

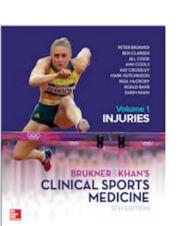


# CARBS. FATS. WHAT SHOULD THE ELITE ATHLETE BE EATING?

Professor Peter Brukner

La Trobe Sport and Exercise Medicine
Research Centre

Melbourne, Australia



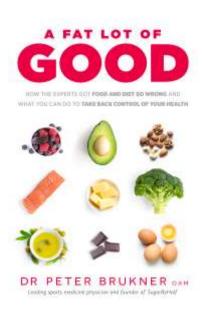


#### **DISCLOSURES**

I am the founder of
 SugarByHalf, a not-for-profit campaign in Australia



I am the author of
 A Fat Lot of Good
 (out in May 2018)











## The Diet Bowl



#### **The Carb Generation**













#### Diet Bowl: Previous winners 2000-

WINNER	MVP
2000: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2001: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2002: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2003: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2004: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2005: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2006: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2007: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2008: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2009: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2010: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes
2011: Team Carbs	Tim Noakes







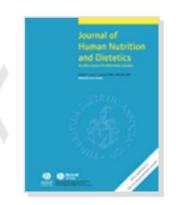
Explore this journal >

## Energy utilization and repletion during endurance exercise: an historical perspective

T. D. Noakes

First published: February 1991 Full publication history

Febr

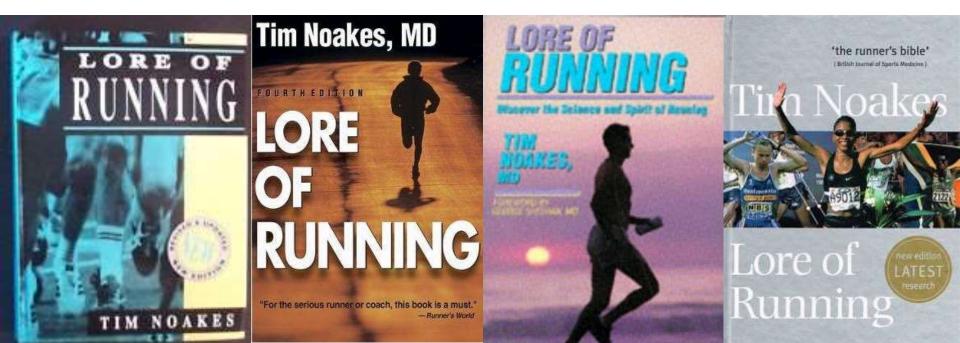


View issue TOC Volume 4, Issue 1 February 1991

There is clear evidence that the provision of exogenous carbohydrate at high rates is essential to delay fatigue and optimize performance during prolonged exercise. It has also become apparent that high rates of both carbohydrate and fluid delivery can be achieved by the adoption of appropriate drinking techniques during exercise.

### Tim Noakes

## Carbs Super Hero Multiple MVP winner

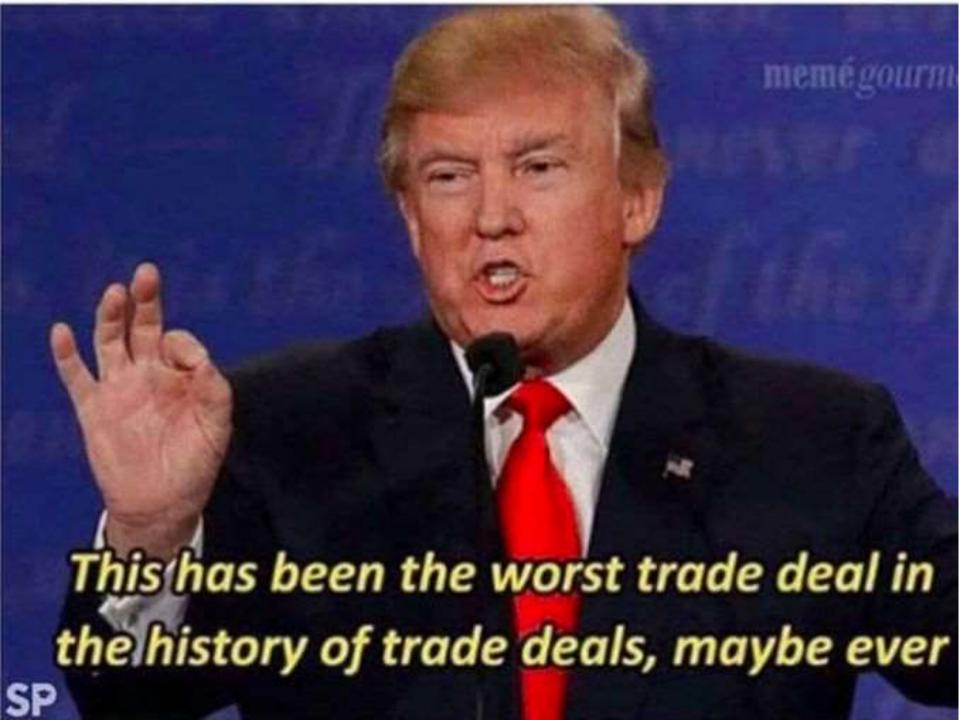


### And then in 2012 ......

## Breaking News.....

Tim Noakes (South Africa) was today traded from Team Carbs to perennial underachievers Team Fat.

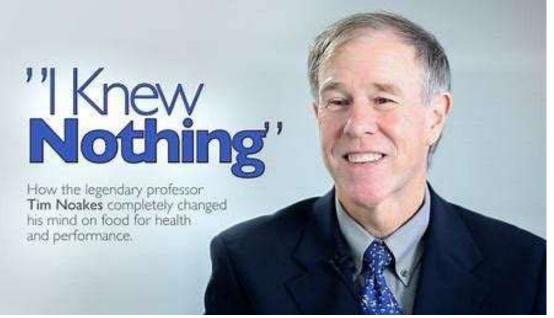
Will this be the turning point?

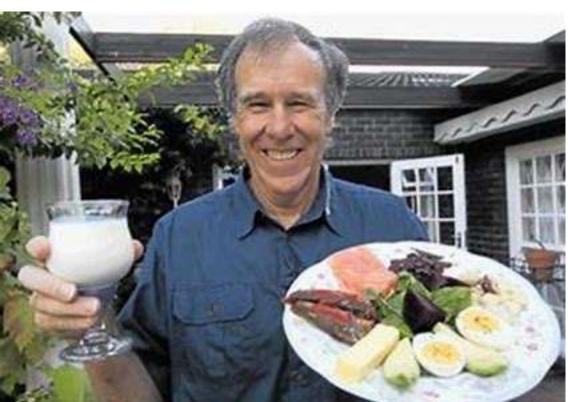




## Tim Noakes: "If you've got Lore of Running, tear out the section on nutrition"









PROFILM NOAKES SALLY-ANN CREED JOHNO PROLESSON WAVES CORES



Jeff S. Volek, PhD, RD Stephen D. Phinney, MD, PhD



THE ART AND SCIENCE OF LOW

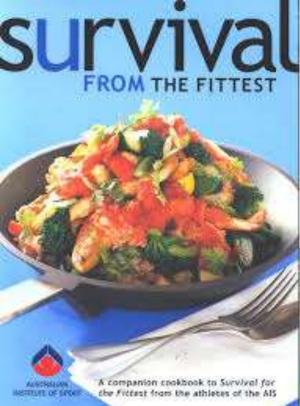
CARBOHYDRATE
PERFORMANCE

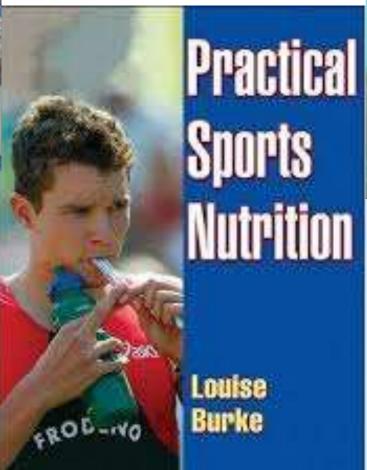
#### Diet Bowl: Previous winners 2012-

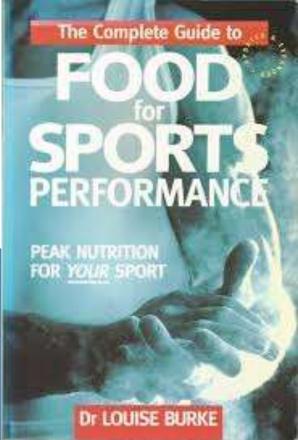
WIININEK	IVIVP
2012: Team Carbs	Louise Burke
2013: Team Carbs	Louise Burke
2014: Team Carbs	Louise Burke
2015: Team Carbs	Louise Burke
2016: Team Carbs	Louise Burke
2017: Team Carbs	Louise Burke

VALINIED

#### 2018 ???????







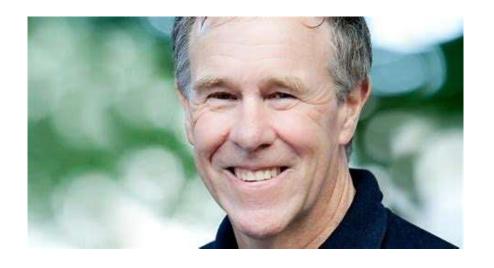
#### Gatorade

Gatorade supports AIS Sports Nutrition by funding the Gatorade Sports Nutrition Fellowship. The Gatorade Fellow is involved in cutting edge research in hydration. This complements the research already conducted at the <u>Gatorade Sports Science Institute</u>, Gatorade's own centre for research. The Gatorade Fellow also provides nutrition services to AIS athletes, coordinates the provision of Gatorade product to athletes and develops nutrition resources.

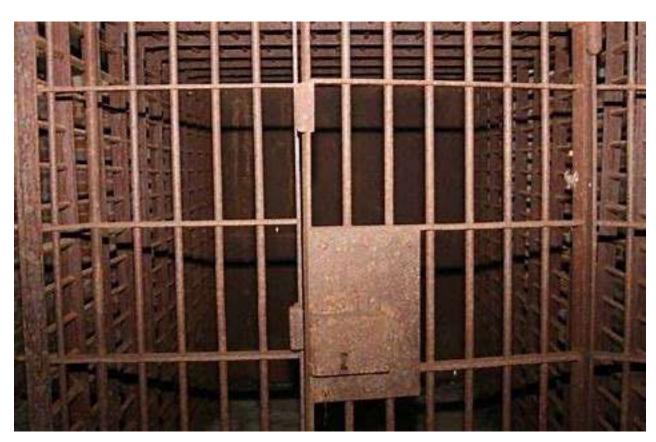


#### "Brukner and Noakes should be in jail"









#### So what is the best fuel?





#### Zach Bitter is the 100-mile American record holder. He also eats almost no carbs.

For Zach Bitter, who can travel ultramarathon distances faster than pretty much any other American, carb-cutting is a way of life. Here's how he makes an ultra-low-carb diet workand how you can do the same.





by Spenser Mestel 💆 August 11, 2017 11.33am













## Chris Froome Cut Back on Carbs, Lost 20 Pounds and Won the Tour de France – 3 Times!

July 27 by Dr. Andreas Eenfeldt in Exercise, Low Carb High Fat



#### Kobe Bryant, Los Angeles Lakers Embrace Bacon As Good Food For Training Table

Thursday, July 3, 2014 4:42 pm

Written by: Dan Russo



















After Kobe Bryant suffered his Achilles injury in April 2013, the Mamba embarked on an eight-month recovery process. His diet included a food source that provided natural anti-inflammatory products: Bacon.

The sizzling meat played a role in Bryant's paleo-style diet, implemented by the Lakers strength and conditioning coach, Tim DiFrancesco, in the 2012-13 season.



"Contrary to what people

George Lopez Voices
Support For Kobe

Byron Scott Recalls
Sneaking Into Games At
Forum As A Kid

might think, we actually want our players to eat as much grass fed butter and bacon as we can get into them," **DiFrancesco told Lakers.com.**"Will that sky-rocket cholesterol? No, just look into the science on it."

The team's nutritionist, Dr. Cate Shanahan, also helped design Bryant's recovery diet. The paleo-



EDGE

## Inside LeBron James' weight loss and low-carb diet



#### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

>

NFL

#### NFL Linemen Turn to Fatty, No-Carb Diet, but Science Is Unclear

Players say 'ketogenic' diet makes them leaner and reduces soreness after exercise, allowing them to train with greater intensity and for longer periods

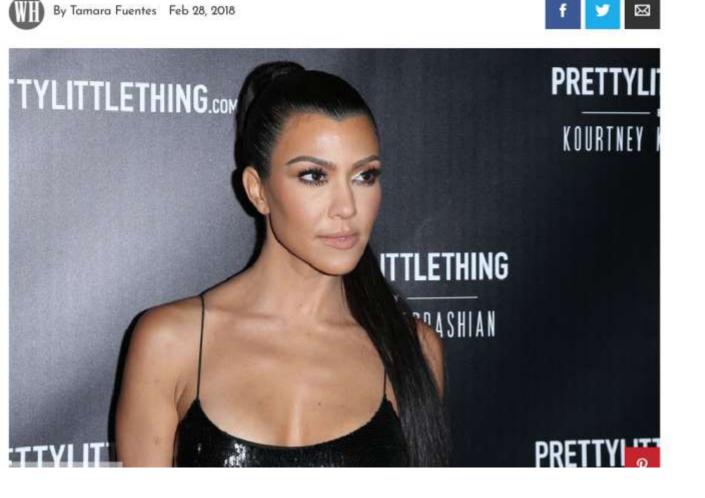






## Kourtney Kardashian Just Gave The Keto Diet A Rave Review

Here's exactly what she ate on the plan.









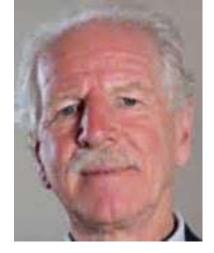
'I Lost Weight Eating 2,200 Calories P Day'



## HALLE BERRY REVEALS DIET THAT SLOWED 'AGING PROCESS' AND REVERSED DIABETES DIAGNOSIS

## Carbs vs Fats

Where is the science?



1983

## The Human Metabolic Response to Chronic Ketosis Without Caloric Restriction: Preservation of Submaximal Exercise Capability with Reduced Carbohydrate Oxidation

S. D. Phinney, B. R. Bistrian, W. J. Evans, E. Gervino, and G. L. Blackburn

To study the effect of chronic ketosis on exercise performance in endurance-trained humans, five well-trained cyclists were fed a eucaloric balanced diet (EBD) for one week providing 35–50 kcal/kg/d, 1.75 g protein/kg/d and the remainder of kilocalories as two-thirds carbohydrate (CHO) and one-third fat. This was followed by four weeks of a eucaloric ketogenic diet (EKD), isocaloric and isonitrogenous with the EBD but providing less than 20 g CHO daily. Both diets were appropriately supplemented to meet the recommended daily allowances for vitamins and minerals. Pedal ergometer testing of maximal oxygen uptake ( $\dot{V}O_2$ max) was unchanged between the control week (EBD-1) and week 3 of the ketogenic diet (EKD-3). The mean ergometer endurance time for continuous exercise to exhaustion (ENDUR) at 62%–64% of  $\dot{V}O_2$ max was 147 minutes at EBD-1 and 151 minutes at EKD-4. The ENDUR steady-state RQ dropped from 0.83 to 0.72 (P < 0.01) from EBD-1 to EKD-4. In agreement with this were a three-fold drop in glucose oxidation (from 15.1 to 5.1 mg/kg/min, P < 0.05) and a four-fold reduction in muscle glycogen use (0.61 to 0.13 mmol/kg/min, P < 0.01). Neither clinical nor biochemical evidence of hypoglycemia was observed during ENDUR at EKD-4. These results indicate that aerobic endurance exercise by well-trained cyclists was not compromised by four weeks of ketosis. This was accomplished by a dramatic physiologic adaptation that conserved limited carbohydrate stores (both glucose and muscle glycogen) and made fat the predominant muscle substrate at this submaximal power level.

### Interaction of training and diet on metabolism and endurance during exercise in man

Jørn Wulff Helge, Erik A. Richter and Bente Kiens\*

Copenhagen Muscle Research Centre, August Krogh Institute, University of Copenhagen, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

Ingesting a fat-rich diet during an endurance training programme is **detrimental** to improvement in endurance.

International Journal of Sport Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism, 2003, 13, 466-478 © 2003 Human Kinetics Publishers, Inc.

#### Endurance Capacity and High-Intensity Exercise Performance Responses to a High-Fat Diet

Jesse Fleming, Matthew J. Sharman, Neva G. Avery, Dawn M. Love, Ana L. Gómez, Timothy P. Scheett, William J. Kraemer, and Jeff S. Volek

Adaptation to a 6-week HFMP diet in non-highly trained men resulted in increased fat oxidation during exercise and **small decrements** in peak power output and endurance performance.

#### Fat adaptation followed by carbohydrate loading compromises high-intensity sprint performance

L. Havemann, S. J. West, J. H. Goedecke, I. A. Macdonald, A. St Clair Gibson, T. D. Noakes, and E. V. Lambert

<sup>1</sup>University of Cape Town/Medical Research Council Research Unit for Exercise Science and Sports Medicine, Department of Human Biology, University of Cape Town, South Africa; and <sup>2</sup>School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Nottingham Medical School, Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, United Kingdom

Overall 100-km time-trial performance was not different between diets; however, 1-km sprint power output after HFD-CHO was lower (*P* 0.05) compared with HCD-CHO.

The HFD-CHO dietary strategy increased fat oxidation, but <u>compromised high intensity sprint performance</u>, possibly by increased sympathetic activation or altered contractile function.



### Carbohydrate Dependence During Prolonged, Intense Endurance Exercise

John A. Hawley<sup>1,2</sup> · Jill J. Leckey<sup>1</sup>

Fat-rich diets <u>do not improve</u> training capacity or performance, but directly impair rates of muscle glycogenolysis and energy flux, limiting high-intensity ATP production.

When highly trained athletes compete in endurance events lasting up to 3 h, CHO-, not fat-based fuels are the predominant fuel for the working muscles and CHO, not fat, availability becomes rate limiting for performance.



ISSN 2072-6643

www.mdpi.com/journal/nutrients

Article

### The Effects of a Ketogenic Diet on Exercise Metabolism and Physical Performance in Off-Road Cyclists

Adam Zajac <sup>1</sup>, Stanisław Poprzecki <sup>2</sup>, Adam Maszczyk <sup>1</sup>,\*, Miłosz Czuba <sup>1</sup>, Małgorzata Michalczyk <sup>3</sup> and Grzegorz Zydek <sup>3</sup>

Low carbohydrate ketogenic diets

decrease the ability to perform high intensity work, due to decreased glycogen muscle stores and the lower activity of glycolytic enzymes

#### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### Open Access

Ketogenic diet benefits body composition and well-being but not performance in a pilot case study of New Zealand endurance athletes



Caryn Zinn 6, Matthew Wood, Mikki Williden, Simon Chatterton and Ed Maunder

## Effects of short-term fat adaptation on metabolism and performance of prolonged exercise

LOUISE M. BURKE and JOHN A. HAWLEY

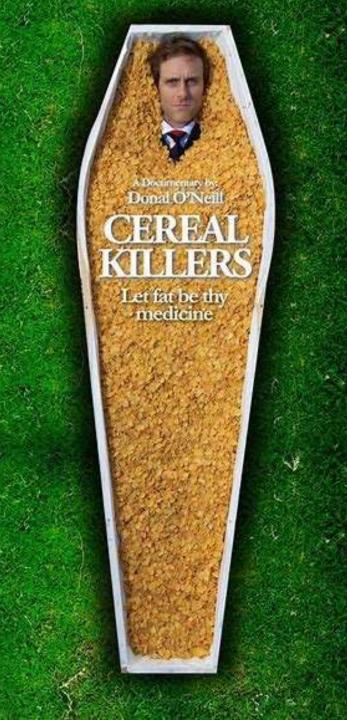
Department of Sports Nutrition, Australian Institute of Sport, Canberra, A.C.T., AUSTRALIA; and Exercise Metabolism Group, School of Medical Sciences, Faculty of Life Sciences, R.M.I.T. University, Bundoora, Victoria, AUSTRALIA

Despite marked changes in the patterns of fuel utilization that favor fat oxidation, fat-adaptation/CHO restoration strategies <u>do</u> <u>not provide</u> clear benefits to the performance of prolonged endurance exercise.

#### "Fat adaptation" for at

ENDURANCE ATHLETES have a high of of fat during exercise as a legacy fore, it is intriguing that this capad lated by the chronic consumption  $(<2.5 \text{ g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{day}^{-1})$ , high-fat  $(\sim6.1)$ example, 2-4 wk of exposure to si viduals has been shown to markedly reduce the utilization of muscle gl submaximal exercise (10, 11). De enhanced ability to "tap into your be does not seem to lead to a clear capacity or performance (for review is at least a short-term increase i training (2, 3) and an impairment of when the high-fat, low-carbohydrat riods longer than 4 wk, based on

"Those at the delete fat lo list of genuire endurance a



#### coffin?

adaptations to a fat-rich diet may on of carbohydrate metabolism or the study (12) has reported that fat storation strategies are associated try of pyruvate dehydrogenase; this rates of glycogenolysis at a time requirements are high. The present

(6) furthers our knowledge by carbohydrate restoration model to ol that involves several features of g and the interspersing of highwith more moderate-intensity segt the dietary strategy has no effect 100-km time trial but compromises yelists to performance high-inten-

itrition can s from their nventional orts"

# Thena strange thing happened....

Carbohydrate availability and exercise training adaptation: Too much of a good thing?

JONATHAN D. BARTLETT<sup>1</sup>, JOHN A. HAWLEY<sup>1,2</sup>, & JAMES P. MORTON<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Sciences, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, UK, <sup>2</sup>Exercise & Nutrition Research Group, School of Exercise Sciences, Australian Catholic University (ACU), Fitzroy, VIC, Australia

Deliberately training in conditions of reduced CHO availability can promote training-induced adaptations of human skeletal muscle (i.e. increased maximal mitochondrial enzyme activities and/or mitochondrial content, increased rates of lipid oxidation and, in some instances, improved exercise capacity).

Carbohydrate availability and exercise training adaptation: Too much of a good thing?

JONATHAN D. BARTLETT<sup>1</sup>, JOHN A. HAWLEY<sup>1,2</sup>, & JAMES P. MORTON<sup>1</sup>

Such data have led to the concept of

<sup>1</sup>Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Sciences, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, UK, <sup>2</sup>Exercise & Nutrition Research Group, School of Exercise Sciences, Australian Catholic University (ACU), Fitzroy, VIC, Australia

### 'training low, but competing high' whereby selected training sessions are completed in conditions of reduced CHO availability (so as to promote training adaptation), but CHO reserves are restored immediately prior to an important competition.



### Re-Examining High-Fat Diets for Sports Performance: Did We Call the 'Nail in the Coffin' Too Soon?

Louise M. Burke<sup>1,2</sup>



Re-Examining High-Fat Diets for Sports Performance: Did We Call the 'Nail in the Coffin' Too Soon?

Louise M. Burke<sup>1,2</sup>

The current guidelines for carbohydrate intake in the athlete's training diet appear to be poorly understood. Sports nutrition experts do not promote a "high carbohydrate diet" for all athletes.

#### A Step Towards Personalized Sports Nutrition: Carbohydrate Intake During Exercise

Asker Jeukendrup

Sports Med DOI 10.1007/s40279-017-0694-2



REVIEW ARTICLE

#### **Periodized Nutrition for Athletes**

Asker E Jeukendrup<sup>1</sup>

Scand J Med Sci Sports 2010; 20 (Suppl. 2): 48-58 doi: 10.1111/j.1600-0838.2010.01185.x SCANDINAVIAN IOURNAL OF MEDICINE & SCIENCE IN SPORTS

#### Review

### Fueling strategies to optimize performance: training high or training low?

L. M. Burke

Department of Sports Nutrition, Australian Institute of Sport, Belcomen ACT, Australia

Corresponding author: Louise M Burke, PhD, Department of Sports Nutrition, Australian Institute of Sport, PO Box 176,
Belconnen ACT 2616, Australia. Tel: +61 2 6214 1351, Fax: +61 2 6214 1603, E-mail: louise.burke@ausport.gov.au

### Cros

#### REVIEW ARTICLE

### Re-Examining High-Fat Diets for Sports Performance: Did We Call the 'Nail in the Coffin' Too Soon?

Louise M. Burke<sup>1,2</sup>

The evolving model is that athletes should follow an individualized approach, whereby carbohydrate intake is periodized throughout the training cycle according to the fuel needs of each workout, the importance of performing well in the session and/or the potential to amplify the adaptive response to exercise via exposure to low carbohydrate availability.

### Cros

#### REVIEW ARTICLE

### Re-Examining High-Fat Diets for Sports Performance: Did We Call the 'Nail in the Coffin' Too Soon?

Louise M. Burke<sup>1,2</sup>

There is a need for ongoing research and practice to identify a range of approaches to optimal training and competition diets according to the specific requirements of an event and the experience of the individual athlete.

#### Low carbohydrate, high fat diet impairs exercise economy and negates the performance benefit from intensified training in elite race walkers

Louise M. Burke<sup>1,2</sup>, Megan L. Ross<sup>1,2</sup>, Laura A. Garvican-Lewis<sup>1,2</sup>, Marijke Welvaert<sup>3,4</sup>, Ida A. Heikura<sup>1,2</sup>, Sara G. Forbes<sup>1</sup>, Joanne G. Mirtschin<sup>1</sup>, Louise E. Cato<sup>1</sup>, Nicki Strobel<sup>3</sup>, Avish P. Sharma<sup>6</sup> and John A. Hawley<sup>2,7</sup>

#### Key points

- Three weeks of intensified training and mild energy deficit in elite race walkers increases peak aerobic capacity independent of dietary support.
- Adaptation to a ketogenic low carbohydrate, high fat (LCHF) diet markedly increases rates of whole-body fat oxidation during exercise in race walkers over a range of exercise intensities.
- The increased rates of fat oxidation result in reduced economy (increased oxygen demand for a given speed) at velocities that translate to real-life race performance in elite race walkers.
- In contrast to training with diets providing chronic or periodised high carbohydrate availability, adaptation to an LCHF diet impairs performance in elite endurance athletes despite a significant improvement in peak aerobic capacity.

Abstract We investigated the effects of adaptation to a ketogenic low carbohydrate (CHO), high fat diet (LCHF) during 3 weeks of intensified training on metabolism and performance of world-class endurance athletes. We controlled three isoenergetic diets in elite race walkers: high CHO availability (g kg<sup>-1</sup> day<sup>-1</sup>; 8.6 CHO, 2.1 protein, 1.2 fat) consumed before, during and after training (HCHO, n = 9); identical macronutrient intake, periodised within or between days to alternate between low and high CHO availability (PCHO, n = 10); LCHF (< 50 g day-1 CHO; 78% energy as fat; 2.1 g kg<sup>-1</sup> day<sup>-1</sup> protein; LCHF, n = 10). Post-intervention,  $\dot{V}_{O,peak}$  during race walking increased in all groups (P < 0.001, 90% CI: 2.55, 5.20%). LCHF was associated with markedly increased rates of whole-body fat oxidation, attaining peak rates of 1.57  $\pm$  0.32 g min<sup>-1</sup> during 2 h of walking at ~80% VO. neak. However, LCHF also increased the oxygen (O2) cost of race walking at velocities relevant to real-life race performance: O2 uptake (expressed as a percentage of new  $\hat{V}_{O,peak}$ ) at a speed approximating 20 km race pace was reduced in HCHO and PCHO (90% CI: -7.047, -2.55 and -5.18, -0.86, respectively), but was maintained at pre-intervention levels in LCHF. HCHO and PCHO groups improved times for 10 km race walk: 6.6% (90% CI: 4.1, 9.1%) and 5.3% (3.4, 7.2%), with no improvement (-1.6% (-8.5, 5.3%)) for the LCHF group. In contrast to training with diets providing chronic or periodised high-CHO availability, and despite a significant improvement in  $\hat{V}_{O,peak}$ , adaptation to the topical LCHF diet negated performance benefits in elite endurance athletes, in part due to reduced exercise economy.

(Received 17 August 2016; accepted after revision 23 November 2016; first published online 23 December 2016)

Corresponding author L. M. Burke: AIS Sports Nutrition, Leverrier Crescent, Bruce, ACT, Australia 2616. Email: louise.burkes@ausport.gov.au





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Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research, Australian Catholic University, Melbourne, Australia 3000

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>University of Canberra Research Institute for Sport and Exercise, Canberra, Australia 2617

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Innovation, Research and Development, Australian Institute of Sport, Camberra, Australia 2616

<sup>3</sup> University College Zealand, Ankerhus, Denmark

<sup>\*</sup>Physiology, Australian Institute of Sport, Camberra, Australia 2616

Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Sciences, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, UK

J Physiol. 2017 May 1;595(9):2785-2807. doi: 10.1113/JP273230. Epub 2017 Feb 14.

Low carbohydrate, high fat diet impairs exercise economy and negates the performance benefit from intensified training in elite race walkers.

Burke LM<sup>1,2</sup>, Ross ML<sup>1,2</sup>, Garvican-Lewis LA<sup>1,2</sup>, Welvaert M<sup>3,4</sup>, Heikura IA<sup>1,2</sup>, Forbes SG<sup>1</sup>, Mirtschin JG<sup>1</sup>, Cato LE<sup>1</sup>, Strobel N<sup>5</sup>, Sharma AP<sup>6</sup>, Hawley JA<sup>2,7</sup>.

Author information

Adaptation to a ketogenic low carbohydrate (CHO), high fat diet (LCHF) during 3 weeks of intensified training on metabolism and performance of world-class endurance athletes.

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#### Three isoenergetic diets in elite race walkers:

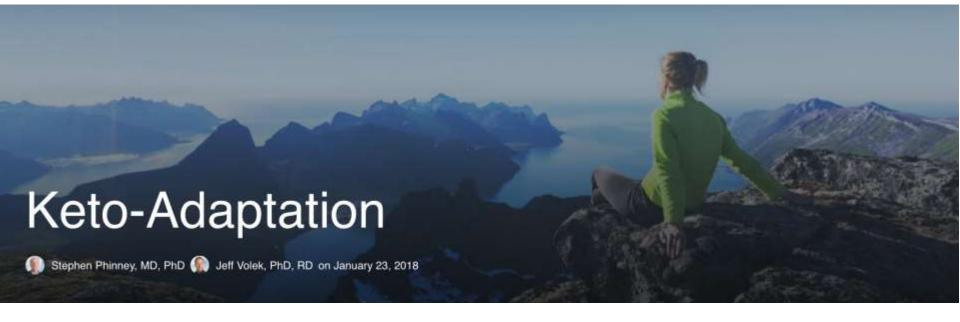
- 1.high CHO availability consumed before, during and after training
- 2. identical macronutrient intake, periodised within or between days (to alternate between low and high CHO availability)
- 3. LCHF.

Low carbohydrate, high fat diet impairs exercise economy and negates the performance benefit from intensified training in elite race walkers.

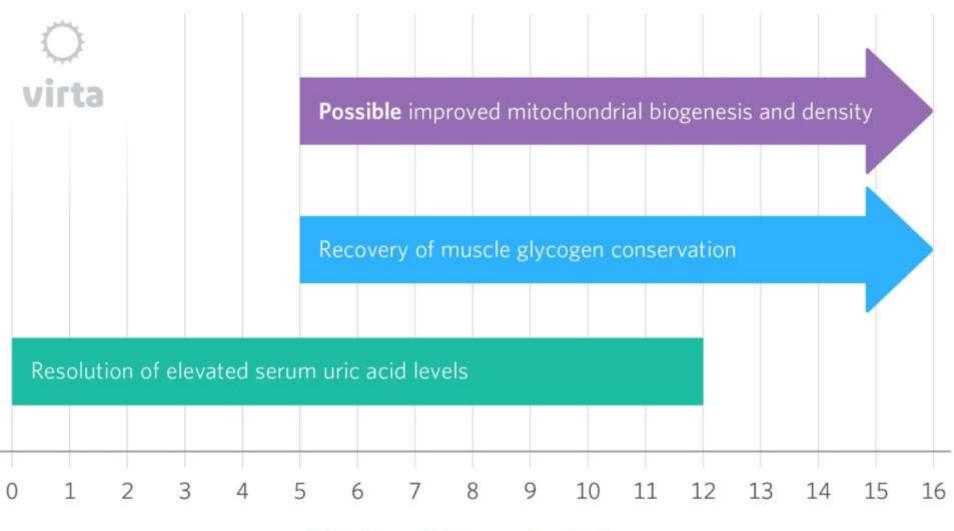
Burke LM<sup>1,2</sup>, Ross ML<sup>1,2</sup>, Garvican-Lewis LA<sup>1,2</sup>, Welvaert M<sup>3,4</sup>, Heikura IA<sup>1,2</sup>, Forbes SG<sup>1</sup>, Mirtschin JG<sup>1</sup>, Cato LE<sup>1</sup>, Strobel N<sup>5</sup>, Sharma AP<sup>6</sup>, Hawley JA<sup>2,7</sup>.

Author information

In contrast to training with diets providing chronic or periodised high carbohydrate availability, adaptation to an LCHF diet impairs performance in elite endurance athletes despite a significant improvement in peak aerobic capacity



While a ketogenic diet can put you into a state of nutritional ketosis in a matter of days, it can take weeks to months to become fully keto adapted.



Weeks of Keto-adaptation



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

#### Metabolism

www.metabolismjournal.com



# Keto-adaptation enhances exercise performance and body composition responses to training in endurance athletes



Fionn T. McSwiney<sup>a</sup>, Bruce Wardrop<sup>a</sup>, Parker N. Hyde<sup>b</sup>, Richard A. Lafountain<sup>b</sup>, Jeff S. Volek<sup>b</sup>, Lorna Doyle<sup>a,\*</sup>

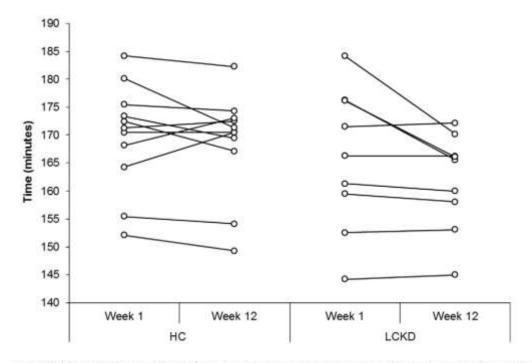
### 12 weeks diet and training

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Department of Sport, and Exercise Science, Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford, Ireland

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Kinesiology Program, Department of Human Sciences, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

### LCKD group

- **¥** Body mass (5.9 vs 0.8kg)
- **♦** % body fat (5.2 vs 0.7)
- No change 100km time trial



2 – Individual 100 km TT times for HC, and LCKD groups at pre and post-intervention testing.

### LCKD group

- SS sprint peak power
- Critical power test (peak)
- No change in average powers
- Significant change in RER

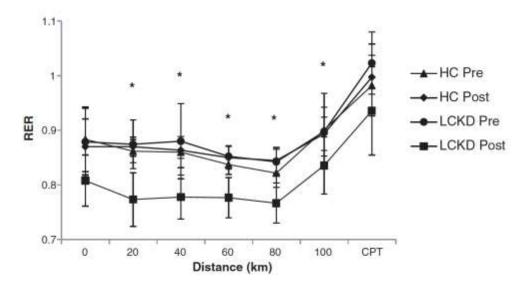


Fig. 3 – RER for HC and LCKD groups at 0 km, 20 km, 40 km, 60 km, 80 km, 100 km and CPT data points, at pre and post-intervention testing. \*Indicates significant (P < 0.05) difference from ANCOVA, with changes within the LCKD group.



#### Metabolism



www.metabolismiournal.com

Keto-adaptation enhances exercise performance and body composition responses to training in endurance athletes



Metabolism

Fionn T. McSwiney<sup>a</sup>, Bruce Wardrop<sup>a</sup>, Parker N. Hyde<sup>b</sup>, Richard A. Lafountain<sup>b</sup>, Jeff S. Volekb, Lorna Doylea,\*

LCKD participants noted a drop in energy levels, and performance during the first 7–10, and a "lag" in performance for the first 4–6 weeks. It is important to highlight that the LCKD diet may not be suitable for everyone, 5 participants found the LCKD diet too difficult to adhere to, and two participants were unable to complete post-intervention testing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Department of Sport, and Exercise Science, Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford, Ireland

b Kinesiology Program, Department of Human Sciences, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

### Additional advantages of LCHF/keto

- Weight loss, 
   power/weight ratio
- Metabolic health
  - Long term effects of high carb intake?
- Recovery
- Reduced inflammation
- Reduced need to re-fuel during activity

### What we know

- LCHF/keto diets increase fat oxidation
- Anecdotally some athletes esp endurance athletes perform better on LCHF/keto
- High intensity activity appears to be compromised with LCHF/keto
- Research evidence Is not clear more high quality studies need to be done

### What we don't know

How long does it take to fully adapt?

With full adaptation, does endurance performance improve?

- What about other sports?
  - Strength, high intensity intermittent





### What I suspect

- There is considerable individual variation
  - Responders and non-responders
- LCHF/keto generally better for ultraendurance, moderate intensity
- Most need additional carbs for high intensity
- Train low, compete high

### What do I tell my athletes

- Your basic diet should be low carb, healthy fat, real food avoiding sugar, processed foods and seed oils
- Give yourself plenty of time to adapt to the change of eating pattern
- You may find that you need to top up with some carbs before and/or during higher intensity activity
- Everyone is different, find what works for you



### Thank you