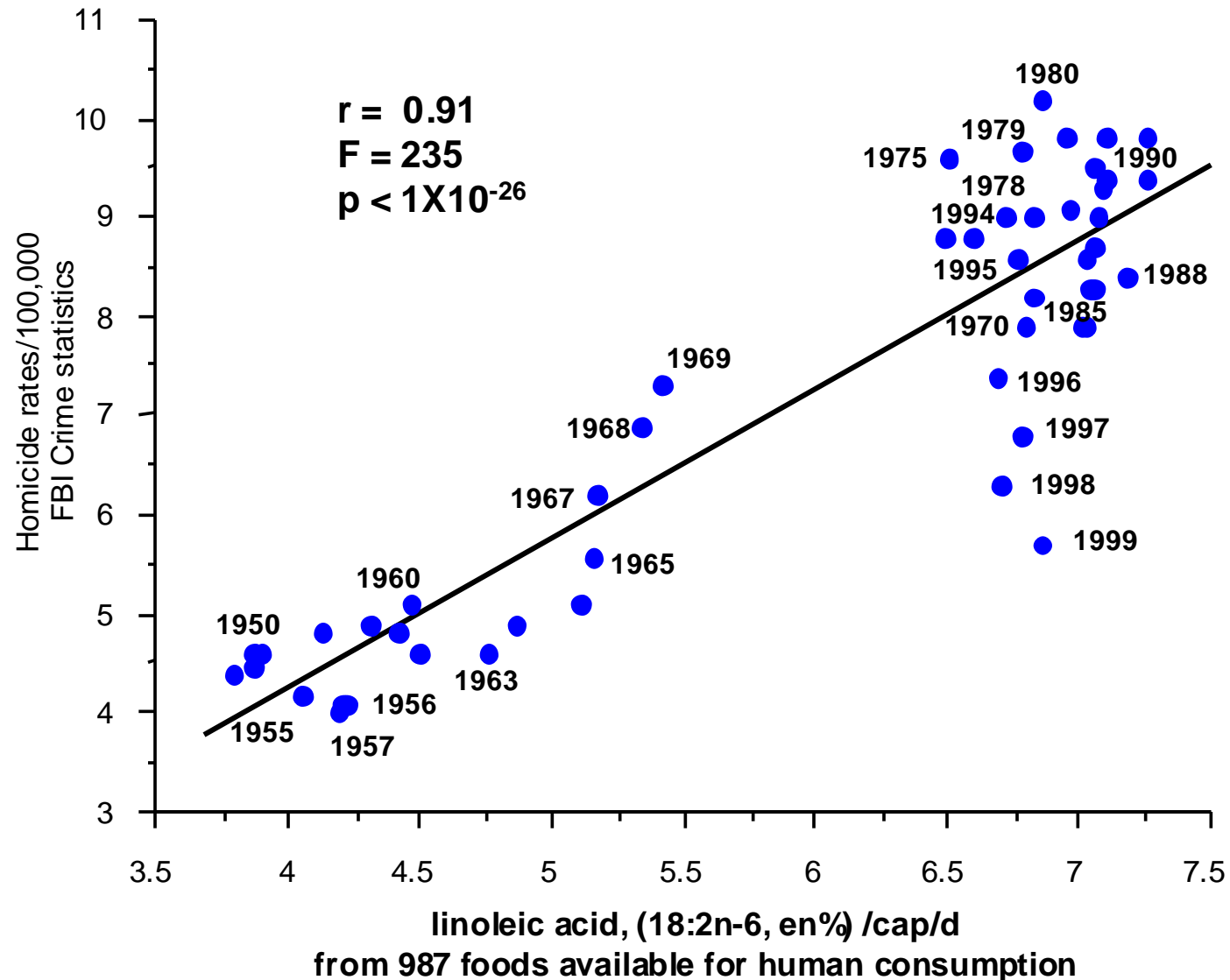
This variation is due to greater background intakes of linoleic acid (omega-6).

Lowering linoleic acid intakes from seed oils can reduce the burden on fisheries.

Oilseeds in the US Food Supply in the 20th Century

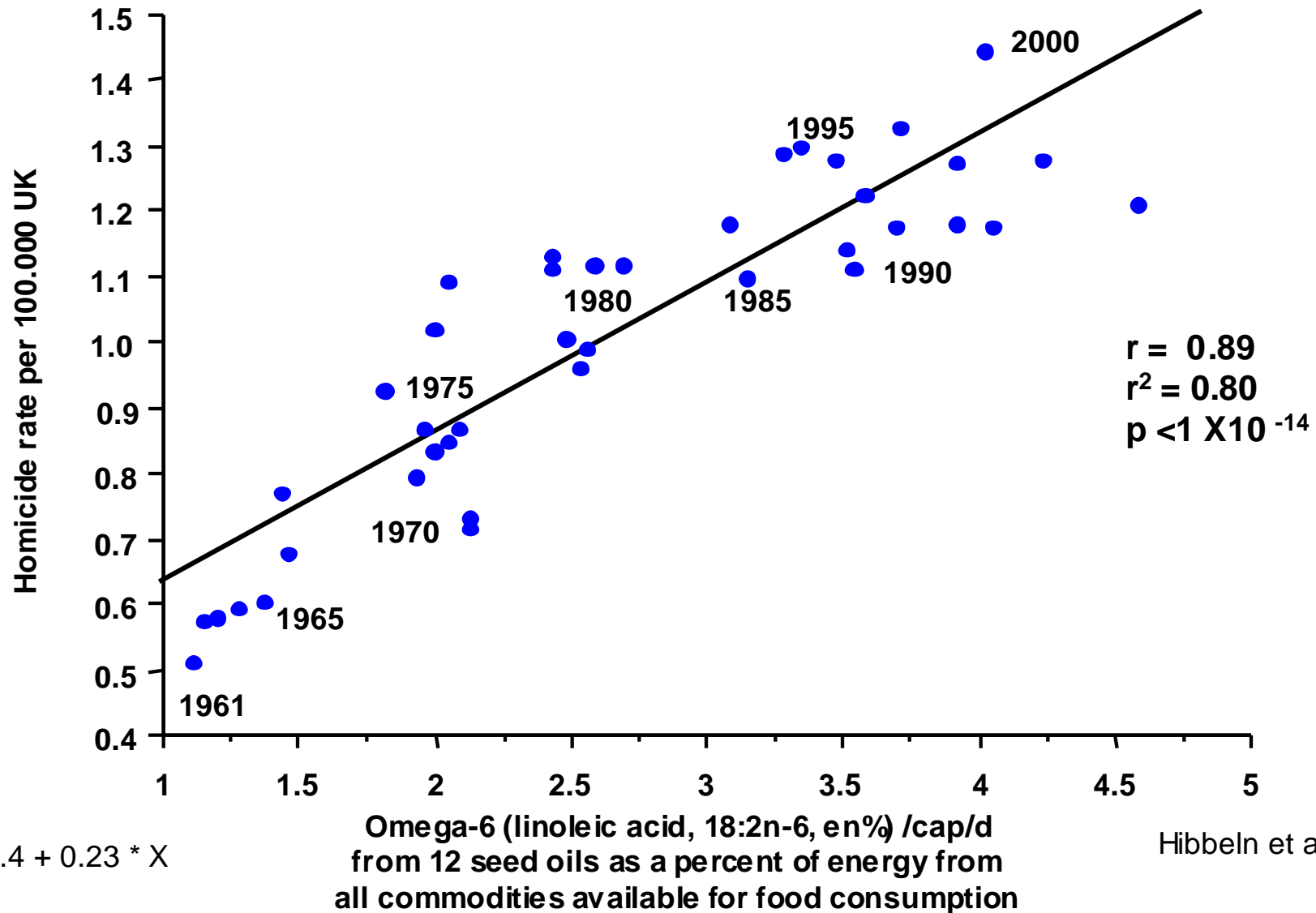


Homicide mortality in the United States from 1950 to 1999 and availability of omega-6 fatty acids (18:2n-6) in the food supply



Hibbeln and Lands unpublished

Homicide mortality in the United Kingdom and availability of Omega-6 fats (18:2n-6) in the food supply 1961-2000

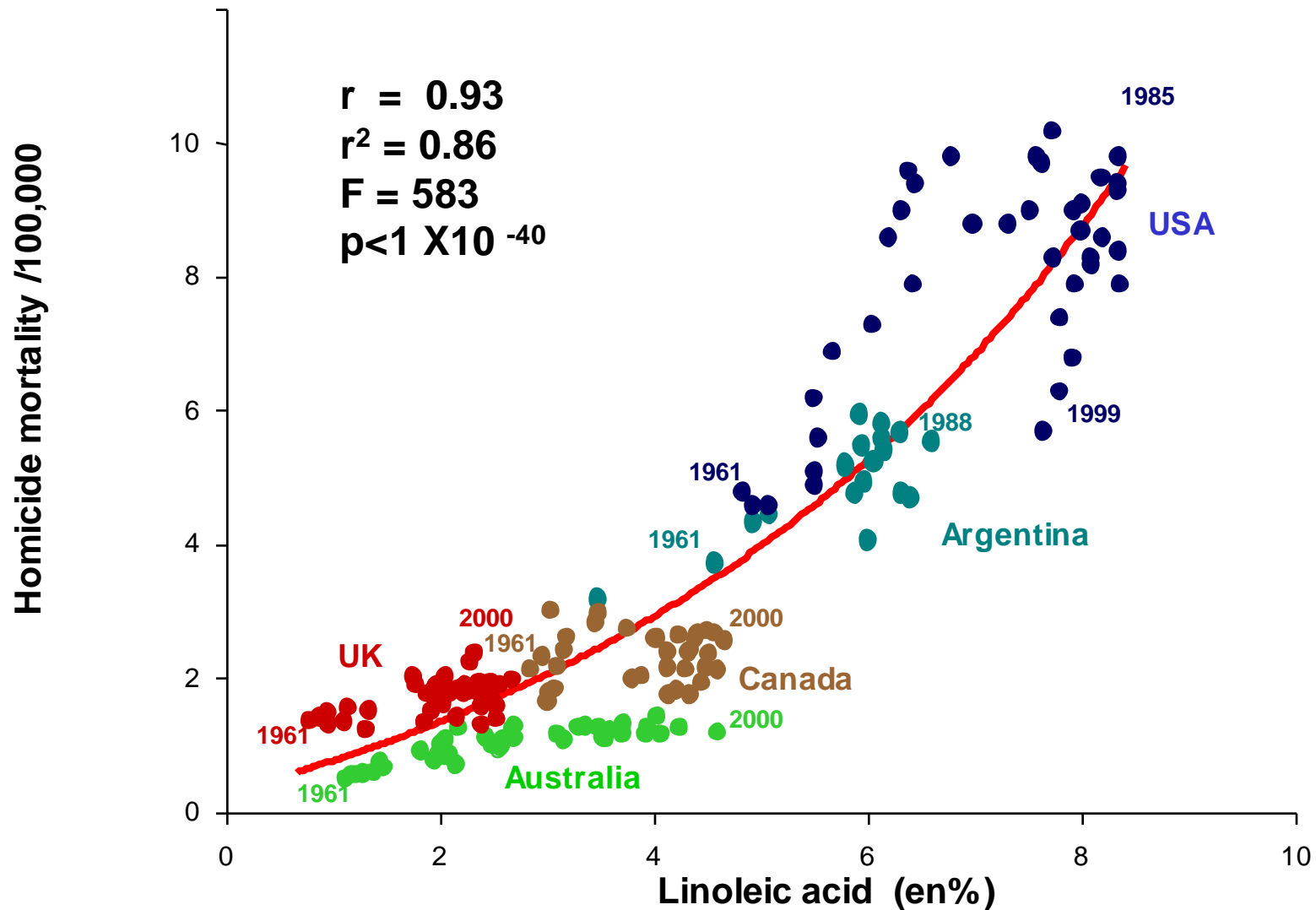


$Y = 0.4 + 0.23 * X$

Hibbeln et al 2004

Homicide mortality and availability of linoleic acid (en%)

Combined **Australia**, **United Kingdom**, **Canada**
Argentina and **USA** data from 1961-2000

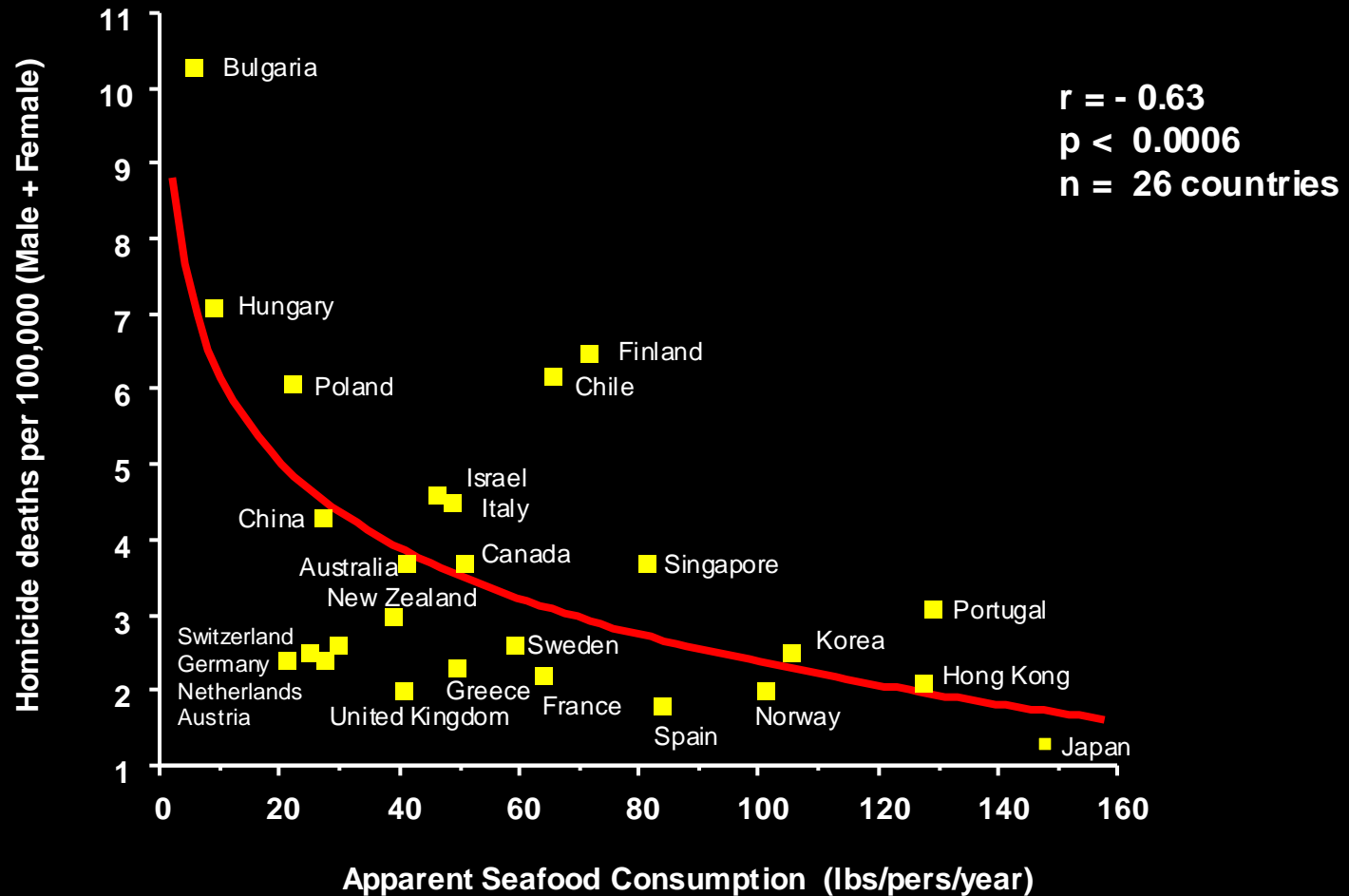


[from 12 seed oils as en% of all commodities available for food consumption]

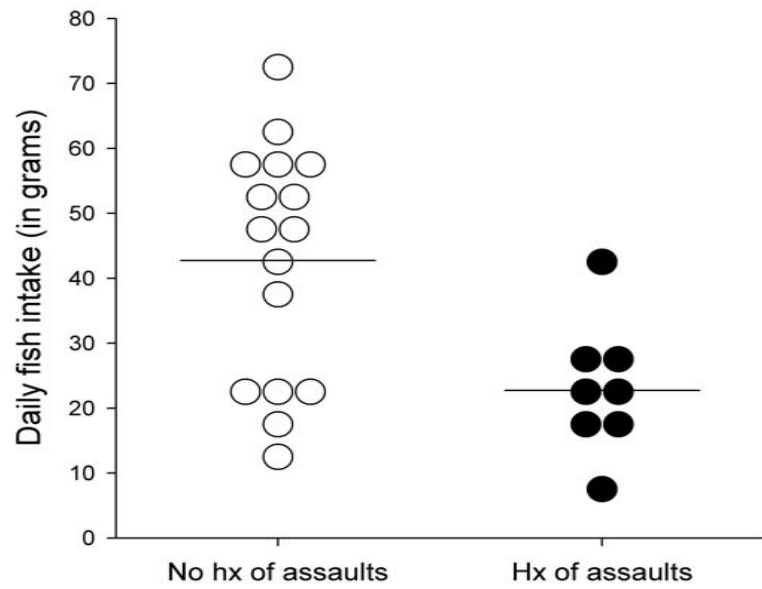
$f=y_0+a*\exp(b*x)$ $y_0 = -1.98207$ $a = 2.14258$ $b = 0.203595$

Hibbeln et al 2004

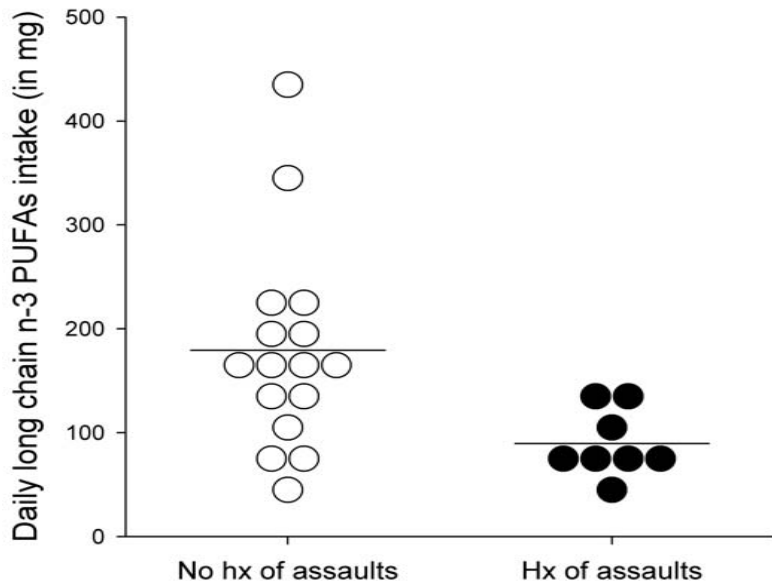
Homicide Mortality Rates¹ and Seafood Consumption



¹World Health Statistics Annual 1995, WHO, Geneva Switzerland Hibbeln, JR World Rev Nutr Diet, 2001; 88; 41-46

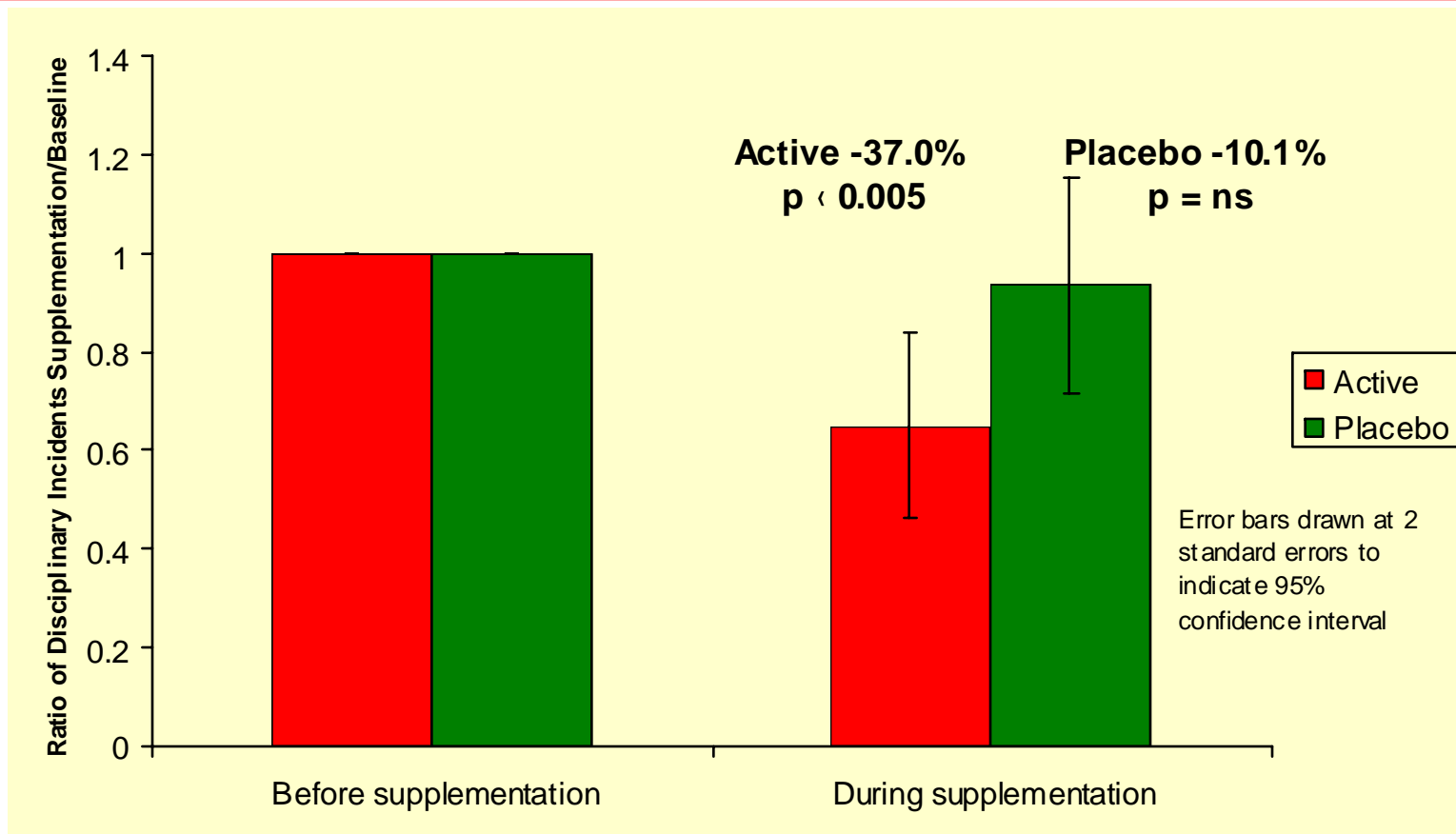


Low seafood consumption and greater lifetime history of assaults among polysubstance abusers



Branchey, Hibbeln et al in press 2007

Reductions in felony level violent offences among prisoners in placebo controlled trial of recommended daily amounts of vitamins, minerals and essential fatty acids



338 offences among 172 prisoners over 9 months treatment in a UK maximum security prison compared to 9 months baseline.
Analysis: Negative binomial mixed Poisson regression analysis
Gesch et al. Br J Psychiatry 2002, 181:22-28

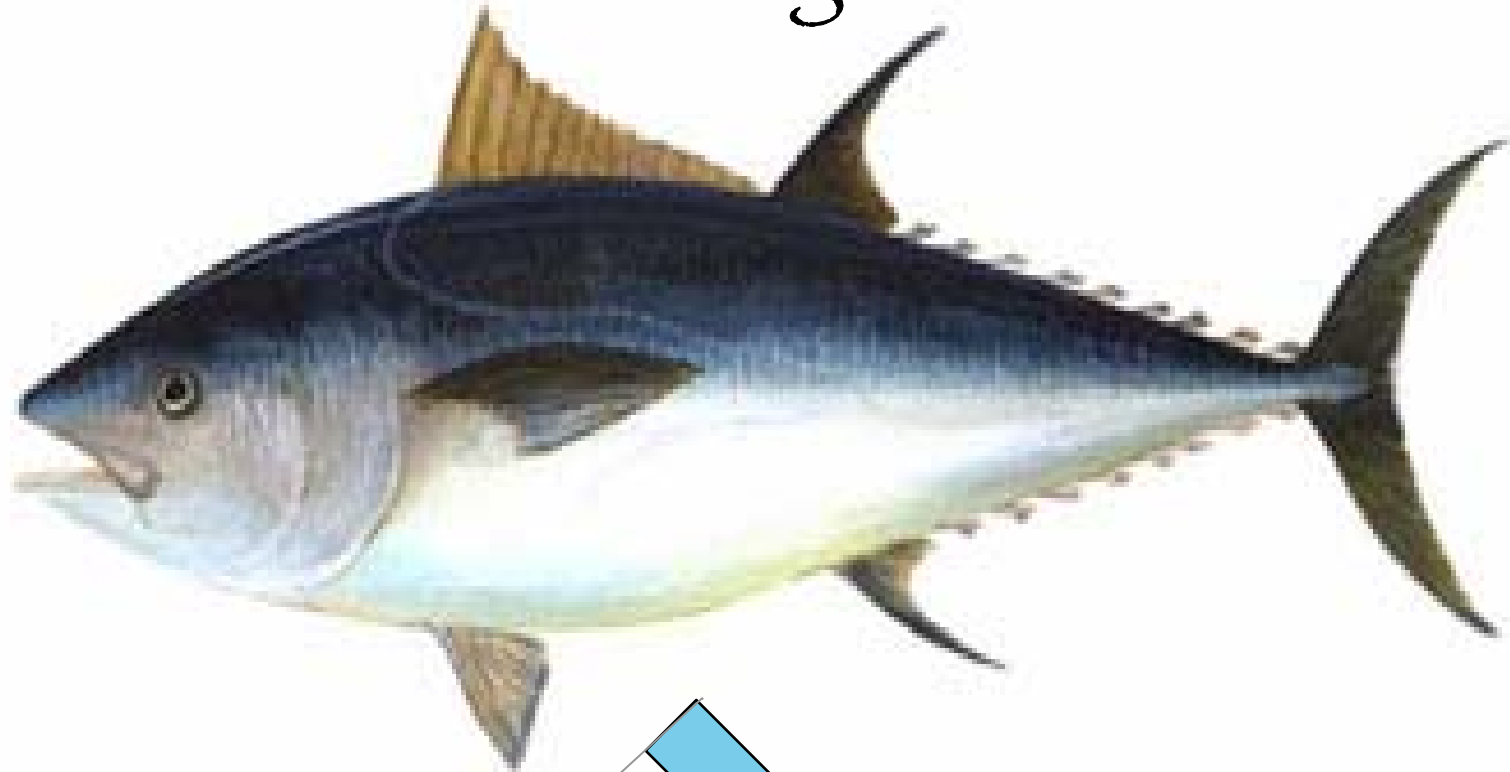
Thank you

	Tissue target	Concurrent dietary intake(en%)¹			n-3 HUFA required to meet tissue target	
COUNTRY	% n-3 in HUFA	LA	LNA	AA	(en%)²	(mg/d)³
Philippines	50%	0.80	0.08	0.06	0.06	133
Denmark	50%	2.23	0.33	0.09	0.26	578
Iceland	50%	2.48	0.33	0.10	0.31	689
Colombia	50%	3.21	0.24	0.04	0.30	667
Ireland	50%	3.57	0.42	0.06	0.36	800
UK	50%	3.91	0.77	0.07	0.39	867
Netherlands	50%	4.23	0.28	0.08	0.50	1111
Australia	50%	4.71	0.49	0.07	0.51	1133
Italy	50%	5.40	0.51	0.06	0.56	1244
Germany	50%	5.57	0.62	0.06	0.57	1267
Bulgaria	50%	7.02	0.06	0.05	0.73	1622
Israel	50%	7.79	0.67	0.07	0.85	1889
USA	50%	8.91	1.06	0.08	0.98	2178

Hibbeln et al Am J Clin Nutr 2006; 83; 1483S-93S

Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus Thynnus*)

200 kg



~ 0.01 gm
methyl mercury

~ 2,500 gm
long chain omega-3's



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
and
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



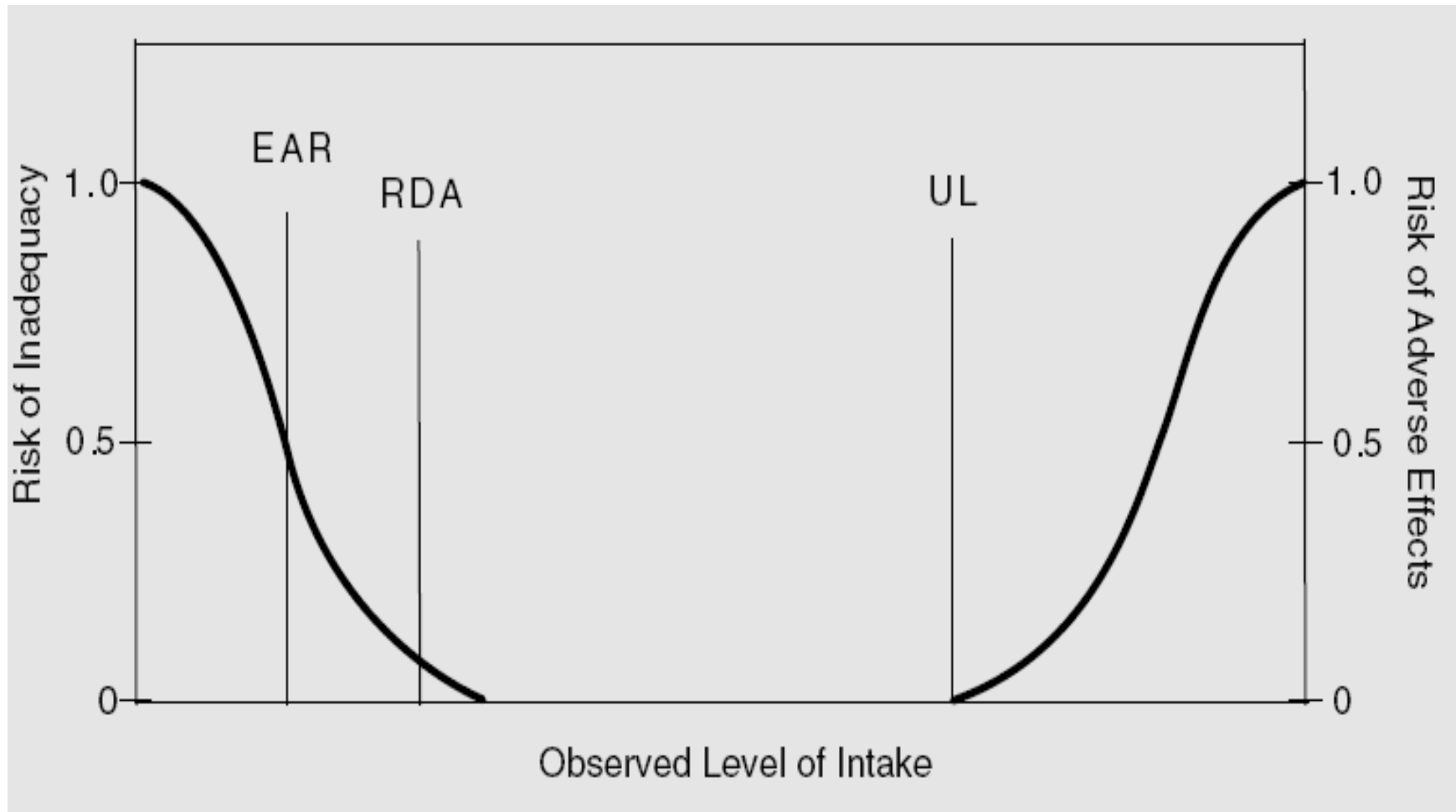
What You Need to Know About Mercury in Fish and Shellfish

2004 EPA and FDA Advice For: Women Who Might Become Pregnant, Women Who are Pregnant Nursing Mothers and Young Children

Fish and shellfish are an important part of a healthy diet. Fish and shellfish contain high-quality protein and other essential nutrients, are low in saturated fat, and contain omega-3 fatty acids. A well-balanced diet that includes a variety of fish and shellfish can contribute to heart health and children's proper growth and development. So, women and young children in particular should include fish or shellfish in their diets due to the many **nutritional benefits**.

However, nearly all fish and shellfish contain traces of mercury. For most people, the risk from mercury by eating fish and shellfish is not a health concern. Yet, some fish and shellfish contain higher levels of mercury that may harm an unborn baby or young child's developing nervous system. The **risks from mercury** in fish and shellfish depend on the amount of fish and shellfish eaten and the levels of mercury in the fish and shellfish.

March 2004 EPA-823-R-04-005



Dietary Reference Intakes: Guiding Principles for Nutrition Labeling and Fortification Committee on Use of Dietary Reference Intakes in Nutrition Labeling. National Academies Press, 2003

Toxicological risk of methyl-mercury: benchmark equation (exposure from pilot whale)

Equation used for the 2004 EPA/FDA Seafood Advisory

$$P(\mathbf{x}) = Pr(Y > C|\mathbf{x}) = 1 - Pr(Y \leq C|\mathbf{x}) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{C - \mu(\mathbf{x})}{\sigma}\right).$$

+ 10-fold uncertainty factor added to minimize exposure risk

Personal communication Louise Ryan, Ph.D. 05 OCT 2004
for the NAS committee on the Toxicology of Methyl-Mercury

**Nutritional benefits of seafood:
Equation used for the 2004 EPA/FDA Seafood Advisory**

None

Is the 2004 EPA and FDA
advisory effective in
preventing risk of poor verbal
development?

Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC)

Recruited **14,541 pregnant mothers**, the largest and most complete longitudinal study in the world.

- Enrollment included every pregnancy between April 1st 1991 and December 31st 1992 in Avon (Southwest of London, UK)
- Children are now between 11.5 and 15 years of age
- Participants mail in questionnaires every 6 months
- 1,500 children have been seen in clinics every year since birth
- 85% of children have been seen in clinics every year starting at age 7
- Collaboration with **John M. Davis, M.D. Univ. of Illinois**
- **Jean Golding, Ph.D., Pauline Emmett, Ph.D.- ALSPAC study group**

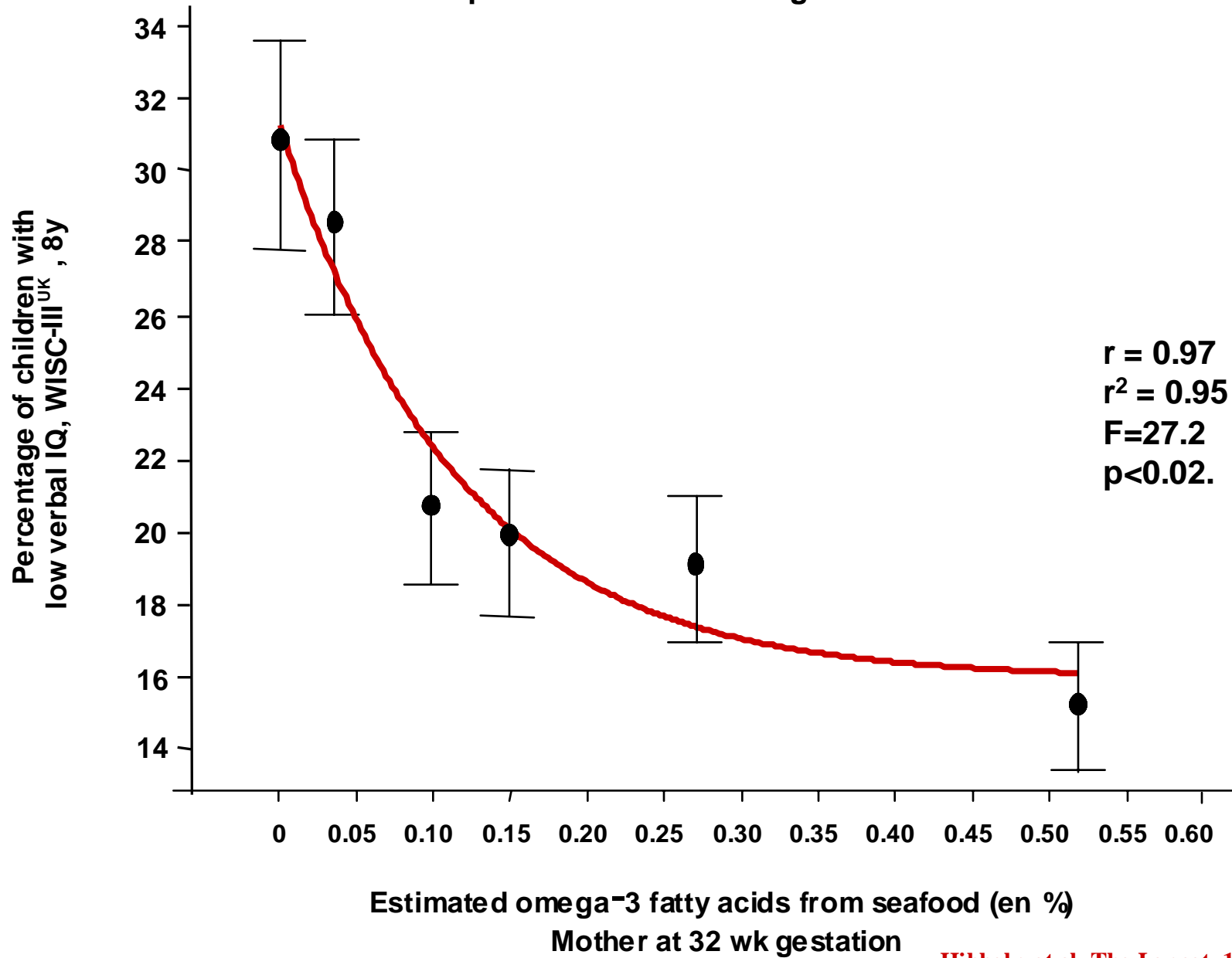
Maternal seafood consumption at 32 wk gestation

How often nowadays do you eat?	White fish (cod, haddock, plaice, fish fingers, etc.)	Dark or Oily fish (tuna, sardines, pilchards, mackerel, herring, kippers, trout, salmon, etc.)	Shellfish (prawns, crabs, cockles, mussels ect.).
One portion Composition of based on typical consumption patterns of women in England	+50g of fried plaice in batter +30g of baked cod fillets +30g of fried haddock in crumbs +20g of grilled fish fingers	+60g of tuna canned in brine +12g of homemade salmon fish cakes +10g of canned pink salmon +8g of brown trout +5g of steamed salmon +5g of sardines canned in oil +5g of pilchards canned in tomato sauce +3g of sardines canned in tomato sauce	+43g of scampi, bread-crumbed and fried +21g of canned crab +10g of boiled mussels +15g of boiled prawns
Omega-3	0.32 g	0.89 g	0.34 g

Never / rarely	once in 2 wk	1–3 times per wk	4–7 times per wk	more than once a day
0 portions/wk	0.5 portions/wk	2 portions/wk	5.5 portions/wk	10 portions/wk
0 gm/w	86 g/wk	347 g/wk	951 g/wk	1730 gm/wk

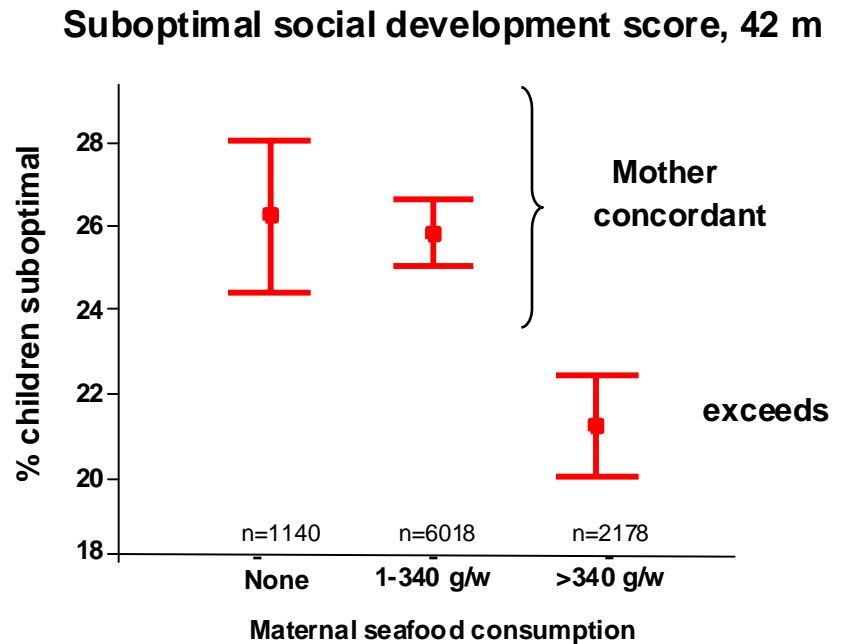
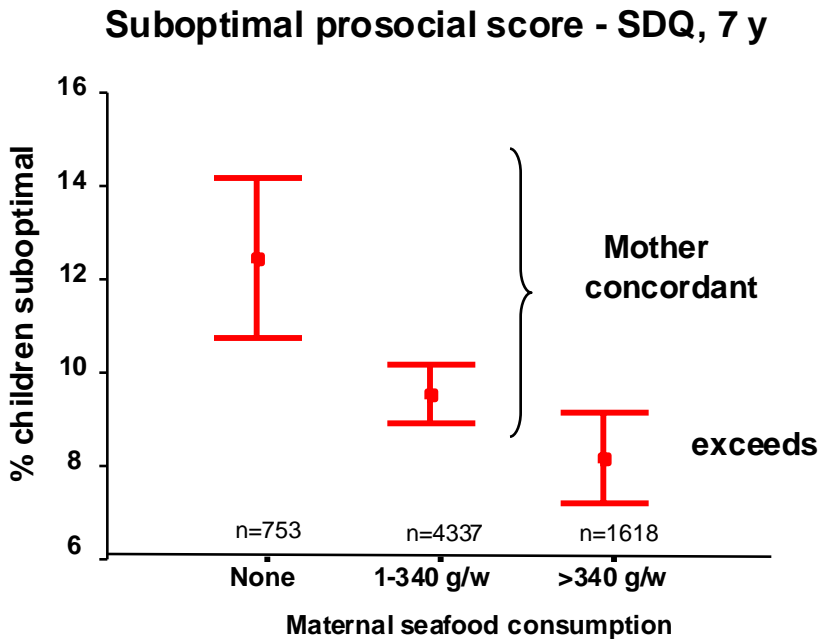
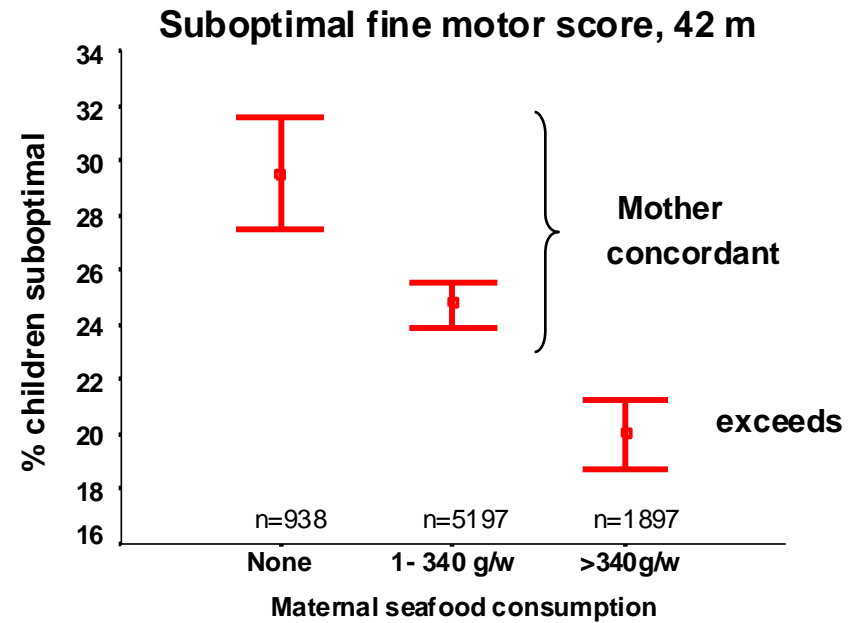
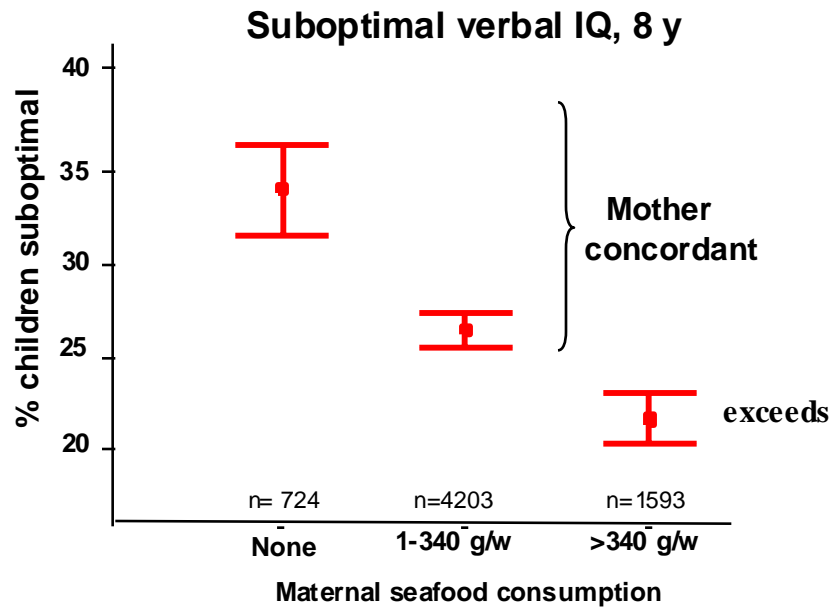
Hibbeln et al the Lancet Feb 17, 2007

Low maternal omega-3 consumption from seafood and suboptimal verbal IQ among their children



Hibbeln et al, The Lancet, 17 Feb 2007

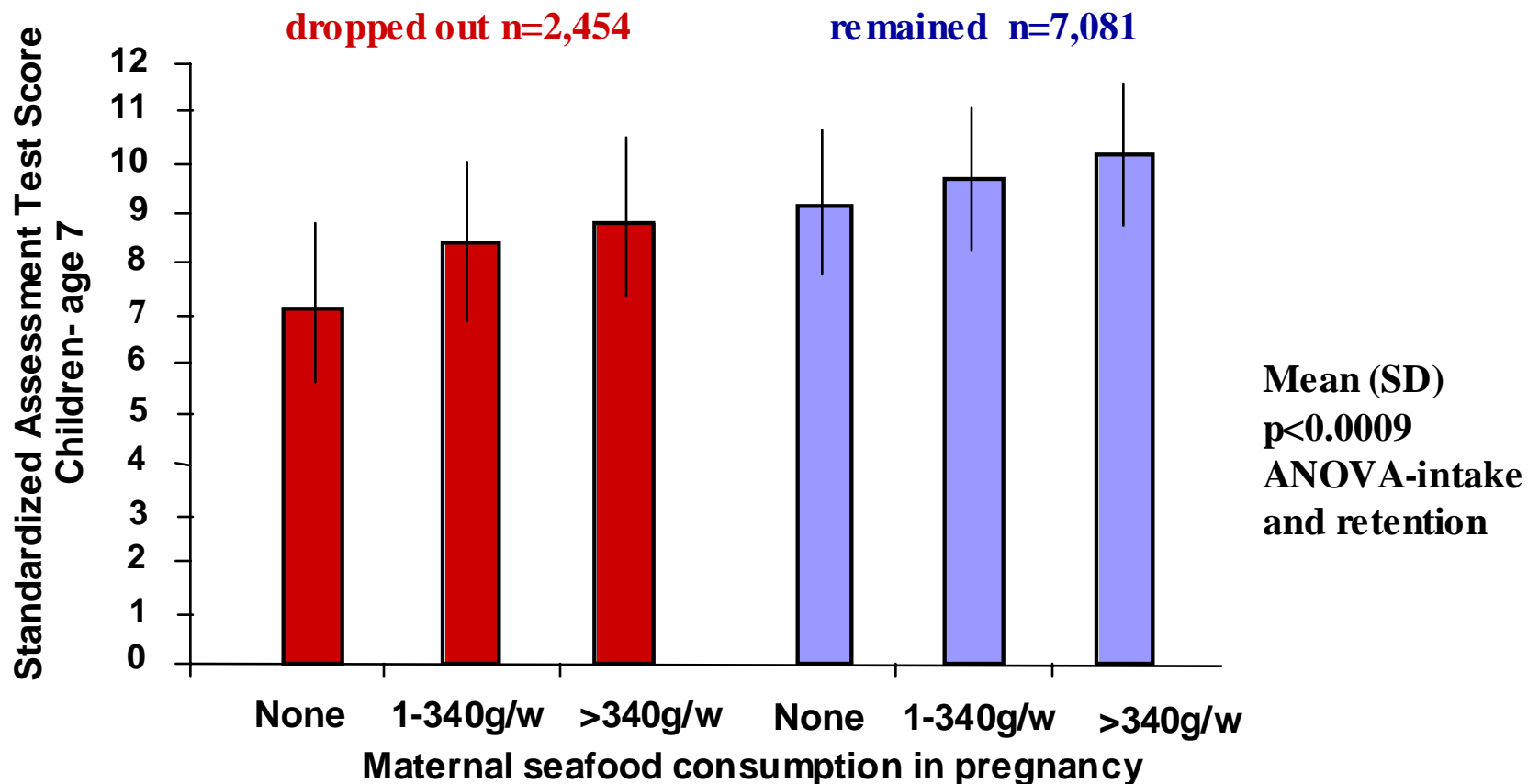
Figure 1



Hibbeln et al, The Lancet, Feb 17 2007

Attrition bias?

Disproportionate attrition of low seafood/disadvantaged families
SATs tests for all British public schools students, regardless of cohort dropout



Attrition underestimates the effects of low seafood consumption on cognition.

Hibbeln et al, The Lancet 17 Feb 2007

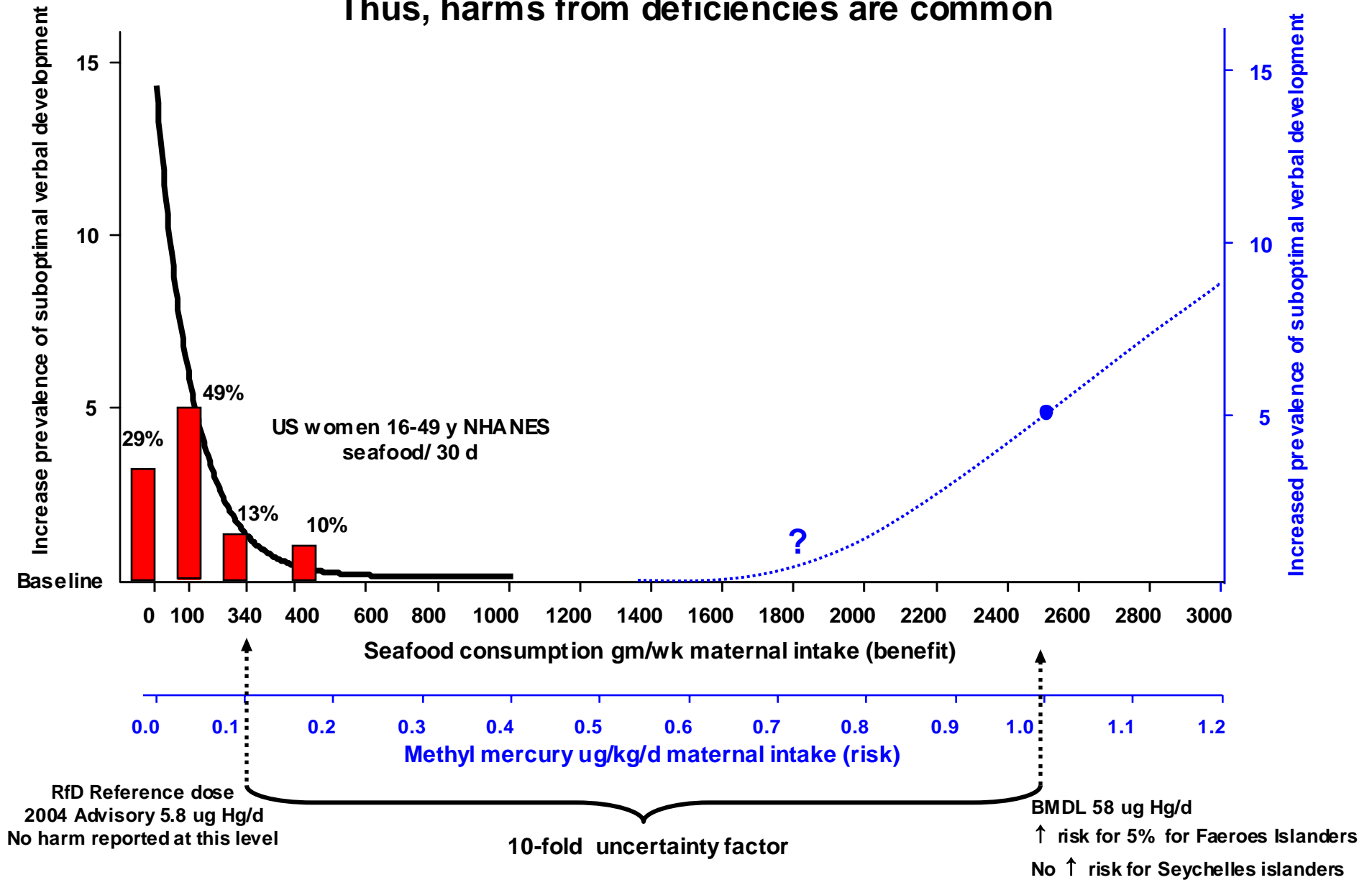
**Verbal IQ by WISC-III ^{UK} at age 8 and
concordance or excess of the advisory limit (>340 g/w)
Effect of multivariate adjustment**

WISC	n	None vs. Exceeds (df=1)			Low vs. Exceeds (df=1)			3 group trend
		OR	95% CI	p	OR	95% CI	p	p
unadjusted	5,407	2.16	1.72-2.71	0.001	1.43	1.21-1.68	0.001	0.0001
28 cofactors	5,407	1.48	1.16-1.90	0.002	1.09	0.92-1.29	0.06	0.004
28+ MeHg	5,407	1.90	1.16-1.90	0.001	1.34	1.05-1.72	0.01	0.0001

Risk of being in the lowest quartile of the cohort.

Hibbeln et al, The Lancet 17 Feb 2007

**Harms from methyl-mercury in seafood are rare (no attributable risk at the RfD).
 In contrast most women consume insufficient amounts of seafood
 Thus, harms from deficiencies are common**



ALSPAC Summary

1. Maternal limitation of seafood consumption to $<340\text{g/w}$ during pregnancy did not protect children from adverse outcomes.
2. In contrast, this observational study showed beneficial effects on child development when maternal seafood intakes exceeded 340 g/w , with no upper limit of benefit.
3. These findings were robust after adjustment for multiple potential confounders.
4. These data indicate that advice for mothers to limit seafood intake during pregnancy is detrimental.

Hibbeln et al, The Lancet 17 Feb 2007

Suicide ?

Deliberate Self-Harm

- Subjects n= 49
- Recruited from a Dublin emergency room
- 12 week, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial
- 2.1 g/d, (1.2 g/d EPA, 0.9 g/d DHA)
- (EPAX 5500, Pronova Biocare, Norway)

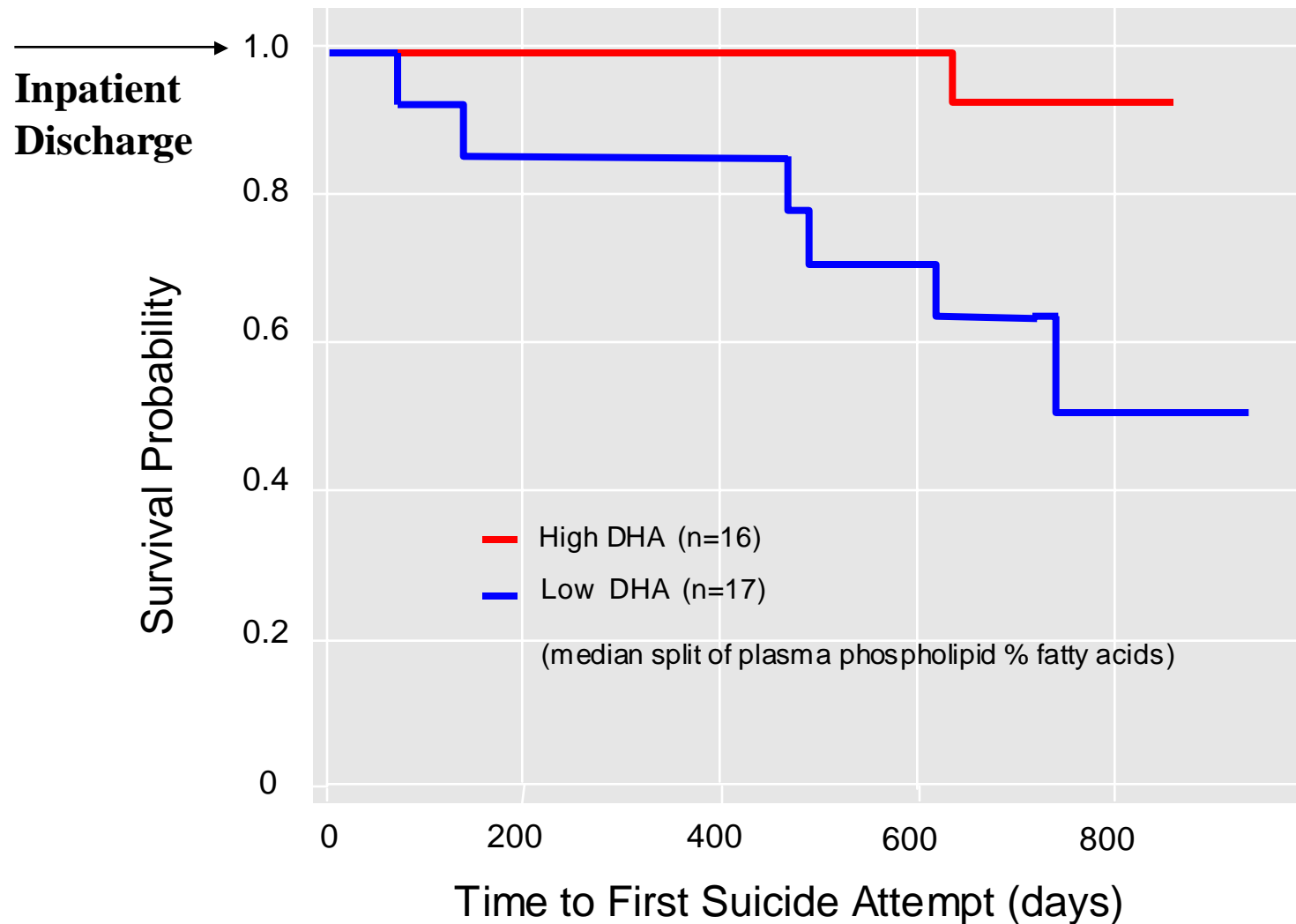
Results

- 50% reduction in depression (Beck)
- 35% reduction in suicidal thinking (OAS)
- 33% reduction in perception of stress (PSS)
- 30% improvement in “happiness” (DHUS)
- (perception of daily events as uplifting)

Hallahan, Hibbeln, Davis, Garland, Br J Psychiatry in press, 2006

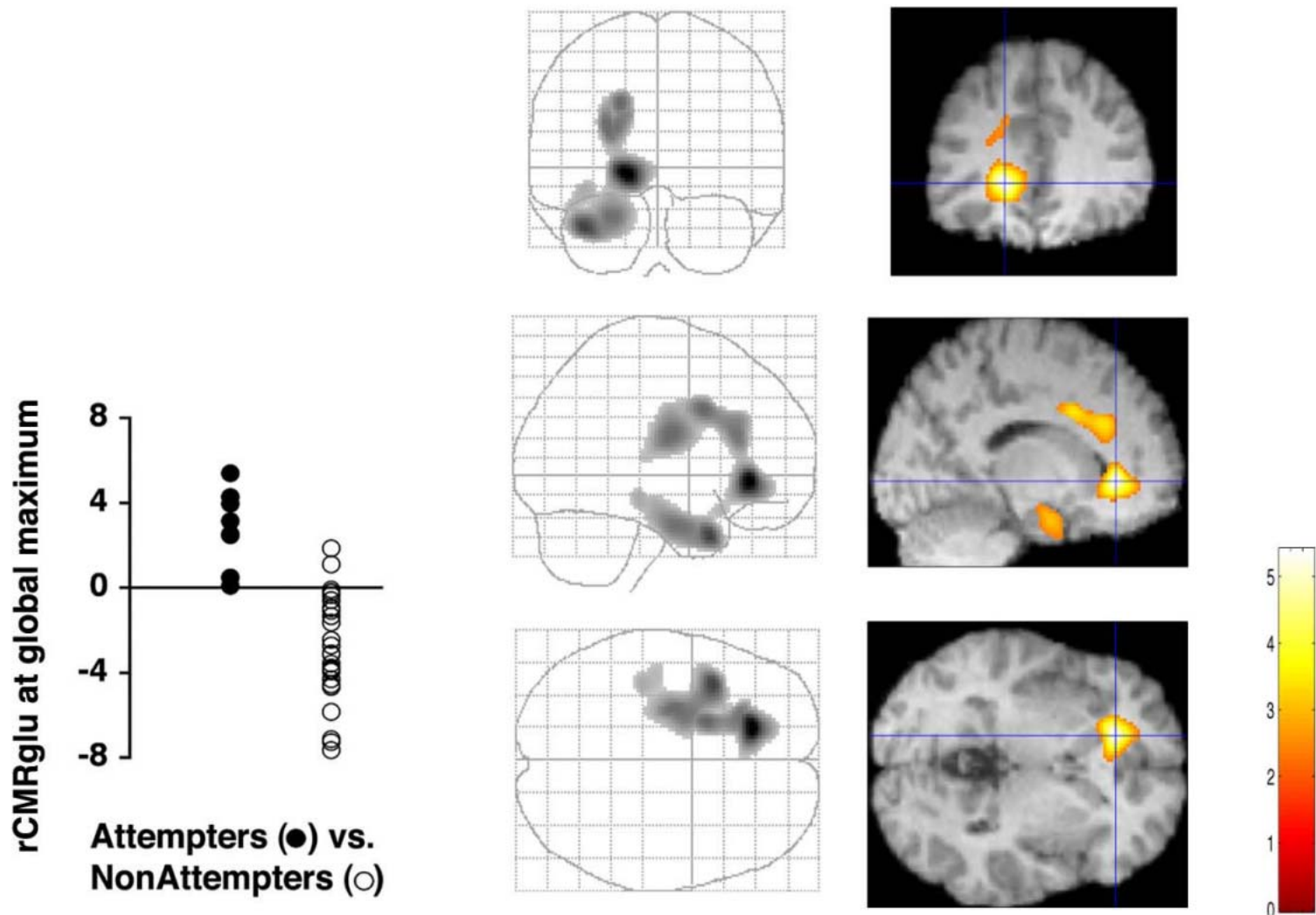
Low Plasma DHA at Baseline Predicts Greater Risk of Future Suicide Attempts

Cox proportional hazard ratio=0.29, $p<0.002$



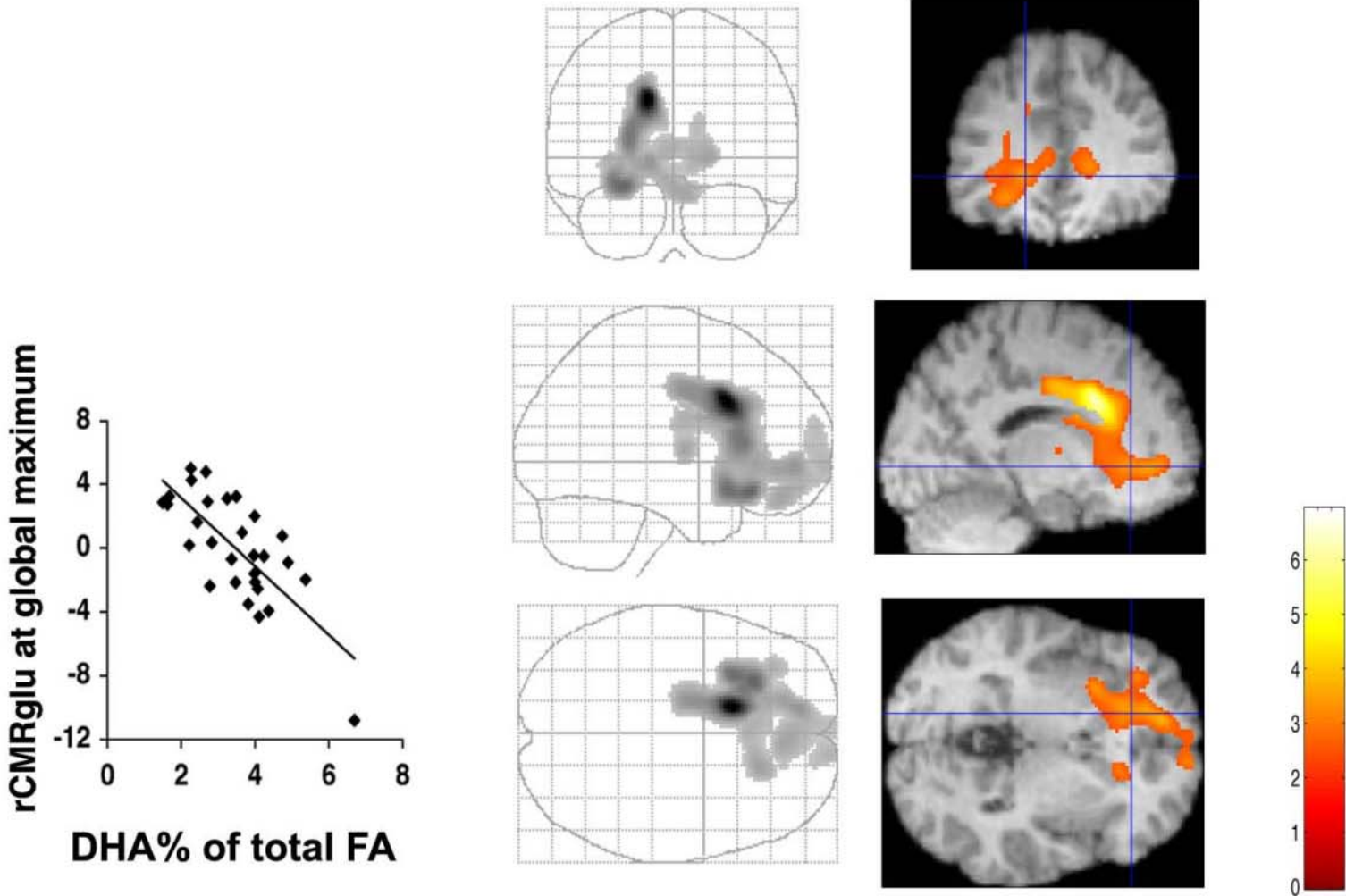
Sublette, Hibbeln et al Am J Psychiatry 2006;163: 1100-1102

Amygdala and Ant. Cingulate hyperactivity predicts future suicide attempts



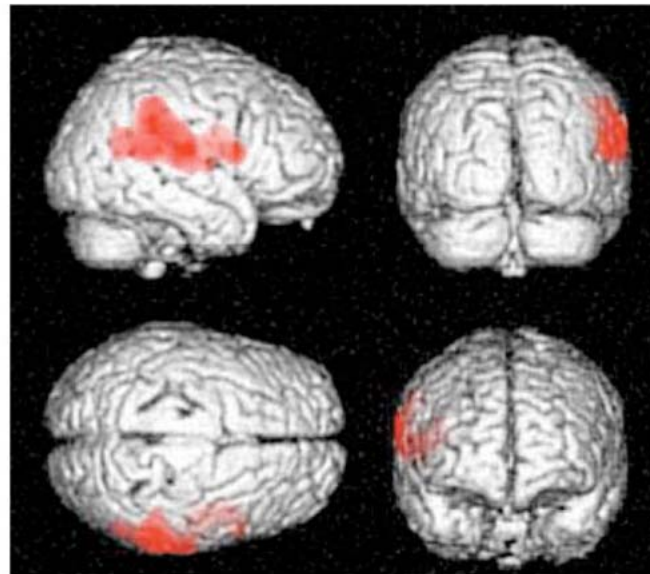
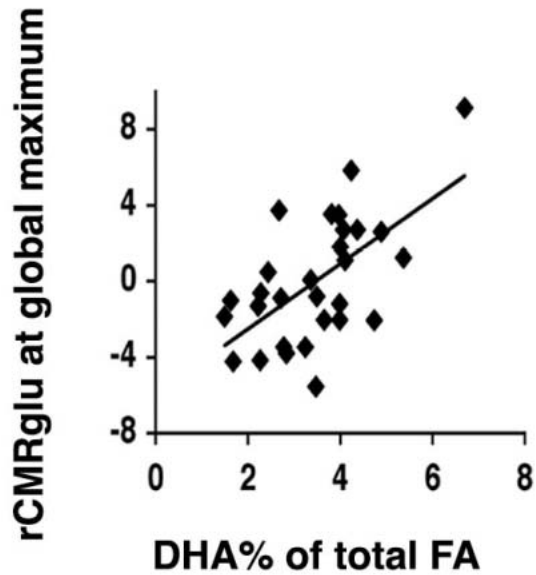
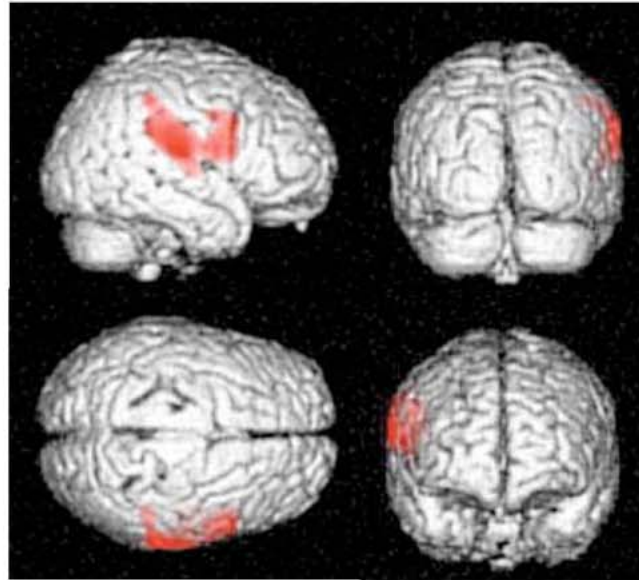
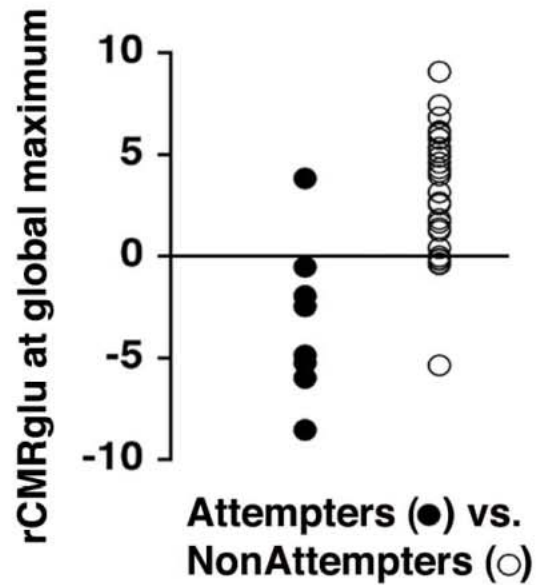
Sublette, Hibbeln, Mann, et al, unpublished 2006

Lower DHA in plasma predicts amygdala and ant cingulate hyperactivity



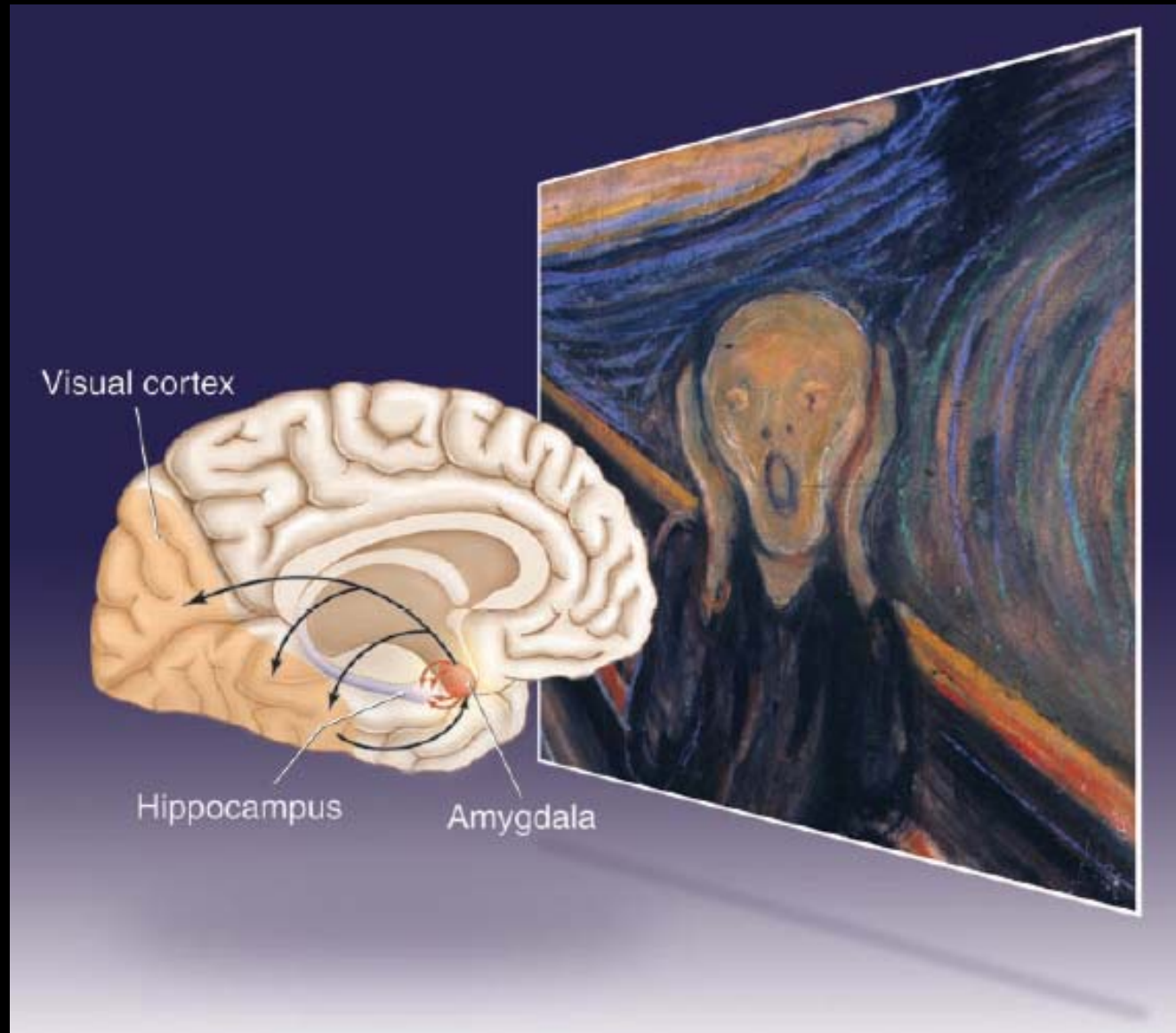
Sublette, Hibbeln, Mann, et al, unpublished 2006

Hypometabolism of parietal/temporal cortex predicts suicide attempts



Low DHA predicts hypometabolism of parietal/temporal cortex

An emotional-perceptual-memory circuit in the human brain.



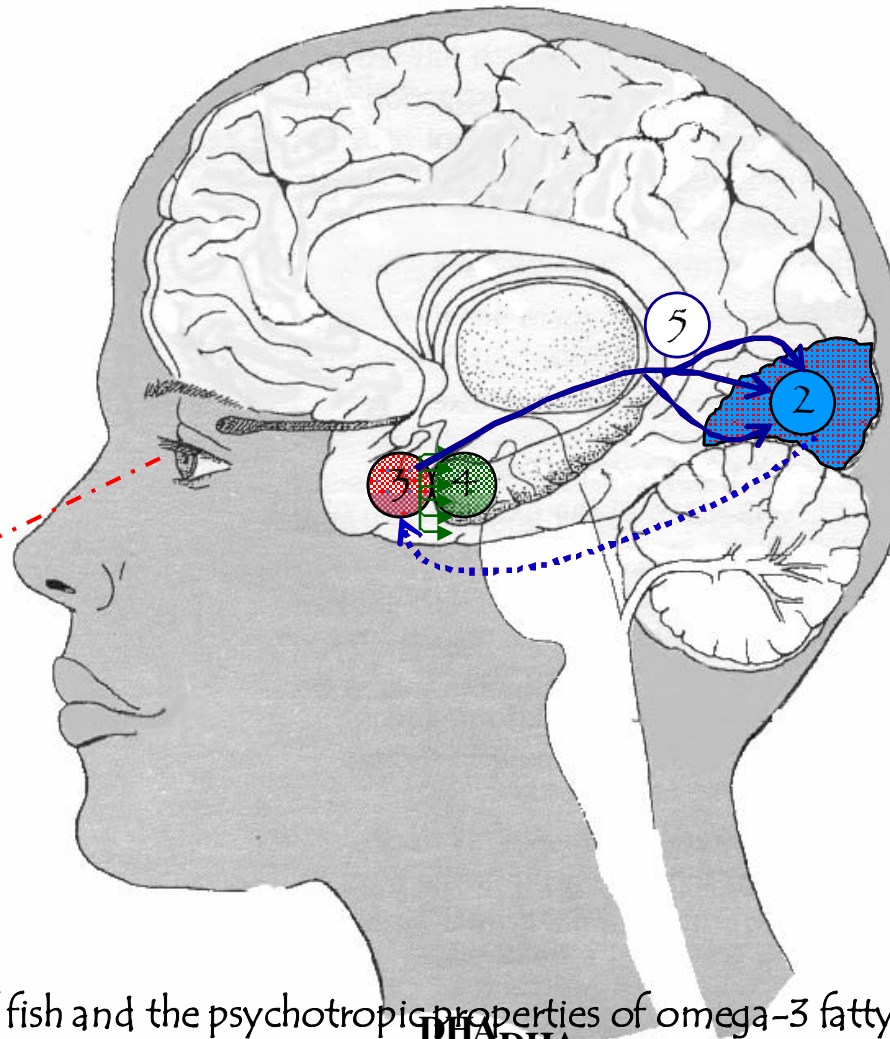
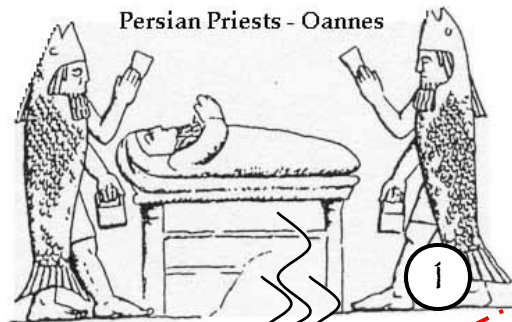
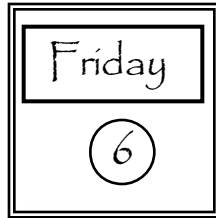
The amygdala (red), an anterior medial temporal lobe structure, is a crucial structure in registering emotional occurrences. Extensive connection (arrows) to visual cortex (orange) and hippocampus (blue) allows amygdala to modulate their function and facilitate perceptual and memory functions in those regions. R.J. Dolan, Science '02



BETTER CHECK
IT FOR
MERCURY
CONTAMINATION.

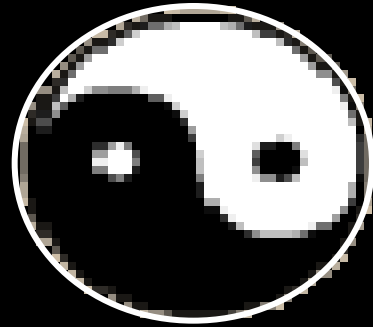


D. PENNY
Palm Beach Post 2007



Good

Cultural symbolism of fish and the psychotropic properties of omega-3 fatty acids
Reis and Hibbeln Prost Leucot Essent Fatty Acids (2006), 75, 227-236



Taoism

Yin/Yang - The fish symbol, represents a central philosophy
Chinese medicine is based in part on balancing the
energies of the body with Yin or Yang foods

Yang foods:

Meats, fried foods, spicy foods, hot

Yin foods:

Grown underground, calming, mild, cold

Seafood, from cold water, is the archetypal yin food

標商錄登

小児がんむしの良劑

本家

大日本長崎市大黒町

篠田辨慶堂藥房

電話二四五八番



製社榮弘 島莊米留久

Medicine for Hot Temper
Early 20th Century

Courtesy Natasha Louder- Science Correspondent The Economist

Shinto



Ebisu is the deity of prosperity in one's occupation. In agricultural villages he is considered a deity of the rice paddies, and in fishing villages he is believed to ensure a good catch. He is also venerated as a deity of the kitchen. Ebisu is usually depicted carrying a sea bream (a symbol of good luck) under his left arm and a fishing rod in his right hand.



1,000 Ebisu having fun

28 Potential Confounding Variables were Uniformly Included in all Logistic Regression Analyses

Individual (categorical) variables

- 1. Sex of the child (m,f),**
- 2. Age of the mother (<, ≥ 20 y),**
- 3. Parity (primiparous, multiparous),**
- 4. Maternal education (<completed O level, rest),**
- 5. Housing status (subsidized public housing, rented, owned/mortgaged),**
- 6. Crowding (≤, > 1 per/room),**
- 7. Stressful life events at 18 w gestation (upper 10%, lower 90% of cohort),
had partner at time of birth (no, yes),**
- 8. Smoking status (never, smoked before but not at 18 w gestation, or still smoking at 18 w gestation),**
- 9. Alcohol use during pregnancy (non-drinker, drank before mid-pregnancy, still drinking mid-pregnancy) and**
- 10. Breastfeeding (none, some) and**
- 11. Ethnicity (White, Black, Asian).**
- 12. Obstetric variables: prematurity (<, > 3 w early) and birth weight (<,> 5 Lbs, 3 oz).**

Composite (continuous) variables

- 13. HOME Score at 6 mo**
- 14. ALSPAC Family Adversity Index (during pregnancy)**

Nutritional variables 12 food groups

Hibbeln et al, The Lancet, Feb 17, 2007

Factors Comprising the ALSPAC Family Adversity Index (ALSPAC - FAI) in Pregnancy

Demographic variables

1. Mother <20 at study delivery
2. Mother <17 at first birth

Housing

3. Became homeless
4. Persons/room >1
5. No sole use of bath or shower
6. No running hot water
7. No indoor toilet
8. No kitchen
9. Mold present
10. Roof leaks
11. Rodents or cockroaches present

Poor financial circumstances

- 12.-16. Derived from 5 questions

Partner relationship

17. No partner
18. No intimate bond
19. No affection
20. High aggression
21. Physically cruel
22. Emotionally cruel
23. No emotional support
24. No practical support
25. Afraid partner might leave

Education

26. Mother has no qualifications
27. Partner has no qualifications

Social network

28. Not able to share feelings
29. No one to discuss problems with
30. No friends to borrow money from in times of trouble
31. No relations to borrow money from in times of trouble

Maternal emotional status

32. Maternal emotional status
33. High anxiety score
34. High depression score
35. Has attempted suicide

Substance abuse

36. Uses hard drugs
37. Has alcohol problem
38. Partner has alcohol problem
39. Drinks > 2 units /day
40. Partner drinks >2 units/day

Crime

42. In trouble with police
43. Convicted of an offence
44. Partner in trouble with police

**FAI and HOME scores are composite scores
included in multiple logistic regression analyses**

Hibbeln et al, The Lancet, Feb 2007

IQ by WISC-III ^{UK} at age 8 and concordance or excess of the advisory limit (>340 g/w)

WISC	n	None vs. Exceeds (df=1)			Low vs. Exceeds (df=1)			3 group trend
		OR	95% CI	p	OR	95% CI	p	p
Full scale	5,262	1.29	0.99-1.69	0.06	1.19	0.99-1.42	0.06	0.04
Performance	5,402	0.98	0.76-1.27	ns	0.99	0.84-1.18	ns	ns
Verbal	5,407	1.48	1.16-1.90	0.002	1.09	0.92-1.29	0.06	0.004

Risk of being in the lowest quartile of the cohort.

Adjusted for 28 potential confounding variables in multivariate logistic regression analyses.

Hibbeln et al, The Lancet 17 Feb 2007

Motor/ Social/ Communications Development and concordance or excess of the advisory limit (>340 g/w)

		None vs. Exceeds (df=1)				Low vs. Exceeds (df=1)			3 group trend
		n	OR	95%CI	p	OR	95%CI	p	p
Fine motor	6 m	8746	1.01	0.83-1.23	ns	1.12	0.99-1.28	0.08	ns
	18 m	8228	1.25	1.04-1.51	0.02	1.09	0.96-1.23	ns	0.02
	30 m	7728	1.04	0.85-1.27	ns	1.04	0.91-1.19	0.02	ns
	42 m	7596	1.35	1.09-1.66	0.005	1.14	0.98-1.31	ns	0.005
Social Development	6 m	8743	1.15	0.95-1.40	ns	1.01	0.89-1.16	ns	ns
	18 m	8226	1.01	0.83-1.24	ns	1.01	0.88-1.15	ns	ns
	30 m	7711	1.24	1.01-1.53	0.04	1.12	0.98-1.29	ns	0.03
	42 m	7592	1.21	0.98-1.50	0.07	1.17	1.01-1.35	0.03	0.04
Communications Development	6 m	8745	1.30	1.04-1.63	0.02	1.15	0.98-1.35	0.08	0.02
	18 m	8237	1.26	1.03-1.53	0.02	1.02	0.90-1.17	ns	0.05

Risk of being in the lowest quartile of ALSPAC Early Developmental Index. Adjusted for 28 potential confounding variables in logistic regression analyses.

Hibbeln et al, The Lancet, 17 Feb 2007

Behavioral disorders at age 7 and concordance or excess of the advisory limit (>340 g/w)

	n	None vs. Exceeds (df=1)			Low vs. Exceeds (df=1)			3 group trend
		OR	95%CI	p	OR	95%CI	p	p
Total score	6570	1.17	0.86-1.60	ns	0.98	[0.79-1.22]	ns	ns
Peer problems	6581	1.25	0.96-1.62	ns	0.97	[0.80-1.16]	ns	ns
Conduct Disorders	6586	1.21	0.89-1.64	ns	1.01	[0.81-1.25]	ns	ns
Emotional	6582	1.09	0.83-1.44	ns	0.96	[0.80-1.17]	ns	ns
Hyperactivity	3179	1.13	0.84-1.53	ns	0.91	[0.73-1.12]	ns	ns
Prosocial	6582	1.44	1.05-1.97	0.02	1.16	[0.93-1.44]	ns	0.02

Risk of being in the lowest quartile of Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire.
Adjusting for 28 potential confounding variables in logistic regression.

Hibbeln et al, The Lancet 17 Feb 2007