



Cardiovascular Disease Prevention through Dietary Salt Reduction

**First Expert Group Meeting
Hosted by PAHO**

(Washington, D.C., 9-10 September 2010)

About the Expert Group

Simon Barquera is a medical surgeon from the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana in Mexico City with a graduate MS and PhD degrees from the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University in Boston, MA. Throughout his career, he has worked as a consultant for the World Health Organization (WHO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE) in the fields of nutrition, obesity and chronic diseases. He is co-author of several books and scientific papers such as the *Third Report on the World Nutrition Situation* of United Nations, the *Mexican Nutrition Survey 1999 Report* and the *Mexican Health Survey 2000 Report*. In 2003, he was a member of the team that received the Fred L. Soper Award for excellence in health literature for an article characterizing the obesity and nutrition transition situation in Mexico. Currently, Dr. Barquera is President of the Nutrition Board of Professors at the Mexican School of Public Health and head of the Diet and Chronic Diseases Department at the Nutrition and Health Research Center.

Adriana Blanco-Metzler is a researcher and head of the Nutritional Technology Laboratory, Instituto Costarricense de Investigación y Enseñanza en Nutrición y Salud in San José, and Professor at the Food Technology School, University of Costa Rica in San Pedro, Costa Rica. Currently, Ms. Blanco leads the Costa Rican Technical Consultative Commission of Food Nutritional Value (national commission of the Ministry of Health). She is a contributing member of numerous organizations, like the National Public Health Institute, the National Technical Commission of Norms Verification Compliance, and of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses. Ms. Blanco holds a Licentiate in Microbiology and Chemical Chemistry from University of Costa Rica, and received a M.S. Food Science and Technology from the Central American and Panama Nutrition Institute (INCAP), Guatemala.

Ana Beatriz Pinto de Almeida Vasconcellos is a specialist in human nutrition and social policy from the University of Brasília. She is Coordinator of the Nutrition and Special Foods of the Codex Alimentarius in Brasil and representative of the Ministry of Health in the Standing Committee on Nutrition – SCN/UN. Almeida Vasconcellos has contributed to a number of articles and publications among which a Mapping of Government Initiatives for Prevention and Control of Chronic Non communicable in Brasil.

Ezzedine Boutrif is service chief of Food Quality and Standards Service, Food and Nutrition Division, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). In 1974, he received his PhD. Degree in Food Science from Rutgers University, NJ. From 1974 to 1978, he headed the Food Science Department at the Tunisian National Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology and got involved in a number of national projects to enhance the food safety and quality programmes in the country, including, a national survey of mycotoxin contamination in the local food supply. In 1978, he joined FAO as a Food Control Officer within the Food Quality and Standards Service, Food and Nutrition Division. Since then, he held several progressively responsible positions at FAO always dealing with food safety, food quality and consumer protection. He holds currently the post of Chief, Food Quality and Standards Service, responsible for the administration and management of the activities of the Service which includes planning, developing and executing the Organization's approved programme of work in food safety and quality and providing technical assistance to FAO member countries in all areas related to food control, consumer protection, safety assessment of food additives and contaminants, risk analysis, Codex Alimentarius, food handling and food science.

Norm Campbell is a professor of Medicine, Community Health Sciences and Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Calgary and is a member of the Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta. Dr Campbell is currently leading the effort to prevent and control hypertension in Canada as the CIHR Canadian Chair in Hypertension Prevention and Control. In the past, Dr Campbell has been President of the Canadian Hypertension Society, the Canadian Coalition for High Blood Pressure Prevention and Control and the Canadian Society for Clinical Pharmacology. Dr Campbell is a past chair of the Alberta, Ministers Expert Committee on Drugs and Therapeutics and is a former Head and Chief of General Medicine at the University of Calgary and the Calgary Health Region. Dr Campbell was on the steering committee and co-chaired the Risk Factor Committee for the Canadian Heart Health Strategy. He obtained his MD from Memorial University in Newfoundland, where he also did his Internal Medicine residency. He went on to study Clinical Pharmacology at the Mayo Clinic under Dr. Richard Weinshilboum and is a Specialist in Clinical Hypertension (American Society of Hypertension).

Francesco Cappuccio moved to Warwick in July 2005 to take up the newly established Cephalon Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine & Epidemiology. He is a cardiovascular physician, a clinical epidemiologist and a public health expert. After his medical degree in Naples, he moved to Britain where he trained at Charing Cross Hospital, St George's Hospital Medical School and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in London. In 2000 he became Professor of Clinical Epidemiology & Primary Care at St George's, University of London. His main interests are in the prevention, detection and management of hypertension and its complications related to the heart, brain, kidneys and the circulation. His research interests are the epidemiology of cardiovascular disease, nutrition and health, metabolic abnormalities and cardiovascular risk, risk in ethnic minorities, both in developed and developing countries. Cappuccio leads a multi-disciplinary research group with a number of research objectives: to develop and establish a programme of national and international cardiovascular epidemiology, to develop and establish a significant national and international programme of research into Sleep, Health and Society, to facilitate clinical research into sleep disorders, to assist the development of undergraduate and postgraduate education into sleep medicine and its impact on health and society.

Beatriz Champagne is executive director of the *InterAmerican Heart Foundation*, an organization dedicated to the prevention of heart disease and stroke in the Americas. She spearheads a number of initiatives including “Community Interventions for Health,” a structural and policy intervention demonstration project taking place in Mexico City addressing diet, physical activity and tobacco use; and “Smokefree Mexico”, a program that has already resulted in making Mexico City 100% smoke free. In addition, Champagne has organized initiatives such as tobacco warning labels in the Caribbean, prevention of chronic diseases in the Caribbean, Journalism Awards, tobacco control research, among others. She is an investigator and organizer of the CARMELA Study of 7 Latin American cities to evaluate risk factors of heart disease. Her organization received the 2009 Luther L. Terry Awards for Exemplary Leadership in Tobacco Control.

Ricardo Correa-Rotter attended medical school at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. His internal medicine residency and degree was obtained at the Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Médicas y Nutrición, Salvador Zubiran. As a nephrologists specialist and head of the Department of Nephrology and Mineral Metabolism of the Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Médicas y Nutrición Salvador Zubirán in Mexico, Correa-Rotter is a National Academy of Medicine in Mexico and National Reasercher level III under the auspice of the Council of Science and Technology of Mexico. He has served as officer on several medical societies, contributing over 109 peer reviewed articles and 50 chapters in books.

Darwin Labarthe is currently Associate Director for Cardiovascular Health Policy and Research in the Division of Adult and Community Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US Department of Health and Human Services. His professional appointments have been in the Heart Disease and Stroke Control Program, Bureau of State Services, Department of Health, Education and Welfare (1967-70), the University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston (1970-73 and 1977-1999), the Department of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology, Mayo Clinic (1974-1977) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2000-present). Labarthe’s research and teaching activities have been primarily in the area of cardiovascular diseases and their prevention, especially the early development of the cardiovascular risk factors in childhood, adolescence and early adulthood. He has served as Chair of the Council on Epidemiology and Prevention of both the American Heart Association and the World Heart Federation, among other leadership positions in epidemiology and public health. He has been honored by election to the American Epidemiological Society and receipt of the Abraham Lilienfeld Award for Excellence in Teaching from the American Public Health Association, Epidemiology Section, and the Award of Meritorious Achievement of the American Heart Association.

Mary R. L’Abbe is an expert in public health nutrition, nutrition policy, food regulations (food fortification, health claims, nutrition labeling) and developing national strategies to reduce dietary risk factors for chronic disease such as trans fat and sodium. Her research focuses on examining the nutritional quality of the Canadian food supply, nutrition surveys and factors influencing consumers’ understanding of nutrition and food choices related to obesity and chronic disease, and in the area of micronutrients and trace elements. Among the prestigious groups and organizations she’s been asked to serve in are co-chair the Canadian Trans Fat Task Force (2004 – 2006), lead the Canadian Trans Fat Monitoring Program (2004-2009), member of the PAHO Task Force on Trans Fat in the Americas and vice-chair of the WHO Scientific Update on Trans Fatty Acids. L’Abbé is currently vice-Chairperson of the Canadian Sodium Working Group charged with developing a national strategy for reducing sodium intakes by Canadians and a member of the PAHO regional expert group on Cardiovascular Disease Prevention through Dietary Salt Reduction.

Carlos Monteiro has an MD and a PhD, both at the University of Sao Paulo (USP). His academic formation includes a two-year postdoctoral training at the Institute of Human Nutrition at Columbia University. His entire academic career was accomplished in the Department of Nutrition of the School of Public Health at the USP since his entrance in 1975 as an Assistant Professor until his tenure Professorship acquired in 1990. Between 1990 and 1992, he worked for the Nutrition Unit at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva and was visiting Professor of two European universities (Bonn and Geneva). He is the scientific coordinator of the Center for Epidemiological Studies in Health and Nutrition. His research lines include methods in population nutritional assessment, secular trends and biological and socioeconomic determinants of nutrition-related diseases, and the evaluation of food and nutrition programs. Monteiro is Researcher class 1-A (the highest class) from the Brazilian Research Council (CNP). He is co-chairman of the committee on nutrition transition of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences, editor of the Revista de Saúde Pública, Associate Editor of Public Health Nutrition and member of the Editorial Board of EDUSP, International Journal of Obesity, and Epidemiologic Reviews. He is also member of the WHO Expert Committee for the Implementation of the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health and member of the task force of the Pan American Health Organization for the elimination of trans fats in the Americas. Monteiro is member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences since 2008.

Tito Pizaro

Marcelo Tavella is a Professor for the Master of Public Health at the University Interdisciplinary Health Institute (INUS) at the National University of La Plata (NULP). His research and teaching activities have been primarily in the area of microbiology and biochemistry especially within the area of cardiovascular diseases. He has been appointed guest professor by a number of institutions and has recently worked as representative of Argentina in the Task Force Trans Fat Free America (PAHO/WHO Initiative) and as a scientific advisor to WHO. Tavella is an M.D. from the School of Medical Sciences, National University of La Plata (NULP) and he holds a PhD. from the same institute.

Juan Trimboli

Dr. Ricardo Uauy received his Medical Doctor from the University of Chile in 1972 and a Ph.D. Nutritional Biochemistry from MIT in 1977. Currently he holds the position of president of the International Union of the Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) and professor of Public Health Nutrition at Institute of Nutrition (INTA) at the University of Chile and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He has participated as expert in multiple WHO/FAO expert committees: Protein Energy 81, Fats and Oils 93, FBDGs 95, Vitamin and Minerals 98, Nutrition in the Elderly 98, Human Energy needs 01, chair WHO/FAO Nutrition Diet and Chronic Disease 02, and Global Strategy WHO/03, WHO/FAO Scientific Update on CHO 06 and on Trans Fats 07, chair FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Fats and Fatty Acids in Human Nutrition in 08. Recipient of numerous prestigious international health and leadership awards, his most recently one include the 2006 Kellogg's Award on International Nutrition and the 2008 Rank Lecture Award from the UK Nutrition Society and the British Nutrition Foundation Prize.

Lianne Vardy is currently a Director with the Centre for Health Promotion in the Public Health Agency of Canada. She has held Director level program positions in Hepatitis C and Adult Literacy and has over 20 years of experience with the Canadian Federal Government. During this time she has managed G & C programs in excess of 30m dollars, and has worked in partnership with both provincial and territorial governments as well as NGOs.

Rainford Wilks is a Professor of Epidemiology and the Director of the Epidemiology Research Unit (ERU) at the Tropical Medicine Research Institute (TMRI), University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, since 1999. He has been on staff at UWI since 1989. Rainford completed medical school at the UWI in 1978 and his internship in rotating specialties at the Kingston Regional Public Hospital (KPH/VJH) in 1979. After a year as assistant Medical Officer to Arthur Wint, FRCS, at the Linstead Hospital, St Catherine, Jamaica, he joined the graduate training programme in Internal Medicine at the UWI and was awarded the DM (Internal Medicine) in the 1983. He was awarded a Wellcome Trust Training Fellowship, and completed the MSc in Epidemiology (1984-85) under Geoffrey Rose at the London School of hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London. In the same year he successfully completed the examinations for the award of the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians, UK, MRCP (UK). His research accomplishments have been in the areas of the epidemiology of the Human T-lymphotropic Virus Type-1 (HTLV1) and the burden of cardiovascular disease and its risk factors in developing countries. His research has resulted in the publication of over 100 manuscripts, including peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters and technical reports. He has been consultant physician to the Kingston Public Hospital and the National Chest Hospital (1985-1989) and to the University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI) since 1990.