

# MODELLING CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE PREVENTION

by

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# Abstract

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), cardiovascular disease (CVD), which sits under the chronic disease umbrella, is the number one cause of death globally. Over time, we have witnessed different trends that have influenced the prevalence of CVD. One of the ways of decreasing CVD and its social costs and global fatalities is through influencing preventable CVD risk factors. Though many risk factors such as age and gender are not preventable, there are several effective behaviours that reduce the risk of CVD. To estimate the potential impact of various interventions on CVD, such as reducing blood pressure as a result of lowering sodium intake, or increasing awareness regarding healthy eating behaviour, we have used descriptive statistics and modelling.

We estimated the impact of a gradual decrease in sodium intake on CVD mortality and morbidity in Canada (CA), United States (US), and Latin American (LA) countries. Our analysis shows that small changes in sodium intake at the population level can make an important difference in the total number of CVD events that can be prevented.

Using data in Canada and France we also explored the potential role of individual decision making on daily sodium consumption. Our analysis showed that the main obstacle to consumers making healthier choices appears to be neither the availability of products, nor the price. Consumers may be more hampered by the difficulty of comparing food labels than by the availability of lower sodium products. Using Canadian data, we also examined the potential impact of having a positive family history of CVD on CVD mortality. Based on our analysis, father stroke before the age of 60 was a strong predictor for CVD mortality.

Following this analysis, we used mathematical models, to improve our understanding of the impact on CVD of changes in the trend of CVD risk factors such as obesity, social and environmental influences. We investigated each of these risk factors separately, in order to have a clear foundation for more complex models. We also used a Fuzzy Cognitive Map

(FCM) that considered a wide range of interactions and interrelationships between different CVD risk factors.

*To my dear Vahid, who pushes me beyond my limitations.  
Your smile, kind heart, and patience enabled us to overcome the challenging journey we  
have shared until now. You taught me that it's not about the destination but the journey  
that matters in life and I couldn't be happier to have you beside me through it all.*

*Thank you for being who you are.*

*With deep gratitude,*

*Azadeh*

*“Drastic action may be costly, but it can be less expensive than continuing inaction”*

RICHARD E NEUSTADT

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death worldwide, with 80% of all cases occurring in developing countries [1]. In 2008, CVD was responsible for approximately 17 million deaths globally and this number is projected to increase to 25 million in 2030 [2]. In Canada alone, about 27% of all deaths in 2008 were directly related to CVD [3]. In developing nations, CVD is responsible for 11% of the global burden of disease [4]. Middle income countries attribute one third of their deaths to CVD which is a similar problem to many developed countries. Also, developing countries generally face higher rates of disease than developed countries. For example in Tanzania; age-specific stroke rates are three to six times higher than those in the UK [2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]. CVD is a major burden on society and account for more death, disability and health care costs than any other class of diseases [10].

### 1.1 Why CVD is the leading cause of death?

The increase in CVD is attached to several risk factors including tobacco use, hypertension, a lack of physical activity, high lipid levels, excessive weight, excessive use of alcohol, and an unhealthy diet [5, 11]. One must also take into consideration the effects of age, gender, heredity, social and environmental factors, culture, and economic status, which are all wider determinants of health. Approximately 80% of Canadians are exposed to at least one of the above risk factors, and another 11% are exposed to three or more [12]. According to WHO, reduction/avoidance of the modifiable factors can reduce a significant number of cases of premature heart disease and stroke worldwide [13].

Elevated blood pressure has been identified as a major risk factor for developing CVD.

Hypertension has been shown to increase the risk for heart disease and stroke [14, 15], which are the first and third causes of death respectively in the United States [16]. According to the WHO, high blood pressure is the leading risk factor of mortality globally [6], where as many as one billion individuals suffer from hypertension, and approximately 7.1 millions deaths annually are linked to the disease [5]. The advancement of age is also reportedly correlated to the prevalence of hypertension such that more than 50% of people aged 60 to 69 suffer from elevated blood pressure [17]. Reports by Framingham Heart Study investigators demonstrate that approximately 90% of normotensive men and women between the ages of 55 and 65 will develop hypertension in their lifetime (assuming they survive to age 80 to 85) [15].

Nearly one quarter of the world's adult population are facing this issue [18]. The prevalence of hypertension has increased over the recent past decades as much as 28% in North America, roughly 30% in Latin America, and 44% in Europe [19, 20]. A significant proportion of hypertensive patients are unaware that their blood pressure is elevated, and many of those who are aware are either untreated or undertreated. Hypertension awareness varies between 31% and 68% in Latin American countries, 69% in the United States, and 83% in Canada [17, 20, 21].

Approximately 51% of stroke-related deaths and 45% of coronary heart disease-related deaths were attributable to high blood pressure (worldwide) [11]. The increasing prevalence of hypertension has encouraged the WHO to call for enhanced diagnosis and treatment to control hypertension as a serious concern from both as an economic burden on society as well as the factor responsible for a large magnitude of morbidity and mortality [5]. Though the idea of improved control may appear ideal, some critics have claimed that this type of improvement will demand resources and result in increased costs, which in reality may not be affordable in many countries [22].

One possible alternative to the increased cost of the WHO's health initiative could be a focus on prevention instead of treatment. We need to shift our effort from research on the mechanics of dying to social and economic approaches to prevention [23]. The focus on prevention is now more critical than ever due to the prevalence of hypertension, which is significantly increasing because of various factors such as an aging population and a sedentary lifestyle [24, 25]. One of the suggested methods to tackle the complex health consequences of hypertension is through reducing the mean blood pressure of a population [5, 26]. Since higher consumptions of sodium increase blood pressure, and thus the risk of



hypertension, it is recommended to reduce intake levels of sodium [27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33], which should be easy to implement, rapid, and with an extensive impact on a population. According to Chobanian (2003), sodium reduction could be the first step of intervention for individuals who are prehypertensive and those currently hypertensive [14]. There appears to be a general misunderstanding that salt reduction is only beneficial for certain groups of people and unnecessary for the vast majority of the population [31]. However, the opposite is true as evidence shows that sodium reduction could in fact reduce blood pressure in children and calm the age-related rise in blood pressure [31, 34]. Other evidence also demonstrates that a reduction in sodium intake may reduce the risk of gastric cancer, end-stage kidney disease, left ventricular hypertrophy, congestive heart failure, and osteoporosis [31].

## 1.2 Different approaches to preventing CVD.

The mentioned statistics in section 1.1 enable us to understand the importance of CVD and how to utilize preventable measures in order to maximize the benefits. Different research has suggested different approaches to the prevention of CVD:

- Some researchers such as Kottke (1985), Burke (1989), and Kannel (1996) suggest the population based approach, which promotes education and health initiatives as instruments to help reduce CVD. A population-wide intervention that is implemented to reduce CVD would require significant government involvement and investment [35, 36, 37]. Few decades ago, the population approach was proposed as the ultimate answer to the problem of mass disease by Rose (1981) [23].
- Other researchers have focused their attention elsewhere. One of them, Oliver (1983), recommends the high risk strategy, which targets intervention at high-risk groups who are already subject to CVD [38].
- Hunt (2003) introduced the family history assessment as an approach that would combine both population and individual approaches by gathering family information with the goal of implementing a prevention program for those with a familial likelihood of developing CVD [39].
- Differing from the above approaches, Bandura (2004) introduced health promotion by social cognitive means. Bandura explained that with increased awareness and societal

efforts, individuals are fully capable of changing their behaviour. He explained that if people lack the knowledge and information, then they will also lack the motivation to change. However, with enhanced public guidance, people are able to change their mindset and, in turn, reduce their risks of CVD [40].

The equation for reducing CVD is not straightforward but if we are able to have a better idea of: the prevalence and incidence of CVD; its relation with other risk factors; environmental and social influences; and an individual's eating habits, behaviors, beliefs, management and decision making, we would be better informed on the dynamics of the disease in the real world. In this work, we have considered mathematical, epidemiological, statistical, behavioral, conceptual and computational models to show the diverse impacts on trend in CVD.

Any model that we are presenting in this work is a simplified representation of a real world situation. It allows us to focus on a specific question or relationship between components or factors. Modelling can be applied to a complex phenomenon with the goal of greater understanding through exploration of the system. In our complex system models we are mainly interested in exploring the importance of each factor that affects other factors and, ultimately, how the interaction of these factors effect CVD. Models are often used as tools to answer our "what if questions" which can help policy makers to shape policy and assess the potential impact of changes or interventions within the system. In general, using different modeling approaches will help us to have a better understanding of our current and future positions in the real world and give us an opportunity to think and take action before it is too late.

### 1.3 Significance of our Research

The work presented in this thesis is divided in two parts. The first part focuses on descriptive statistics and epidemiological modelling. The second part illustrates the usefulness of mathematical and computational modelling techniques as related to complex social systems. Part One:

- Population level intervention: Using data from different countries, we explored the potential impact of different modelling strategies. More specifically we estimated

the potential impact of gradual sodium reduction on reducing CVD mortality and morbidity in Canada, the United States and Latin American Countries.

- Individual level: Using data in Canada and France we explored the potential role of individual decision making on daily sodium consumption. The existing potential for individuals and industry to decrease the sodium consumption and sodium content is highlighted.
- Family History: Using Canadian data, we examined the potential impact of a CVD related risk factor (positive family history of CVD) on the prevalence of CVD at the population level.

Part Two:

- Mathematical and computational modelling: Through three different mathematical models: Markov, Cellular Automata and FCMs, the potential impact of reducing CVD related risk factors and their influence on trend of CVD mortality as a complex system is explored.

## 1.4 Thesis Structure

Chapter 2 shows the potential impact of population-level intervention on the prevalence of CVD in Canada, the United States, and Latin American countries, given the gradual decrease in sodium intake. Chapter 3 highlights the importance of individual decision making, environment, and accessibility in terms of choosing healthier (i.e., low-sodium) products at stores, as well as the ability of the industry to decrease the sodium content of some brands. Chapter 4 describes the association between CVD mortality and family history of CVD in the Canadian population. Chapter 5 uses different mathematical and computational models to show the role of social and environmental influences on an individual's eating behavior as one of the risk factors of CVD. It also shows the importance of a fundamental understanding of the progression of CVD related risk factors. Finally, the use of the FCM technique is proposed to look at the problem of CVD as a complex system. FCM has the potential to capture multiple effects and interactions, answer some "what if scenarios" and provide medical decision making support. Chapter 6 concludes the thesis and outlines ongoing and future directions of the research.

## Chapter 2

# Gradual sodium reduction and CVD prevention

The existing relationship between sodium consumption, high blood pressure and CVD is used to estimate the impact of gradual reductions of sodium intake on the prevention of CVD through reduction in blood pressure in Canada, the United States, and Latin American countries.

### 2.1 Introduction

The average daily intake of salt in both developed and developing countries, is much higher than recommended levels. Research has found that most of the world's population consumes between 2300-4600 mg of sodium daily [41]. An adult in the United States consumes, on average, 4000 mg sodium per 2000 kcal, 80% of which comes from processed foods [42, 43, 44, 45, 46]. The Institute of Medicine recommends a daily intake of less than 5.8 g of salt (2300 mg of sodium), with a lower target of 3.7 g of salt (1500 mg of sodium) per day for individuals over 40 years of age, African Americans, and individuals prone to hypertension [47]. In Canada, a recent survey found that Canadian adults consume on average 3100 mg of sodium per day, excluding the salt added to cooking or at the dinner table [48]. It is estimated that approximately 10 - 20% of dietary sodium is added in cooking and at the table, which makes the total average consumption of sodium approximately 3500 mg/day [43]. According to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the average

consumption of salt is between 3500 mg and 4700 mg per day in many countries. For example the average salt intake per day is 3500 mg, 4300 mg, and 4700 mg in Chile, Brazil and Argentina respectively [49].

There is a considerable amount of evidence that links the high consumption of sodium with CVD via high blood pressure [34, 49, 50, 51, 52]. Also, there have been randomized trials showing that a low salt diet reduces blood pressure and the risk of CVD [53, 54, 55]. Further convincing evidence has been illustrated through meta-analysis showing that reductions in blood pressure levels through reductions in sodium intake result in decreased risk of CVD, specifically congestive heart failure (CHF), stroke, and myocardial infarction (MI) [34, 56, 57, 58].

In 2003, in the United Kingdom, it was suggested by the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition that significant evidence has shown that a population reduction in sodium intake to 2400 mg/day is an effective and suitable approach to reduce the large public burden of CVD [59].

Given the seriousness of health-related problems related to sodium intake, it becomes clear that population-level interventions are needed to reduce the level of sodium intake in the United States [60]. These population-level approaches aimed at reducing dietary sodium are described by the WHO as a 'bold policy' for the improvement of global health [5, 28, 59, 61, 62, 63]. Findings by Bibbins-Domingo and colleagues (2010) support this population-wide effort to reduce the level of sodium intake in the United States [32].

There are two common approaches to lowering salt intake including a public health approach and an individual approach. One possible method, using a public health approach, is to require food manufacturers to reduce levels of salt in processed and prepared foods. Given that approximately 75 - 80% of dietary salt comes from processed foods, this population-wide intervention seems to be the most effective approach [43, 56]. However, in the absence of a population approach, the individual approach, which relies on individual decisions to select and prepare foods with little or no salt, is deemed as another effective method of salt reduction, which will be further discussed in the next chapter.

Believing in the public health approach to reducing salt intake, countries like the United Kingdom, Finland, and Ireland have introduced and implemented specific public health programs. Committing to the same approach, some US food manufacturers have taken efforts to reduce salt content in certain foods such as soups, cereals, and breads [30, 36, 37].

The WHO has suggested that government regulation is the most effective method in

reducing sodium amounts added to food because voluntary compliance to reduce salt by food manufacturers has not historically proven to be effective [5]. Illustrating the effectiveness of the population wide approach, Bibbins-Domingo (2010) estimated that the impact of a reduction of 3 g of salt (1200 mg of sodium) per day would decrease the incidence of Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) by 60,000-120,000, stroke by 32,000-66,000 and myocardial infarction by 54,000-99,000 in the US. In addition, using this approach, she has shown the potential cost savings to the healthcare system [32]. Similar results were demonstrated by Danaei and Palar in 2009 [64, 65]. Through a combination of regulations, policies, labelling, health care professionals, public education, and collaboration with the food industry, countries such as the United Kingdom, Japan, Finland, and Portugal have taken advantage of the population-wide salt reduction approach [30, 66]. Using this combination of efforts, Finland reduced consumption of sodium by 2400 mg/day, which paralleled a notable reduction in population blood pressure (10mmHg). This achievement resulted in a large reduction in CVD in the Finish population [67]. Although this approach is highly effective, it is important to consider some barriers that can impede the achievement of sodium reduction at the population level. These include:

- cultural norms
- insufficient attention to health education by health care practitioners
- lack of reimbursement for health education services
- larger food servings in restaurants
- lack of availability of healthy food choices in many schools, worksites, and restaurants
- large amounts of sodium added to foods by the food industry and restaurants
- the higher cost of food products that are lower in sodium and calories.

The above limitations were highlighted by Whelton (2002) [26]. However, the importance of each barrier will vary from population to population.

Over the last two decades, improved treatments for hypertension have been linked with a significant reduction in hospital case-fatality for heart failure. The decline in deaths from CHD has however slowed down compared to after the 1960s and 1970s. Trends in CVD risk factors can impact the prevalence of CVD. For example, decreased tobacco use will slow the

trend in CVD, but on the other hand, the prevalence of CVD is negatively impacted by an increased sedentary lifestyle and poor eating behaviour [68, 69, 70]. The endemic nature of CVD and the potential for controlling the increase of CVD prevalence has encouraged researchers to test different types of models as an attempt to further understand the impact of population-wide reduction in sodium intake. Two different studies by Bibbins-Domingo (2010) and Smith (2010) used computer-simulation models to investigate the impact of sodium reduction on the prevalence of CVD mortality and associated health care costs [32, 71]. Another model by Joffres (2007), studied the impact of a population-wide reduction in dietary sodium by 1840 mg/day on the prevalence of hypertension, improvements in the awareness, treatment and control rates for hypertension, as well as reductions in costs for doctor visits, antihypertensive medications and laboratory services in Canada [72].

Unlike the models described above, we have used strategies that differ from published studies. The significant difference between previous studies and ours is that a sudden fixed reduction in sodium was used in prior studies, whereas our model used a gradual (5 - 10%) decrease in sodium intake. The benefit of our new strategy is that it is more representative of reality and the speed of people's acceptance towards this change. This modeling allows us to show the meaningful impact on mortality and morbidity on CVD as well as hypertension. Another advantage of this gradual aspect is that it allows policymakers to see how the gradual reduction in sodium intake can result in meaningful prevented cases of CVD over time. Since they can examine the effectiveness of this approach after a short period of time (e.g., one year), it will help them to have a better understanding of the impact of sodium reduction on the prevalence of CVD over time. Averages of current sodium intakes from Canada, the US, and Latin America were used to project each country's gradual decrease of sodium intake on hypertension and CVD.

## 2.2 Method

### 2.2.1 Description of data

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is a global public health agency with over 100 years experience in health improvement of the nations of the Americas [73]. Using mortality data provided by PAHO, we estimated the impact of a gradual decrease of sodium intake on CVD-related mortality and morbidity in Canada, United States, and Latin American countries. Only 18 out of the 47 countries provided by PAHO, as discussed by experts,

were categorized as a representative of Latin American countries and thus were considered in this analysis. These countries include Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The data from the US, Canada, and Latin American countries were analyzed separately. Within each country, we had access to individual data that revealed the cause of death, age of death, and year of death. The reported cause of death by PAHO was compared with the International Classification of Disease (ICD10) to define and categorize the cause of death due to CHD, stroke, and CVD. Since our study attempts to estimate the impact of sodium reduction on blood pressure related cases of CVD, we excluded those subjects whose CVD death was not related to elevated blood pressure. For example, I00-I02 was classified with ICD10 as Acute Rheumatic fever which is categorized as a CVD, however because it is not related to high blood pressure, we did not consider these individual cases as those that have died from CVD in our analysis. The details of the classification of diseases are outlined in Appendix A.

The total number of deaths in each category was separately calculated for males and females over the age of 20. To calculate the age specific death rate, in addition to mortality data from PAHO, we used the United Nations (UN) population estimates from 1995 to 2035. Within each sex, age groups were classified for every 5 years of age: 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, . . . , 95-99, 100+. Since the UN population estimates were based on 5 year intervals, we used the following formula to calculate the average rate of growth between every 5 year cross-sectional snapshot to estimate the yearly age specific population for each of the four years in between.

$$\alpha = \left(\frac{x_t}{x_{t-i}}\right)^{1/i} - 1 \quad \text{where } x_{t+1} = x_t * (1 + \alpha)$$

For example the total number of females between the ages of 20-24 in 1995 was 1365000, and 1629000 in 2000. Using the above formula the estimated numbers between 1995 and 2000 are 1365000, 1414000, 1465000, 1518000, 1572000 and 1629000. The total number of years of mortality data for each country varied based on availability of data. For example, Costa Rica had data from 1997 to 2007, and Guatemala only had data from 2005 to 2006. In comparison with other years, a stark difference was observed between the 2006 and 2007 mortality data and thus excluded from our analysis. For this reason, we used the reported total number of deaths due to specified diseases and total population between 1997 and



Table 2.1: Available Mortality Data for Latin American Countries

Country	Available Data	Country	Available Data
Anguilla	2000 - 2006	Guyana	2001 - 2005
Antigua and Barbuda	2000 - 2006	Haiti	1997 - 2004
Argentina	1997 - 2006	Martinique	2000 - 2005
Aruba	1999 - 2006	Mexico	1998 - 2006
Bahamas	1999 - 2005	Montserrat	1995 - 2006
Barbados	2000 - 2003	Netherlands Antilles	1988 - 2000
Belize	1997 - 2005	Nicaragua	1997 - 2005
Bermuda	1996 - 2006	Panama	1998 - 2006
Bolivia	2002 - 2003	Paraguay	1996 - 2006
Brazil	1996 - 2005	Peru	1999 - 2004
Canada	2000 - 2004	Puerto Rico	1999 - 2005
Cayman Islands	1998 - 2004	Saint Kitts and Nevis	1996 - 2006
Chile	1997 - 2005	Saint Lucia	1996 - 2002
Colombia	1997 - 2006	Saint Pierre and Miquelon	2005
Costa Rica	1997 - 2007	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2000 - 2004
Cuba	2001 - 2006	Suriname	1995 - 2005
Dominica	2001 - 2006	Trinidad and Tobago	1999 - 2002
Dominican Republic	1996 - 2004	Turks and Caicos Islands	1996 - 2006
Ecuador	1997 - 2006	United States of America	1995 - 2005
El Salvador	1997 - 2006	Uruguay	1997 - 2004
French Guiana	2001 - 2005	Venezuela	1996 - 2005
Grenada	2000 - 2007	Virgin Islands (UK)	1996 - 2004
Guadeloupe	2000 - 2005	Virgin Islands (US)	1999 - 2005
Guatemala	2005 - 2006		

2005 as the reference in our calculation. We calculate the “cause-specific mortality rate” (CMR) of CHD, Stroke, and CVD per year for males and females separately.

$$CMR = \frac{\text{Number of deaths from a specific cause during a specified time period}}{\text{Mid - interval population}}$$

Table 2.1 represents the complete list of countries with available mortality data throughout the years considered.

We calculated the average of the estimated cause-specific mortality rate of each country based on the provided data. If the mortality data was not provided from 1997-2005, then we did our calculation based on available data. For example, Bolivia only has information from 2002-2003, therefore we took the average of two-year-cause-specific mortality rate in this case. The results of our calculation is presented per thousand people in Table 2.2 for all 18 included Latin American countries, Canada and the United States, stratified by gender.

Table 2.2: Population For 20+ and Their Cause-Specific Mortality Rate (per 1000)

Country	Population > 20 (2012)	Male			Female		
		CMR (CHD)	CMR (Stroke)	CMR (CVD)	CMR (CHD)	CMR (Stroke)	CMR (CVD)
Argentina	27,852,376	1.08	0.98	3.88	0.66	0.90	3.39
Bolivia	5,648,058	0.11	0.18	0.51	0.07	0.17	0.42
Brazil	133,050,293	0.89	0.85	2.42	0.61	0.76	2.05
Chile	12,218,126	0.93	0.76	2.20	0.65	0.76	2.01
Colombia	29,785,217	1.12	0.54	2.16	0.83	0.59	1.90
Costa Rica	3,163,816	1.07	0.39	1.86	0.78	0.43	1.61
Cuba	8,568,503	2.02	0.98	4.00	1.74	1.04	3.71
Dominican Republic	6,280,801	0.65	0.50	1.63	0.49	0.42	1.39
Ecuador	8,547,081	0.41	0.41	1.70	0.27	0.39	1.52
El Salvador	3,675,750	0.76	0.32	1.66	0.60	0.30	1.47
Guatemala	7,821,191	0.47	0.30	1.56	0.33	0.27	1.35
Mexico	71,855,349	0.92	0.43	1.70	0.71	0.46	1.60
Nicaragua	3,322,998	0.66	0.41	1.42	0.56	0.41	1.31
Panama	2,271,349	0.79	0.72	1.85	0.58	0.67	1.56
Paraguay	3,803,094	1.11	1.20	3.32	0.78	1.30	3.09
Peru	18,481,149	0.24	0.22	0.85	0.19	0.22	0.84
Uruguay	2,381,676	1.61	1.47	4.42	1.13	1.73	4.26
Venezuela	18,534,633	1.37	0.57	2.44	0.93	0.59	2.04
Canada	26,770,251	1.96	0.55	3.06	1.54	0.75	2.94
US	236,203,290	2.45	0.61	3.87	2.21	0.90	3.49

The estimated average of cause-specific mortality rate is then multiplied by the population number to approximate the total number of deaths due to these diseases from 2006-2035.

$$Average = \frac{\text{total number of death per year}}{\text{Estimated population}}$$

### 2.2.2 Design of the model

In general, two different methods have been used to estimate the relationship between sodium reduction and CVD. The direct method estimates the CVD reduction through a decrease in sodium intake. The indirect method, estimates the impact of lowered sodium intake on blood pressure and ultimately its influence on the reduction of CVD. The effect of sodium reduction on CVD, where blood pressure is considered as an intermediary variable, has shown to be a sufficient method [31, 55, 74]. The association between blood pressure and the risk of CVD appears to be independent of other risk factors, showing that the higher the blood pressure, the greater the risk of CVD [75].

Table 2.3: The Magnitude of Change in Blood Pressure Through Sodium Reduction

Amount of change		Hypertensive		Normotensive	
Salt	Sodium	Change in Systolic	Change in Diastolic	Change in Systolic	Change in Diastolic
9 grams	3540	10.7	5.8	5.4	2.5
6 grams	2360	7.1	3.9	3.6	1.7
3 grams	1180	3.6	1.9	1.8	0.8
Adapted from He et al (2002)					

The goal of our method was to estimate the number of CVD events and deaths that would be reduced each year in the US, Canada and Latin American populations given different scenarios of reduction in sodium intake (5% and 10% reduction) using the indirect method. To estimate the association between sodium intake and blood pressure over time we have used the Meta analysis by He and MacGregor [50, 76]. Through the reduction of 3, 6, and 9 grams of salt, He et al show the magnitude of changes in systolic and diastolic blood pressure for hypertensive and normotensive cases separately. Table 2.3 presents further details.

In this analysis, the magnitude of change in blood pressure was calculated based on the mean arterial pressure  $((2 \times \text{diastolic}) + \text{systolic}) / 3$ . Therefore the changes for blood pressure corresponding to a 3, 6, and 9 gram reduction of salt intake is equivalent to 2.47, 4.97, and 7.43 units in hypertensive and 1.13, 2.33, and 3.47 units in normotensive. To be able to estimate the amount of change in blood pressure corresponding to different amounts of sodium reduction, we used a linear regression model to estimate the reduction of blood pressure as a result of reducing sodium intake. We assumed no change in sodium reduction implied no change in blood pressure. Hypertensive and normotensive groups were examined separately due to the varying results of the influence of sodium reduction on blood pressure in these two groups. In the next step, to estimate the relationship between blood pressure and CVD we used the result of a Meta analysis by Psaty et al at 2003 [77]. They have reported the relative risk (RR) of CVD events and CVD mortality, comparing Placebo, Low-Dose Diuretic and several other drugs. We used the relative risk corresponding to the low-dose diuretic versus placebo trials as they best represent the potential impact of sodium reduction on blood pressure and CVD mortality. Their analysis showed the reduction of 13.2 mmHg in systolic blood pressure and 4.9 mmHg in diastolic blood pressure corresponding to the amount of changes of relative risk in CHD, stroke, and CVD. The relative risk and

Table 2.4: Association Between Change in Blood Pressure and CVD

Outcome	RR (95 percent CI)
CHD	0.79 (0.69 - 0.92)
Stroke	0.71 (0.63 - 0.81)
CVD events	0.76 (0.69 - 0.83)
CVD Mortality	0.81 (0.73 - 0.92)
Adapted from Psaty et al	

its 95% confidence interval for each disease are shown in Table 2.4.

We used previous studies to find the average level of sodium intake for the United States, Canada, and 10 Latin American countries. We used the average sodium intake of these 10 Latin American countries in order to estimate the averages of the 8 remaining countries that originally did not have available data on average sodium intake. The ten countries that were used to estimate an average for the remaining 8 included: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Uruguay. The average sodium intake of mentioned countries was 3880 mg.

We used linear regression analysis and assumed that no change in blood pressure would result in no change in relative risk. The linearity between blood pressure and the risk of CVD has been shown by Lewington et al (2002) and Anderson et al (1991) [75, 78]. Using a regression line, we estimated the effect of gradual changes in blood pressure due to different levels of sodium reduction in the diet on the relative risk of each disease over time.

As we mentioned in the above table, the RR of CVD Mortality and CVD events is available separately. It is worth mentioning that the PAHO data provided to us only considered CVD mortality. Therefore, the RR of CVD mortality became an appropriate measure of effect to use in our analysis. In the case of CHD and stroke, the Psaty study (2003) only provides us RR of combined fatal and non-fatal cases, and unfortunately we did not have access to mortality RR separately. To overcome these challenges, we used two different approaches in our analysis.

### 2.2.3 Method 1:

Since the RR of CVD mortality was very close to the upper bound of RR of CVD events, we considered the upper bound of relative risk of CHD and stroke events (95% CI) as an

appropriate candidate for RR of CHD and stroke mortality. This was used to estimate the number of lives saved for each disease after reducing 5 - 10% sodium intake per year.

To accurately estimate the total number of preventable cases, we treated normotensive and hypertensive cases separately because the change in blood pressure from sodium varies between normotensives and hypertensives. We used the Framingham estimates of the proportion of CHD (70%) and stroke (84%) events that occur in hypertensive patients for each country studied [79, 80, 81]. In the case of total CVD, which is the sum of CHD, stroke and other CVD related diseases, we used the average proportion of CHD and stroke events that occurs in hypertensive as our reference for total CVD. The rest of the population was considered to be normotensive individuals. With these assumptions, the process of our analysis was as follows. For each country, we used the average sodium intake and reduced it by 10% every year. The reduction was then used to estimate the magnitude of change in blood pressure in both normotensive and hypertensive populations separately. Based on the change of blood pressure, we were able to estimate the change in relative risk of CHD, stroke and CVD to estimate the number of lives that could be saved per year. The estimated total number of deaths due to each disease from 2012 was used as our starting point. We used “1-RR” to estimate the total number of preventable cases for each disease. To estimate the RR for the years following the first year, we did the following:

- We assumed the risk at the baseline is equal to A
- After 10% reduction our risk is equal to B
- If we reduce another 10% it becomes C
- The relative risk associated to this intervention (10% reduction in the first year) , is equal to  $\frac{B}{A}$
- The relative risk for the second 10% reduction is equal to  $\frac{C}{B}$
- Therefore to estimate the relative risk (after the first and second 10% reduction) we multiplied the relative risk of the first 10% reduction and the second 10% reduction which is equal to  $(\frac{B}{A} * \frac{C}{B})$

Using PAHO and UN data, we had previously estimated the total number of death per year per country without applying any specific intervention. To have an accurate estimate,

Table 2.5: Number of Lives Saved Following First 10 Percent Sodium Reduction

Country	Sodium (mg/day)	1-RR Hy-pertensive	1-RR Nor-motensive	Prevented Stroke	Prevented CHD	Prevented CVD
Argentina	4720	0.024	0.011	537	173	1897
Bolivia	3930	0.020	0.010	17	3	41
Brazil	3930	0.020	0.010	1827	596	4636
Chile	3930	0.020	0.010	158	58	402
Colombia	3880	0.020	0.009	283	171	929
Costa Rica	3930	0.020	0.010	22	18	86
Cuba	3750	0.019	0.009	141	92	492
Dominican Republic	3880	0.020	0.009	49	21	146
Ecuador	3930	0.020	0.010	58	17	215
El Salvador	3880	0.020	0.009	19	15	88
Guatemala	5900	0.030	0.014	53	26	247
Mexico	2800	0.014	0.007	398	217	1278
Nicaragua	3880	0.020	0.009	23	12	70
Panama	3880	0.020	0.009	27	9	60
Paraguay	3880	0.020	0.009	80	21	188
Peru	3880	0.020	0.009	69	23	240
Uruguay	1960	0.010	0.005	33	10	80
Venezuela	3880	0.020	0.009	181	126	640
Canada	3400	0.018	0.008	257	242	1087
US	3370	0.017	0.008	2606	2820	11632

we had to take into account the total number of prevented cases in our calculations. The preventable cases need to be subtracted from the total number of deaths that was estimated without considering any specific interventions. Table 2.5 shows the number of lives saved due to stroke after the first year of a 10% sodium reduction in the Latin American countries, the US and Canada.

In our analysis, we started with the average sodium intake of each country. In the next step we reduced the sodium intake by 10%, and estimated the total number of lives that can be saved due to this reduction. We repeated this process until the average sodium intake in the population reached the optimal level (1200 mg). The left side of Table 2.6 shows the number of lives that can be saved per year in Canada with a 10% sodium reduction per year and the right side of the table corresponds to the 5% sodium reduction per year. Based on our analysis, if we start the 10% sodium reduction per year from 2012, we will reach the optimal level of sodium intake by 2022 and we can prevent 49,436 CVD related death in Canada during this time. When we reduced the amount of sodium reduction by 5% per year the number of prevented cases after 10 years of reduction dropped to 29,625 cases while

Table 2.6: Number of Lives Saved in Canada after 5-10% Sodium Reduction per Year

Years	10% reduction per year				5% reduction per year			
	Sodium level	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Sodium level	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	280	291	1240	3400	140	146	620
2	3060	646	555	2329	3230	337	286	1209
3	2754	958	795	3294	3069	522	422	1772
4	2479	1230	1014	4156	2915	697	554	2311
5	2231	1463	1211	4910	2769	859	679	2815
6	2008	1668	1390	5586	2631	1012	800	3297
7	1807	1850	1554	6197	2499	1156	916	3757
8	1626	2014	1706	6754	2374	1293	1030	4200
9	1464	2162	1847	7265	2256	1424	1139	4626
10	1317	2288	1970	7707	2143	1544	1242	5018
11	1186	2403	2084	8112	2036	1658	1341	5395
Total		16963	14418	57548	Total	10644	8554	35020

the level of sodium intake in the population reached 2036 mg per day. The details of the analysis stratified by gender and hypertension status are presented in Appendix B.

We repeated the analysis for United States and all 18 Latin American countries. Table 2.7 presents the summary of our results for United States and Latin American countries. The second column of this table shows the total number of years that each country needs to reach the optimal level of sodium intake. The columns three to five show the total number of lives that can be saved due to stroke, CHD and total CVD for each country. The complete table stratified by gender and hypertension status is presented in appendix B.

The analysis was repeated with UN data for the population over 20 years old and the PAHO mortality data for 2012, but this time, to calculate the total number of preventable cases, we considered a constant number of deaths over time. The total number of deaths in 2012 for each country was considered as our reference. Our results showed that the total number of preventable cases is slightly different when we are using a constant number of deaths compared to a population growth technique. The summary table for the Latin American countries and the complete table for the United States and Canada is included in appendix B.

To check the sensitivity of our results to the average cause-specific mortality rate, we repeated the analysis by using the weighted average cause-specific mortality rates. The weight was spread out over the years with the most recent years having the most weight depending on the availability of data. Our result confirms that the model is not very sensitive

Table 2.7: Number of Years and Lives that Can be Saved to Reach Optimal Level of Sodium (10% yearly reduction)

Country	Years	Prevented Stroke	Prevented CHD	Prevented CVD
Argentina	14	48948	15130	141897
Bolivia	12	1373	229	2677
Brazil	12	138831	41591	284672
Chile	12	11864	4000	24455
Colombia	12	22218	12280	58814
Costa Rica	12	1739	1266	5441
Cuba	12	9979	5996	28211
Dominican Republic	12	3799	1507	9201
Ecuador	12	4561	1241	13630
El Salvador	12	1493	1038	5520
Guatemala	16	6800	3359	26516
Mexico	9	20089	9625	51510
Nicaragua	12	1867	891	4616
Panama	12	2099	666	3807
Paraguay	12	6510	1580	12329
Peru	12	5377	1683	15166
Uruguay	5	2577	659	5003
Venezuela	12	14384	9161	40923
US	11	171449	167369	614792

to the different weighted average cause-specific mortality rates. The details of our findings can be found in appendix B.

As mentioned before, we treated the normotensive and hypertensive cases separately, because the amount of change in their blood pressure due to a specific level of sodium reduction varies from case to case. In the real world, some hypertensive cases are on medication and their level of blood pressure is already controlled. Therefore, those hypertensive people who are treated can be considered the same as normotensive cases. We assume the level of BP reduction in controlled hypertensives to be the same as normotensives. For our own study, we used the exact percentage of controlled hypertensive cases from ten different Latin American countries as reported in the Latin American guidelines on hypertension by Sanchez (2009) [20]. For the remaining eight Latin American countries, we used the average of the reported controlled hypertensive cases to estimate the percentage of hypertensive cases versus normotensive cases. The highest percentage of controlled hypertensive cases was from Argentina at 18%, whereas the lowest percentage came from Paraguay at 7%. The average of the ten countries that was used for the remaining eight was 12.49%. Based on



the Framingham study, we know that 84% of strokes occurred in hypertensive and 16% in normotensive groups. For example, in Argentina the percentage of controlled hypertension is 18%. Therefore, we multiplied the percentage of strokes in hypertensive cases (84%) with the percentage of controlled hypertensives (18%) to calculate the percentage of hypertensive cases (15%) which need to move to the normotensive group. As a result, our numbers shift to 69% for hypertensive cases and 31% to normotensive cases. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in 2011 half of the adults with elevated blood pressure have it under control [82]. Therefore the percentage of controlled hypertensive cases in US is considered 50% in this analysis. We considered a hypertension control rate of 66% in Canada [83]. We applied the appropriate percentage of control to all three cases (average rate, weighted average rate, and constant number of deaths) and estimated the total number of lives that can be saved over time. The details of the analysis can be found in appendix B.

#### 2.2.4 Method 2:

As mentioned previously, the relative risk of events is available; however, the relative risk of mortality for CHD and stroke is unavailable. In addition, the total number of fatal cases due to each specific disease in each country per year is available to us, but we are unaware of the total number of non-fatal cases. We used the 2002 Canadian Mortality Database of Statistics Canada, and hospitalization data from the Canadian Institute for health information. These data were unique to our study because, unlike other studies, they provided both total and fatal cases of CHD, stroke, and heart failure. We calculated the proportion of total to fatal CHD, and stroke between the years 1995 to 2002 for males and females separately. In the next step we multiplied these proportions by the total number of fatal cases of each disease per year per country to estimate the total number of events (both fatal and non-fatal cases) of CHD and stroke per year, per country, stratified by gender. To avoid overestimation of number of preventable events, we chose the minimum proportion within the stated years as the reference to apply to our analysis. Table 2.8 presents the minimum of these proportions.

It is important to mention that CVD includes stroke, CHD and other additional diseases. In the case of CVD, to estimate the proportion of total events to fatal cases of CVD, we used the weighted average of proportions of CHD, stroke and heart failure, due to the large difference between the number of heart failure fatal cases versus the fatal cases of CHD or stroke as well as their difference in terms of proportion of total events to fatal cases which

Table 2.8: Proportion of total CVD events to fatal CVD cases

Disease	Male	Female
CHD	3.4	2.6
Stroke	3.4	2.5
CVD	4.4	3.6
Heart failure	13.4	9.6

has been shown in Table 2.8.

We didn't have access to the total number of CHD, Stroke and CVD events for the United States or the Latin American countries. Seemingly, the proportion of non-fatal to fatal CHD and stroke in Canada was close enough to two previous studies [84, 85] to make a confident assumption that Canadian data could be used as our reference to estimate the total number of events of each disease for the United States and Latin American countries as well. The total number of preventable cases of CHD, stroke and CVD as a result of 10% reduction in sodium intake per year for the Latin American countries, the United States and Canada are shown in Table 2.9.

Additionally, the different scenarios that were examined in the first approach were repeated using relative risk of events instead of relative risk of mortality. The summary for each scenario is presented in Appendix B.

The result of these analyses can be used further in more complex models to simulate or estimate the cost savings of such an intervention. However, in the absence of such a model we can attain a rough estimate of the potential total costs saved due to an intervention of this kind. Simply, we can multiply the hospital cost of an individual affected by CHD, stroke and CVD with the number of preventable cases due to a specific amount of sodium reduction (5% or 10%). This sum underestimates the total savings as it does not consider medicine costs, post-disease treatment costs, short term employment absence, and other indirect costs.

### 2.3 Discussion and future work

CVD as the single largest risk factor for mortality worldwide has a major impact on both developed and low/middle income countries. Although resources, capacity, and priorities

Table 2.9: Total Number of Prevented Cases in Canada, US and LA Countries

Country	Years	Prevented Stroke	prevented CHD	prevented CVD
Argentina	14	156955	109079	687453
Bolivia	12	4453	1701	13188
Brazil	12	449658	306182	1396816
Chile	12	38190	29433	119621
Colombia	12	70796	90069	288091
Costa Rica	12	5578	9340	26787
Cuba	12	32097	43728	138231
Dominican Republic	12	12422	11082	45280
Ecuador	12	14753	9201	66851
El Salvador	12	4758	7503	26823
Guatemala	16	21580	23257	126848
Mexico	9	65719	71736	254313
Nicaragua	12	5995	6489	22583
Panama	12	6817	4918	18756
Paraguay	12	20882	11692	60460
Peru	12	17301	12347	74079
Uruguay	5	8196	5042	24757
Venezuela	12	46295	67832	201559
Canada	11	53718	107148	282893
US	11	538900	1232384	3029447

vary across countries, empirical research has suggested that reducing salt consumption as one of the available interventions can be an effective approach in reducing CVD [86]. Most of the studies that have investigated the impact of sodium reduction on CVD or blood pressure as a major risk factor for developing CVD have been conducted in developed countries. In this project, we used available mortality data from PAHO to examine the impact of gradual sodium reduction on CVD mortality and CVD events through the reduction of blood pressure in 18 different Latin American countries as well as Canada and the United States. In addition to the advantage of considering gradual decrease of sodium in our study, we also excluded those subjects whose CVD death was not related to elevated blood pressure to avoid overestimation in our analysis. Subjects over the age of 20 are considered in this analysis, and are stratified by gender and their hypertension status.

Although CVD mortality has shown decreasing trends during the 20th century in developed countries [86], over time the decrease has slowed down and it is not clear whether or not future trends will be sustained, increase or decrease. For this reason, we neither used the regression analysis based on available mortality data from previous years nor did we use

the average growth rate of cause specific mortality rate to extrapolate the future trend of CVD. Instead, we have used the average and weighted average cause-specific mortality rate to estimate the total number of preventable cases of CHD, stroke, and CVD. Our analysis confirms that the model is not very sensitive to the specific weight assigned to each year.

Since low-dose diuretics are the most effective first-line treatment, in our analysis we have used the RR of a low-dose diuretic versus a placebo (from Psaty 2003) [77, 87]. It could be argued that we did not use the strongest relative risk between sodium reduction and blood pressure in our analysis [57, 78]. Our reason for not following these studies is that we preferred to be conservative and show the minimum impact of this intervention instead of being in danger of overestimating the association. Our goal was to highlight the massive benefit that we can receive from this action at the population level.

We could attain a rough estimate of the minimum potential total cost savings due to this intervention, which is equal to the total hospital cost per country, multiplied by the number of events. However, rough estimates of the total cost savings due to sodium reduction is presented in several studies [32, 65, 71, 72, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93]. For example, using a simulation model, Bibbins-Domingo et al (2010) estimated reduction in salt intake of 3 g/day saves 10-24 billion in annual medication costs in the United States. Joffres et al (2007) estimated the benefits of sodium reduction on health care costs in Canada when considering a onetime sudden reduction (1840 mg/day) of sodium in the population. Based on their analysis, the direct cost savings are estimated to be approximately \$430 million per year. Rubinstein et al (2009) compared the cost effectiveness of six individual interventions in Argentina. Based on their analysis, lowering salt intake is a strategy considered to be a cost effective approach in Argentina.

There are other studies in the United States that have estimated the benefits of sodium reduction on health care systems. To our knowledge, this is the first study that has considered the gradual impact of sodium reduction on different populations, specifically Latin American countries. Therefore, to have an accurate estimate of the total benefits of population-based reduction in dietary sodium, we need to have access to the cost of hospital, laboratory, and physician office visits, antihypertensive drugs, as well as the relative size of the public and private health sectors in each country, each of which needs further analysis.

Since we did not have the total number of CHD, stroke, and CVD events for countries other than Canada, we used Canadian data to estimate the total number of events in order to project the total number of preventable cases per year for the Latin American countries

Table 2.10: Comparing the Results of Three Different Scenarios After 10 Years (10% Yearly Sodium Reduction)

	Canada		Unites states	
	Number of lives that can be saved		Number of lives that can be saved	
Method	Uncontrolled	Controlled	Uncontrolled	Controlled
Constant	49,615	34,696	531,287	410,200
Average rate	49,436	35,181	527,960	412,532
Weighted average rate	48,541	34,554	510,125	398,709
	Canada		Unites states	
	Number of events that can be prevented		Number of events that can be prevented	
Method	Uncontrolled	Controlled	Uncontrolled	Controlled
Constant	248,562	174,205	2,668,072	2,063,093
Average rate	243,447	174,439	2,606,176	2,045,960
Weighted average rate	239,030	171,321	2,519,645	1,978,581

and the United States. However, based on previous studies, it is important to note that both developed and developing countries are similar in terms of high prevalence of CVD in the population.

Furthermore, we did not have the exact distribution of sodium intake for each population so we used the average level of sodium intake in each population based on previous studies, taking into account that results may demonstrate an overestimation or underestimation.

Table 2.10 shows the total number of CVD related deaths that can be prevented after a yearly 10% reduction in sodium intake as well as the total number of CVD events that can be prevented in Canada and the United States after 10 years, considering all three scenarios (Constant number of deaths, average cause-specific mortality rate, and weighted average cause-specific mortality rate) with or without controlling for hypertensive individuals that are on medications.

Although cardiovascular disease is a major public health problem, with a small change, such as sodium reduction, we can see massive differences in population health, as we have seen in our results. Our analysis is an example of an aggregate model. This means that further analysis of individual characteristics are needed to have a better understanding of the impact of sodium reduction on blood pressure, as well as cardiovascular diseases. To increase the level of accuracy in our estimate, we need improved access to certain information such as: the population distribution of sodium intake, blood pressure, and age; as well as the percentage of hypertensives, the percentage of hypertensives on medication, the percentage

of people who are either unaware of their blood pressure, or are aware but untreated. We need to have a better estimates of relationship between sodium intake and blood pressure stratified by age and sex as well as blood pressure and CVD by age and sex. This information can help create a more accurate vision for the future of public health, and can be used in a more complex model to explore the dynamics of CVD trends in the future.

## Chapter 3

# Individual decision making

The previous chapter highlighted the need, importance and impact of a specific intervention at the population level, such as a gradual sodium reduction, and its influence on population health and our society. Since this approach needs strong support from policy makers, governments, and, in particular, the food industry, each of us as an individual does not have much power to make these population level changes. Therefore, the next question is: What can we do in the absence of or in addition to a population level action? How can our awareness and willingness to change affect our regular sodium consumption as an individual?

### 3.1 Introduction

About 5000 years ago, Chinese people discovered salt as a method of food preservation that was also used as a trading commodity in place of money. Salt intake level around the 1870s reached its highest peak but with the invention of deep freezers and refrigerators, salt usage declined as it was no longer required as a preservative. With technology and innovation, processed foods arrived to accommodate the modern lifestyle of the 21st century. As such, salt intake increased due to the need to increase shelf life, but also for the improvement of food taste. One of the many problems with our sodium consuming world is that the more salt we add, the more our palate demands it [50, 94]. In most countries, the demands are returning back to those levels of the 1870s at approximately 3500-4700 mg/day [41, 66, 95]. In reality, our bodies only need about 200 mg/day salt, with a recommended level of 1200-1500 mg/day and an upper limit of 2300 mg/day [47]. However, based on Statistics Canada,

Canadian consumers are on average exceeding the recommended level and consuming about 3600 mg/day.

It is undeniable that sodium is needed to maintain a healthy body but excess amounts of sodium present challenges to the kidneys, a rise in blood pressure, risk of obesity and CVD, and stomach cancer [41, 96]. Based on results from the 2004 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)-Nutrition (Statistics Canada), we are able to point out that among adults aged 19 to 70, more than 85% of men and 60% of women had sodium intake higher than the recommended upper limit which increases overall health risks [97]. As mentioned above, a rise in high blood pressure is one of the consequences of the excessive intake of salt which leads to CVD. He and Macgregor [66] state that a high level of sodium is a contributor to the high prevalence of hypertension in Western societies. Supporting this statement, the World Health Organization (2002) reports that high blood pressure is estimated to be the leading risk factor for death in the world. In Canada alone, an estimated 15000 people are dying every year due to the excessive consumptions of sodium [98]. With current modern lifestyles, more than 90% of people are likely to develop hypertension, affecting approximately 19% of the adult Canadian population [15, 19, 21].

It has been estimated that a universal reduction in sodium intake close to 1150 mg/day could avoid 22% deaths from strokes and 16% deaths from coronary heart diseases [99]. In particular, using the Canadian Heart Health survey data shows that reducing sodium intake by 1840 mg/day in Canadian population may decrease hypertension prevalence by 30%. The direct cost savings associated to this action is estimated to be approximately 430 million (dollars) per year [72]. The impact of reducing dietary sodium intake is more pronounced in terms of the total number of cases/events that can be prevented compared to deaths. In 2008, Penz et al [10] estimate about 23,000 CVD events per year could be prevented by reducing dietary sodium intake (1800 mg/day) in the Canadian population. Estimates varied from 14,500 to 21,500 events per year when hypertension control rates were considered at 13% to 66%. While targets for a reduction in daily sodium intake have been clearly set, the population appears to be well beyond the guidelines.

Several public health measures have been taken to reduce sodium intake, particularly in processed foods (e.g., Groupe SALT in France), such as regulations to lower the salt content of prepared foods, education campaigns to raise awareness in the population, and clear labelling of the salt content (e.g., 'Pick the Tick' in Australia, traffic light labelling in the UK) [100, 101, 102]. Since 77% of total sodium intake comes from processed and



restaurant foods [43], lowering the sodium content of processed foods has been considered as a key solution to lowering blood pressure [103], along with initiatives such as adopting a healthier behaviour that includes more fresh foods. However, changing our lifestyles is not the only necessary measure, we also need to maintain and sustain these changes in the long term.

Research often recommends a population-wide reduction in sodium intake but little attention has been paid to what is happening at the point of purchase and individuals level. Fortunately a recent study in Australia showed that in the absence of a major change in sodium content of food products, a significant decrease in sodium could be achieved if customers received a basic training regarding food labels [104]. The work in this chapter focuses at what can be done at the individual level and investigates whether a significant decrease in sodium intake can also be met when customers do not change their lifestyle but are able to select healthier products. We examined the potential role of individual decision-making on daily sodium consumption by exploring the distribution of sodium content among supermarket foods. We also explored the association between sodium content and product price in three main food categories in both Canada and France. Prices are particularly important, as it was reported that 60% of shoppers would be more likely to buy a product with reduced salt if there was no difference in price [105]. Using our selected data, we computed the lowest, highest and average sodium content that consumers could achieve. We precisely matched products between Canada and France (e.g., canned raviolis, whole wheat slice bread), in order to compare sodium contents between the two countries

## 3.2 Method

The main goal of this study was to analyze the sodium content in the food categories accounting for the largest daily sodium intake in the western population. The sodium content was collected via food labels from January to March 2010 for 825 items in Vancouver (Canada), and 503 items in Nice (France). We focused on processed foods, as it accounts for about 77% of the sodium intake in industrialized countries [106]. The stores chosen for the data collection are representative of the national trends. In Canada, almost half of food purchases are from supermarkets. Data collection in Canada was conducted in Vancouver (British Columbia), which is the third largest Canadian market [107]. The supermarkets chosen in Vancouver and their estimated national market shares are: Safeway (9%), Real

Canadian Superstore (35% as part of Loblaw), Save on Food (4% as part of Overwaitea), and Nester's Market [108]. Data collection in France was conducted in Nice, which also holds a significant national market share as the fifth most populous French city. The supermarkets chosen and their estimated national market shares are [109]: Carrefour (12.8%), Auchan (8.6%), Carrefour Market (8.5%), and ED (2.5%).

### 3.2.1 Definitions of food categories

Food was categorized using the United States Department of Agriculture food coding scheme. Food items were systematically reviewed both in France and Canada for the three food categories that account for the largest daily sodium intake, using a recent report for the United States population [46]: grains (e.g., cereals, breads, canned vegetables and processed food such as corn, lasagna, ravioli, and spaghetti), meat/fish (e.g., bacon, sausages, ham, fish, chicken/beef broth, soups/sauce, and ready meals where meat is the main ingredient), and vegetables (e.g., vegetable soups/sauce, canned/frozen vegetables, vegetable stock/juice, and potato chips). Each food item was classified using a three level hierarchy. First, an item was assigned to grains, meat/fish, or vegetables. Items were further categorized using selected subcategories. Finally, when possible, variations over a same product were gathered in order to compare products between countries (e.g., ready-made lasagnas, light mayonnaise). For each food item, we recorded the price, and the following information from the food label: brand name, product name, weight, quantity, sodium and calories. During the organizing and cleaning process we excluded 163 Canadian items and 75 French items from our analysis due to two possible reasons. First, we eliminated products with unclear labelling, such as freeze dried soups in which the content was based on powder weight or on volume after adding sometimes unknown quantities of water. Secondly, we eliminated products when no equivalent subcategory could be found in the other country. In order to ensure that values were correctly recorded, we compared the sodium content of each food item with the content for items in the most specific category available. For example, the sodium content of lasagna was compared with other lasagnas; if no other lasagnas were available, then the comparison would be made with dishes containing pasta and meat. When the content in the item appeared significantly different from similar food products, the conductors re-checked the labels by returning to the supermarket where the item was originally collected. This additional checking took place from August to September 2010.

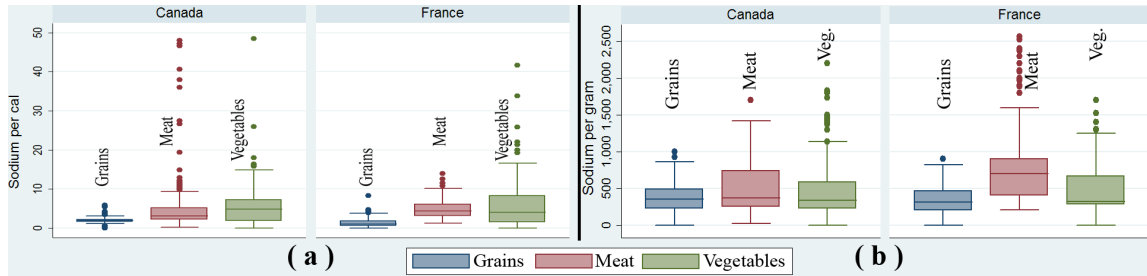


Figure 3.1: Sodium content (mg) per kcal (a) and per 100 g (b) in France and Canada for the three main food categories

### 3.2.2 Data analysis

One of the challenges in our analysis was the lack of a standard weight for labels in Canada. For example the contents of BBQ sauces among the items collected were reported using serving sizes such as 15g, 30g, and 37g. The same issue exists regarding the weight of packages. To be able to analyse the relationship between sodium content and price of product accurately, we normalized these quantities and expressed them per 100 g. Labels in France always provide a standard weight of 100g.

Two analyses were conducted using STATA 9. First, we focused on descriptive analysis and explored the distribution of sodium content within and between both countries. Second, we used correlation statistics to investigate the association between sodium content and price of the products in each category. Although the distribution of our data was reasonably normal, we performed both parametric and nonparametric analyses. The result of the nonparametric test (Spearman’s and Kendall’s correlation) agreed with the parametric test. Since individuals on diet programs (e.g., weight watchers) commonly measure their intake in kcal to control their daily energy intake, we completed the analysis by studying the association between sodium content expressed per kcal, and price. In this situation, we used Pearson’s correlation statistic as the data were approximately normal.

## 3.3 Results

The summary statistics of sodium content of processed foods are presented in Figure 3.1 for the three main food categories in each of the countries.

Table 3.1: Average, Minimum and Maximum Sodium Content in Each Categories

Food Category	Minimum	Average (std)	Maximum
Grains	0	347(206)	1000
Meat/Fish	23	605(1452)	2560
Vegetables	0	457(342)	2200

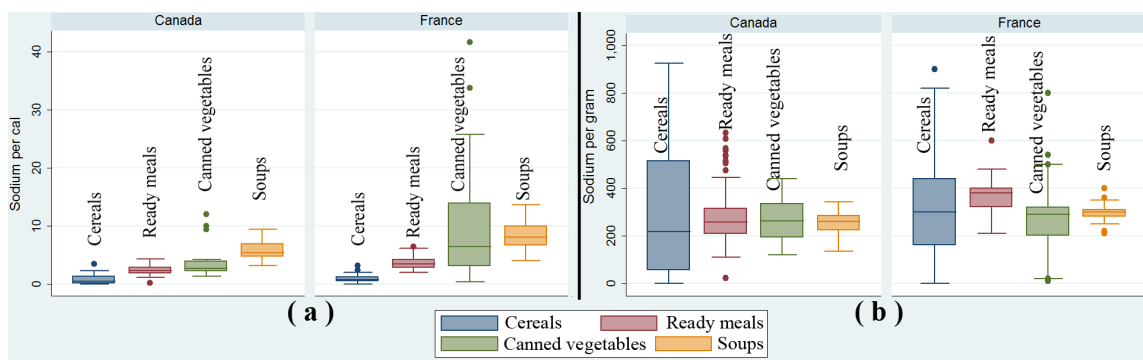


Figure 3.2: Sodium content (mg) per kcal (a) and per 100 g (b) in France and Canada in ready to eat breakfast cereals, ready meals, canned vegetables, and soups

Each bar plot describes the minimum, maximum, median, and the two quartiles surrounding the median. Outliers are shown as points, which represent observations that are numerically far away from the rest of the data (i.e., containing very low/high sodium in comparison with the rest of the data).

Table 3.1 presents the average, standard deviation, minimum and maximum sodium content in each category.

Figure 3.2 and 3.3 illustrate the same analysis for the subcategories in which a large enough sample of items was collected in both countries. Our analysis shows that a broad range of sodium content exists in each food category.

Based on previous studies, the cut-off points of 120 mg/100g and 500 mg/100g were used to calculate the percentage of food with low ( $< 120$  mg/100g) and high ( $> 500$  mg/100g) sodium content in each category [104, 110]. In general, more than a third of the products had high sodium content ( $> 500$  mg/100g). Furthermore, more French products than Canadian products have high sodium content ( $> 500$  mg/100g). Indeed, Table 3.2 shows that the

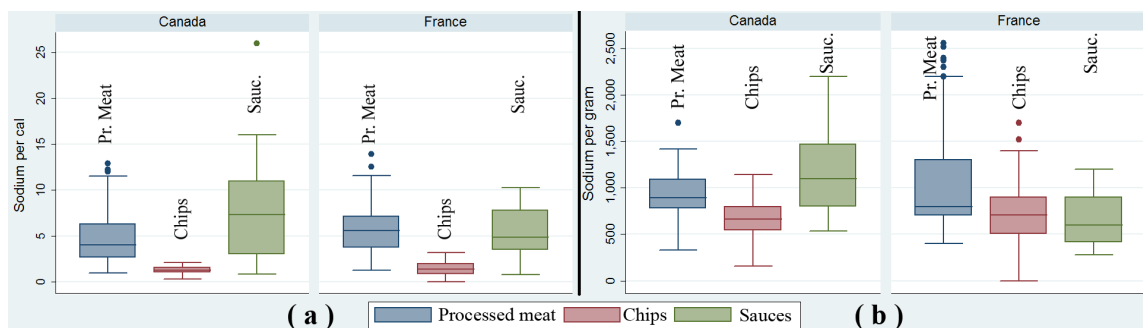


Figure 3.3: Sodium content (mg) per kcal (a) and per 100 g (b) in France and Canada in processed meat, chips, and sauces

Table 3.2: Percentage of selected products with a low and high sodium content

Category	Subcategory	Canada		France		Combined	
		Low %	High%	Low %	High%	Low%	High %
Grains	All	10	16	18	13	14	14
Grains	Cereals	41	29	22	11	26	14
Meat and Fish	All	1	39	0	60	1	46
Meat and Fish	Processed Meat	0	94	0	95	0	95
Meat and Fish	Ready Meal	2	7	0	2	1	6
Vegetables	All	7	32	3	32	6	32
Vegetables	Cans	0	0	5	3	4	3
Vegetables	Chips	0	76	5	73	3	74
Vegetables	Sauces	0	100	0	63	0	87
All		5	33	6	38	5	35

percentage of products with high sodium content is higher in France compared to Canada in our selected sample. However, this trend is reversed for several important categories. For example, our analysis shows that this percentage is higher in Canada for Grains, ready to eat breakfast and ready meals (16%, 29% and 7% respectively) compared to France (13%, 11% and 2% respectively). The percentage of high sodium in processed meat is similar in both countries (94% vs 95%) and much higher in France than Canada for meat and fish (60% vs 39%). Discrepancies were observed between the mean sodium content that we recorded, and the mean sodium content given in the French food composition table (AFFSA). For example, lasagnas are listed with the mean sodium quantity of 333 mg per 100 g in the French food composition table, whereas in our selected products we found a range of sodium varying between 400 mg and 560 mg per 100 g, with a mean of 480 mg per 100 g.

Table 3.3: Average sodium content and percent change for subcategories in Canada and France

Category	Subcategory	Canada			France			% Difference	
		mg/100	mg/kcal	items	mg/100	mg/kcal	items	100g	100kcal
Grains	Cereals	308	0.87	17	299	0.86	76	-3	-1
Meat and Fish	Processed Meat	911	4.93	88	1089	5.62	94	20	14
Meat and Fish	Ready Meal	281	2.45	110	365	3.61	53	30	47
Vegetables	Cans	262	3.82	21	279	9.35	59	6	145
Vegetables	Chips	652	1.24	38	737	1.45	62	13	17
Vegetables	Soups	255	7.36	32	297	8.37	41	16	14

Table 3.4: Upper and lower quartiles of sodium density (mg/kcal) by food category and Country

Category	Subcategory	Canada			France		
		Upper Q	Mean	Lower Q	Upper Q	Mean	Lower Q
Grains	All	2.22	1.9	1.6	1.84	1.43	0.52
Grains	Cereals	1.33	0.87	0.12	1.2	0.86	0.47
Meat and Fish	All	5.77	8.2	2.2	6.1	4.86	3.1
Meat and Fish	Processed Meat	6.3	4.93	2.63	7.11	2.57	3.68
Meat and Fish	Ready Meal	2.86	2.42	1.85	4.23	3.62	2.82
Vegetables	All	7.22	5.61	1.88	8.33	5.97	1.49
Vegetables	Cans	3.88	3.82	2.18	13.88	8.49	3.05
Vegetables	Chips	1.53	1.24	1	1.94	0.77	0.85
Vegetables	Sauces	7.33	7.8	3	7.78	2.96	3.46
Vegetables	Sauces	6.94	1.56	4.72	10	2.5	6.66

We summarize the sodium content for subcategories in which our item count was significant in both countries in Table 3.3. In our sample, we observe that the sodium content per 100 g is significantly higher in France for ready meals (30%), processed meat (20%), soups (16%), and chips (13%) compared to Canada. The comparison in sodium per calorie between France and Canada reveals differences in similar orders of magnitudes, but for canned vegetables this difference becomes more pronounced (about 1.5 times higher in France compared to Canada).

We also investigated the potential impact of consumer choice on his/her daily sodium intake. As shown in Table 3.4, there can be an important difference in sodium content whether one chooses the products with the mean, higher (i.e., in the upper quartile), or lower (i.e., in the lower quartile) sodium density.

To investigate whether the cost of products does not deter consumers from making

Table 3.5: Association between sodium content and price, and sodium/kcal and price for Canada and France per category

Variable	Canada				France			
	Sodium & Price		Sodium/kcal & Price		Sodium & Price		Sodium/kcal & Price	
	R	P-value	R	P-value	R	P-value	R	P-value
Grains	-0.158	0.157	-0.260	0.016	-0.032	0.748	-0.127	0.207
Meat and Fish	0.150	0.008	0.062	0.276	0.610	< 0.001	0.600	< 0.001
Vegetables	0.305	< 0.001	-	-	0.220	0.003	-0.250	< 0.001

healthier choices, we analyzed whether there were associations between price and sodium content in the three main categories. Our results are summarized in Table 3.5 and show that there is no significant association between price and sodium content except for meat/fish ( $r=0.15$ ;  $p = 0.008$  in Canada;  $r=0.6$ ;  $p < 0.0001$  in France) and for vegetables ( $r=0.31$ ,  $p < 0.001$  in Canada;  $r=0.22$ ,  $p=0.003$  in France).

The association is surprisingly found in the opposite direction. Therefore, a higher price translated to increased sodium content, and particularly more so in French meats ( $r = 0.6$ ).

The association between price and sodium/kcal provides a different picture. In Canada, we found a negative association for grains ( $r=-0.26$ ;  $p=0.016$ ) and a positive association for vegetables ( $P < 0.0001$ ). The negative association means that the price decreases as the sodium content increases. In France, the positive association was found for meats and fish ( $r=0.6$ ;  $p < 0.0001$ ) and the negative association for vegetables ( $r=-0.25$ ;  $p < 0.0001$ ). We also noticed that the price of sodium free products can be significantly lower than similar products with a higher sodium level. For example, Canadian sodium free cereals cost 2/3 of the price of cereals having an average sodium content of 470 mg/100g.

### 3.4 Discussion

The literature on salt reduction strategies has proposed different possible actions to lower the salt content at the industrial level by acting on processed food. However, our data shows that there is also room for improvement at the individual level. In order to demonstrate the extent to which individuals would be able to reach the current sodium consumption guidelines, we collected data about processed food in French and Canadian mainstream supermarkets. Our contribution is twofold. Firstly, we compared the sodium content in France and Canada,

showing a very different picture. In particular, we witnessed a tendency toward larger sodium content in French products. This is particularly worrisome for some commonly eaten products, such as ready meals in which the sodium content is larger in France than in Canada by 30%. However, the total sodium consumption depends on individuals' eating patterns and data suggests that the total sodium consumption in France is slightly lower than the Canadian one. Our analysis showed large variation within categories of products. This has an impact on an individual's sodium intake as exemplified by the following situation. Consider an average U.S. adult, who daily consumes 746 kcal in grains, 410 kcal in meat and 161 kcal in vegetables [46].

Based on our selected data, if this individual was to feed mostly on processed food but chose from amongst the best possible products available, then his or her daily sodium intake would be close to 2400 mg. However, at the other end of the spectrum, the individual could reach 5200 mg. While these are extremes, it highlights that there is a large margin for consumers to lower their sodium consumption, provided that labelling allows efficient comparison of products. Furthermore, one concern possible is that while products with lower sodium content are available to individuals, they might not be purchased due to a difference in cost. We analyzed the relation between sodium content and price in both France and Canada and found that there is no such concern for most food categories. For several categories, the association is surprisingly the opposite: as the food is more expensive, it also contains more salt. Our study demonstrates that the main limitation for consumers toward healthier choices seems to be neither the availability of products, nor the price. Consumers may be more hampered by the difficulty of comparing food labels. We indeed found that if products were to be chosen using sodium per portion, per serving, or percent daily value, then ranking could be difficult for consumers.

In fact, when the ranking was based on portion size, consumers could easily think that the product with a higher level of sodium was the healthier (low sodium content) choice. Our study has several limitations. We focused on mainstream stores and selected products. This was not a random selection of products and therefore should be interpreted with caution. Nevertheless this comparison allowed us to draw some conclusions regarding the main purpose of our study: the comparison of similar products in two different countries, and the ability of individuals to make healthier choices in terms of sodium consumption. We did not survey health stores, which could lead to a different conclusion for the minority of



consumers who use these stores but would unlikely change the overall picture at the population level since the mainstream stores selected in our study account for a large proportion of consumers. Ideally, a study based on the variation in sodium content from food items recorded in food surveys would give a better potential of what could be achieved by choosing labels with lower sodium content. This study points to the importance of the labelling of food products and the potential of individuals to make healthier choices. Despite the fact that more than half of customers read the salt content [105], barriers still prevent them from buying food with lower sodium content. Such barriers include the difficulty of comparing products, since the sodium quantity may only be given per serving and not using a standard unit such as 100g [111]. Indeed, 42% of customers were unable to rank three products based on nutrition labels where only serving sizes were indicated [105].

It is also clear that there is the possibility for the food industry to decrease the sodium content of some of their products, since comparable products are able to achieve this. In Canada, we have among others, a “Health Check Symbol” on the products that are evaluated by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, “Blue Menu” from President’s choice, and different products from various companies with lower sodium than other comparable products. However, we need consistent labelling to achieve the maximum benefit from choices made by individuals, because a product with the health check symbol or any other icon will give a general idea to the consumers about the product, but most of the time individuals would like to be able to count the exact amount of nutrients such as sodium, fat, or calories that they are consuming. While we show that individuals can significantly decrease their sodium intake through comparing similar products, there is still a need to lower the sodium content of processed foods if we want to achieve rapidly healthier sodium intakes at the population level.

## Chapter 4

# Family history

In the previous chapters, we have observed two different approaches: population-wide and individual. The population-wide approach determines the impact of gradual sodium reductions on blood pressure and as a result a decrease in the number of CVD events and CVD mortality per year. We observed that a small amount of change in an individual's sodium intake (5-10%) can make important differences in terms of the number of CVD events at the population level. In the second approach we explored the importance of the role of individual decision making through the availability of products at the supermarket. We then highlighted the specific needs which could benefit an individual's decision making when faced with the abundance of options. Some of these needs vary from enforced education programs to standardized labelling. Both of these approaches are aimed at controlling CVD through the reduction of sodium intake to improve public and population health. In this chapter we focus on a risk factor that to some extent is more complex and harder to control in comparison with other CVD risk factors. We investigate whether or not having a family history of CVD increases the risk of CVD mortality in the Canadian population.

### 4.1 Introduction

Over a century ago, Sir William Osler (1897) was one of the first researchers to point out that angina could recur in families [112]. With time, other significant evidence of increased frequency of CHD for individuals with a family history of the disease was demonstrated by Thomas and Cohen (1955), and Slack and Evans (1966) [113, 114]. Furthermore, in the late 1970s and early 1980s the Western Collaborative Group prospective study involved 3524

male participants showing that participants with a family history of CHD were twice more likely to develop MI and angina than those without a family history of CHD [115]. Since then, there has been considerable progress in this field of research over the last 25 years.

Generally, family history is examined uniquely in each study where first, second, and third degree relatives (e.g., parents, and siblings; grandparents; great-grandparents, etc.) may or may not be included depending on the study. For example, Murabito (2005), when referring to the elderly, showed that a sibling history of CVD has a stronger association with incidence of cardiovascular events in comparison to a parental history of CVD [116, 117]. The Health Family Tree study, which included over 120,000 Utah families, is by far the most impressive study showing the importance of CHD family history at the population level. The study aimed at educating high school students while at the same time identifying high-risk families for preventive medicine programs. It was conducted through take-home health questionnaires and consent forms in order to fill in first degree family history information. The findings showed that 14% of Utah families had a positive family history of CHD. This percentage was responsible for 72% of early CHD cases and 48% of all CHD reported cases [118].

In line with the Health Family Tree Study, the importance of family history for premature CVD has been demonstrated by other researchers [119, 120, 121, 122]. It is important to consider known concerns cited by many authors that the validity of family history information is under question due to recall or reporting bias when individuals are asked for family histories. In response, several researchers have studied the validity of a simple family history assessment. The information provided by the subject is compared with the information provided by a relative of the subject. The sensitivity varied between 79 – 91% and the specificity ranged between 87 – 99% depending on who was asked (spouse, parent, or sibling). The findings proved that there was strong evidence of the accuracy of a simple family history as an assessment tool for the occurrence of CVD [118, 123].

Due to the importance of family history as a predictive factor of CHD, the New American Heart Association guidelines for primary prevention of CHD and stroke has recommended regular updates of an individual's family history [124].

Today, we know that the interaction between genes, age, nutrition, physical, and cultural environment plays an important role in an individual's health status [125]. Due to genetic variation among individuals, genes are responsible for different degrees of susceptibility of an individual to chronic diseases such as coronary artery disease, hypertension, diabetes,

and obesity [126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131].

Previous studies indicate that the incidence and prevalence of chronic diseases vary among individuals, families, and nations. Genetic tendency, environmental factors, and quality of care are responsible for these variations [112, 132, 133, 125, 134, 135, 136]. For example, the study by Cusi et al (1997) has suggested the G1460Trp polymorphism of the alpha-adducin gene is associated with salt sensitivity and primary hypertension. The reduction of sodium intake has greater impact on lowering mean arterial blood pressure in hypertensive patients with a 460Trp allele compared to those homozygous for the wild-type mutation [137]. In contrast, the study by Shin et al examined the same relationship in a Korean population and did not find an association between Gly460Trp polymorphism of the alpha-adducin gene and hypertension [138].

Although both studies have investigated the influence of the same genetic factor on salt sensitivity and hypertension, the cultural and environmental factors were different between these two populations. The family of an individual with a history of coronary artery disease, hypertension, diabetes, cancer, and other chronic diseases is at a higher risk of developing these disease compared to the general population because these families share genes and similar environmental factors [136]. Family history is not a simple risk factor to control; it is an interaction between genes and environment. Genes interact with the environment and it is hard to disentangle these influences, because we only see the result of this interaction which is not the same for all individuals. For some people the genetic background may dominate, and for others it may be the familial lifestyle that dominates. For example, a twin study by Slattery (1988) shows the importance of familial lifestyle such as dietary intake; a factor heavily weighted by cigarette smoking, alcohol and caffeine consumption; fatness; physical activity and physical fitness in relation with blood pressure [139]. In contrast the study by Zeegers (2004), summarized the results of different twin studies on variation in blood pressure that can be attributed to genetic differences. These variation estimated between 30 to 60% [140].

Simopoulos (1999) suggested that changes in environmental factors, including diet, which are matched to an individual's specific genetic susceptibility are the most effective intervention or prevention approach to control chronic diseases. There are specific biomedical tests that can identify susceptibility to chronic diseases such as coronary heart disease and hypertension [136]. In the absence of these tests, family history can be used as an

effective potential screening tool that can identify individuals who are at high risk of developing CVD. Those individuals may then be ideal candidates for enhanced prevention strategies [136, 141, 142].

The fact that the development of CVD in younger patients can be due to a genetic predisposition [21, 143, 144] makes family history different from other CVD risk factors, because it can potentially identify younger individuals who are at high risk of developing CVD even with no signs of an unhealthy life style.

## 4.2 Method

### 4.2.1 Study population

The Canadian Heart Health Surveys (CHHS) were conducted between 1986 and 1992 to support the development of provincial and national CVD prevention programs. However not all provincial surveys included family history and some provinces did not agree to a recent linkage of the original surveys to mortality files [145, 146].

Since we were interested in the impact of a family history of CVD on CVD mortality, we have used a subset of CHHS data. We have merged the linked cases survey data (LCSD: June 2010), and linked cases survey mortality data (LCSM: July 2010) which restricted our sample to subjects with available demographic information, mortality, clinical measurement, and medical history of their parents. Our final sample contains 2135 male and 2247 female subjects from Saskatchewan and Alberta. We have used this set of data to examine the influence of parental history of CVD as a risk factor on cardiovascular disease mortality in the Canadian population, adjusting for other major risk factors. The total number of records in each database is presented in Table 4.1.

### 4.2.2 Data Analysis

We used ICD 10 to categorize the cause of death due to ischemic heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, congestive heart failure, other CVD, and total CVD. The following information was available to us:

- Father had a Heart attack or Angina
- Attack occurred before father was 60

Table 4.1: Number of Participants

Province	Original CHHD	LCSD	Original Family History
PE	2088	0	0
NS	2108	4546	0
NB	2093	0	0
QC	2353	0	2353
ON	2538	0	2538
MN	2766	2766	0
SK	2158	2147	2158
AL	2237	2235	2237
BC	2394	1424	0
NF	2394	900	0

- Father had a Stroke or Cerebral vascular disease
- Stroke occurred before father was 60
- Mother had a Heart attack or Angina
- Attack occurred before mother was 60
- Mother had a Stroke or Cerebral vascular disease
- Stroke occurred before mother was 60

We used a combination of the above information to define different variables as representative of positive family history of CVD. Here is the list of abbreviations and acronyms that we have used.

- fha: Father had heart attack
- fha60: Father had heart attack before the age of 60
- fstr: Father had stroke
- fstr60: Father had stroke before the age of 60
- mha: Mother had heart attack
- mha60: Mother had heart attack before the age of 60

Table 4.2: Description of Variables

Variable	Description
H14090	Hypertensive status
Tchol	Total plasma cholesterol (mmol/L)
Waist	High waist circumference (Males $\geq$ 94cm, Females $\geq$ 80cm)
Diabetes	Self-reported diabetes
Smoking	Regular smoker
Age	As a continuous variable
Gender	Male vs female

- mstr: Mother had stroke
- mstr60: Mother had stroke before the age of 60
- mhist: Mother had heart attack or stroke
- mhist60: Mother had heart attack or stroke before the age of 60
- fhist: Father had heart attack or stroke
- fhist60: Father had heart attack or stroke before the age of 60
- mfhist: Both parents had a history of heart attack or stroke
- mfhist60: Both parents had a history of heart attack or stroke before the age of 60
- minonephist: At least one of the parents had a history of heart attack or stroke
- minonephist60: At least one of the parents had a history of heart attack or stroke before the age of 60

We limited the CVD risk factors used in this analysis to major risk factors available in our data. The Table 4.2 shows the description of each variable that has been used in our model.

Hypertensive status is based on being either on medication for hypertension, or having a systolic blood pressure of 140 mm Hg or greater or a diastolic blood pressure of 90 mmHg or greater. Since all our inferences are based on our restricted sample, we compared the distribution of selected demographic variables between all three data sets to test the

Table 4.3: Distribution of Selected Demographic Variables by Data Sets

Variable	Original Survey	Linked Survey	Final Sample
Mean age (yr)	40.8	43.6	40.9
Mean BMI ( $kg/m^2$ )	25.7	26.1	25.7
Mean LDL	3.1	3.1	3.1
Mean HDL	1.3	1.3	1.3
Mean Cholesterol	5.1	5.1	5
Mean SBP	124.9	125.7	123.3
Mean DBP	77	77	76.6
Diabetes (%)	5.1	5.7	5.4
Regular Smoker (%)	28.5	27.2	25.1
Hypertensives (%)	23.2	25.3	20.9
Sedentary (%)	37.8	36.2	33.4
Male gender (%)	49.2	49.5	48.7

similarity between our final sample and the original data set. Table 4.3 shows that our sample is a good representative of the Canadian population.

The proportional hazard model was used to examine the impact of having a family history of CVD on CVD mortality. Unadjusted and adjusted hazard ratios (HRs) were used to summarize this association.

### 4.3 Results and discussion

We had access to parental history of both CHD and stroke. Therefore we used different combinations of this information to define our variables of interest and examine their relationship with our outcome variable such as CHD, stroke, and CVD mortality. However, the number of subjects who have died from CHD, CHF, or stroke is limited in our sample. Therefore we have restricted our outcome variable to total CVD mortality.

#### 4.3.1 Association between CVD mortality and parental history of CVD

Table 4.4 presents unadjusted and adjusted ORs comparing positive with negative parental histories, with regards to their relationship with CVD mortality. In this work, positive parental history means that individual's parents have suffered from heart attack or stroke up to the time of the baseline survey data collection.



Table 4.4: Adjusted and Unadjusted Odds Ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals

Variable	Unadjusted	Adjusted for age	Adjusted for sex	Adjusted for age and sex
fha	1.59(1.10,2.17)	1.17(0.82,1.68)	1.55(1.10,2.18)	1.33(0.95,1.88)
fha60	0.41(0.22,0.74)	1.29(0.70,2.23)	0.40(0.22,0.73)	1.33(0.73,2.44)
fstr	2.41(1.64,3.54)	1.44(0.98,2.12)	2.38(1.62,3.49)	1.41(0.96,2.07)
fstr60	0.70(0.31,1.60)	2.34(1.04,5.29)	0.70(0.31,1.56)	2.45(1.08,5.57)
fhist	2.16(1.60,2.93)	1.53(1.13,2.07)	2.16(1.60,2.92)	1.54(1.14,2.09)
fhist60	1.05(0.64,1.61)	1.87(1.23,2.90)	1.05(0.69,1.60)	1.96(1.27,3.01)
mha	2.20(1.52,3.17)	1.22(0.84,1.76)	2.32(1.60,3.35)	1.22(0.84,1.76)
mha60	0.63(0.31,1.27)	1.61(0.80,3.25)	0.67(0.33,1.35)	1.57(0.78,3.17)
mstr	1.97(1.29,3.00)	0.73(0.47,1.11)	2.05(1.34,3.15)	0.77(0.50,1.18)
mstr60	0.61(0.23,1.64)	1.27(0.47,3.40)	0.62(0.23,1.65)	1.32(0.49,3.57)
mhist	2.14(1.55,3.00)	0.92(0.67,1.27)	2.23(1.60,3.08)	0.94(0.68,1.30)
mhist60	1.28(0.77,2.15)	1.27(0.76,2.13)	1.34(0.80,2.24)	1.24(0.74,2.08)
mfhist	2.84(1.92,4.22)	1.30(0.87,1.90)	2.94(1.98,4.37)	1.32(0.89,1.96)
mfhist60	0.86(0.21,3.45)	1.65(0.40,6.64)	0.94(0.23,3.78)	1.62(0.40,6.54)
minonephist	2.35(1.73,3.19)	1.23(0.90,1.67)	2.38(1.75,3.24)	1.24(0.91,1.69)
minonephist60	1.17(0.82,1.68)	1.66(1.16,2.38)	1.19(0.83,1.70)	1.67(1.17,2.40)

After adjusting for age and gender, a positive family history of stroke and heart attack was associated with a 54% (OR=1.54(1.14,2.09)), 67% (OR=1.67(1.17,2.40)), 96% (OR=1.96(1.27,3.01)), and 145% (OR=2.45(1.08,5.57)) increase in the odds of CVD mortality compared to those with negative family history of stroke and heart attack. Father stroke before the age of 60 was a strong predictor for CVD mortality. However, the unadjusted ORs in Table 4.4 showed the odds of CVD mortality in individuals with positive history of heart problem from both mother and father are about three times higher than those without or with just mother or father heart problem history.

Note that of the 4382 subjects in our sample, 447 of them have passed away due to a variety of medical reasons. 170 out of 447 deaths were related to CVD, which may affect the width of our confidence intervals. The next issue that we have to consider is the role of age in our analysis and its relation with family history of heart problem and CVD mortality. We have to take into account that the role of age in this analysis is more than a specific confounder such as sex.

Age is not just an entity; it is a marker of accumulation of risk factors. For example, the risk of high cholesterol, elevated blood pressure, obesity and many more CVD risk factors increase while people are aging. Further, age is not only related to CVD mortality and CVD risk factors, it is also related to family history of CVD. Age is not an independent

Table 4.5: Odds ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals

Variable	OR and 95% CI	Adjusted variables
fha	1.24(0.85,1.79)	Sex, Cholesterol
fha60	0.96(0.48,1.92)	Age, Hypertension, Cholesterol
fstr	1.32(0.85,2.05)	Hypertension, Cholesterol
fstr60	2.57(1.11,5.92)	Age, Diabetes
fhist	1.41(1.01,1.96)	Hypertension, Cholesterol
fhist60	1.54(0.95,2.49)	Age, Sex, Hypertension, Cholesterol
mha	1.13(0.78,1.63)	Age, Hypertension
mha60	1.56(0.76,3.19)	Age, Hypertension, Smoking
mstr	0.77(0.50,1.18)	Age, Sex
mstr60	1.04(0.35,3.08)	Age, Waist
mhist	0.87(0.61,1.23)	Age, Cholesterol
mhist60	1.08(0.64,1.80)	Hypertension
mfhist	1.30(0.87,1.92)	Age
mfhist60	0.72(0.1,5.14)	Age, Hypertension, Waist
minonephist	1.08(0.77,1.5)	Age, Cholesterol
minonephist60	1.33(0.90,1.98)	Age, Hypertension, Cholesterol

variable, it is a surrogate for other factors and plays a special role that should be recognized. Generally, older people are more likely to have older parents, and as a result they are more likely to have parents that have died from CVD compared to those with younger parents. The relationship between the age of our subjects and their parent's age was unclear to us. Considering the variety of cultures, norms, socioeconomic status, and lifestyles of people, we couldn't make any assumption in this regard.

The next question that we have to ask is: are we actually controlling for age as a confounding factor or we are over-adjusting when we adjust for age? Table 4.5 presents adjusted odds ratios after controlling for major CVD related confounders listed in Table 4.2. The Cox proportional hazards model was used to examine the relationship between CVD mortality and positive family history of CVD. We used a backward elimination technique with 10% threshold to build our models.

Based on our analysis, a positive father history of stroke before the age of 60 was associated with a 157% increase in the odds of CVD mortality. However, we did not see the same association when we used mother history of stroke before the age of 60. The sensitivity and specificity of CVD deaths as a marker of family risk for CVD will vary with the age of the family. Younger families are more likely to remember correctly that what has happened to their parents compare to older families. Also the accuracy of recalling the details of

an event that has occurred a couple of months/years ago is different with the event that has happened a couple of decades ago. Therefore these factors can introduce some level of information bias to our study.

Family history of CVD has a special role in predicting occurrence of CVD in comparison to other CVD risk factors. It carries information about an individual's genetic disorders, which can help us to identify individuals that are more likely to developed CVD in their lifespan. However, environmental and social factors, such as healthy diet, maintaining a healthy weight, exercising regularly, limiting alcohol use, and not smoking have strong impacts on reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease.

## Chapter 5

# Mathematical modelling

In previous chapters we used descriptive statistics and common epidemiological techniques to show how we can improve the level of health in our population, specifically in terms of reducing the occurrence of CVD. In this chapter we present some techniques that have recently gained importance in the area of health through some examples to highlight the importance of mathematical modeling in this area.

### 5.1 Introduction

In the past centuries, much of the quantitative research in health related problems focused on applying epidemiological and statistical techniques. In order to control the incidence and reduce the prevalence of disease in populations, the mentioned techniques have been used to study the distribution of the disease, conduct an estimation, identify the determinant of health outcome, etc. Their inference is based on a collection of data which mainly focuses on relating a single or multiple exposures to a single or multiple health or disease outcomes.

Simple epidemiological and statistical techniques have been used for a long time to answer these questions. However, in the past decade, multilevel or hierarchical regression models have increasingly been used within the field of epidemiology. While these models allowed epidemiologists to consider the contribution of factors at multiple levels, unfortunately, multilevel methods are fundamentally limited as these models are geared to assessing the relation between ‘independent’ variables and the ‘outcomes’ of interest [147]. Therefore, multilevel models fail to present the dynamic relations between outcome and exposure,

and consequently, they are not suitable for complex dynamic systems. In real world problems, when attempting to understand the association between exposure and disease, it is important to consider different components such as the multiple levels, intervening and confounding factors, overlaps, and the interactions between biological, behavioural, social and environmental factors and their influence on each other.

In the attempt to solve and further investigate the complexities of dynamic systems, researchers in recent years have shifted their focus to interdisciplinary research where different approaches collectively have broadened the spectrum of possible future solutions.

The new shift has extended multilevel models, making it suitable approach for both the health care system and health related problems. More specifically, the use of mathematical models such as Markov, cellular automata and network modelling, queuing theory, game theory, differential equations, and system dynamics have proved to be a successful approach in further understanding the complexities of health research. To gain further insight on the usefulness of these models, we use a few examples to illustrate and explain the advantages of mathematical models on: projection of trends, assessing environmental and behavioral changes, and medical decision making support.

## 5.2 A novel algorithm for describing population level trends in body weight

The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY79) data set is a representation of 12,686 men and women whom were born in the 1950s and 1960s in the United States and interviewed every year between 1979 and 1994 and then biennially from 1994 to 2006. We calculated the Body Mass Index (BMI) of the subjects biennially between 1986 and 2004 for all individuals who were 21 years or older in 1986. Different categories of BMI were defined as NO: Normal Weight ( $BMI < 25$ ), OW: Overweight ( $25 \leq BMI < 30$ ), and OB: Obese ( $BMI \geq 30$ ) [148]. We calculated the transition probability between every two time steps (observations) to investigate the dynamics of weight gain and weight loss in our data set. To explore the trends in obesity at the population level, we considered a basic Markov Model with 3 states: Normal weight (NO), Overweight (OW), and Obese (OB). For each state, we calculate the possibility of individuals' movement between these three states. The calculations only reflect the current situation and thus do not consider prior weight class of the individual. If the basic Markovian model holds true, the previous body weight of an individual would have

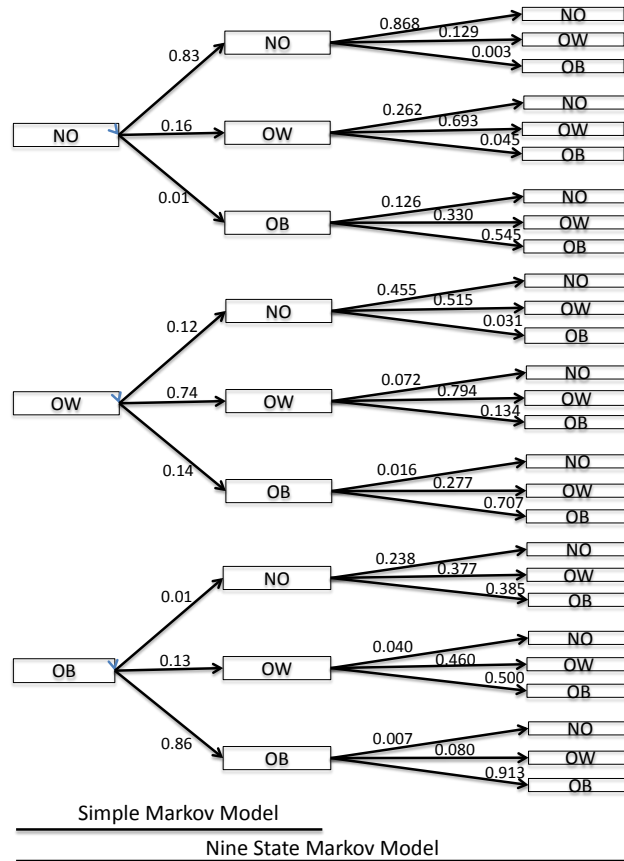


Figure 5.1: Three and nine state Markov Model

no impact on their future weight class. In order to test the basic Markov assumption, we developed a higher order Markov model and therefore the three-state model becomes a nine state model. The nine state model uses both the current BMI state and the previous BMI state to predict the next BMI state. Our analysis shows that the Markov assumption does not hold true Figure 5.1.

To address this failure, we developed a new model to explain the trend of obesity over time. Our new model, the Maxhist model Figure 5.2, considers an individual's highest historical BMI to determine an individual's most probable weight class in the future. Our results confirmed the importance of weight history, it shows that previous weight of individual matters. For example, based on our estimation, more than 80% of individuals in a

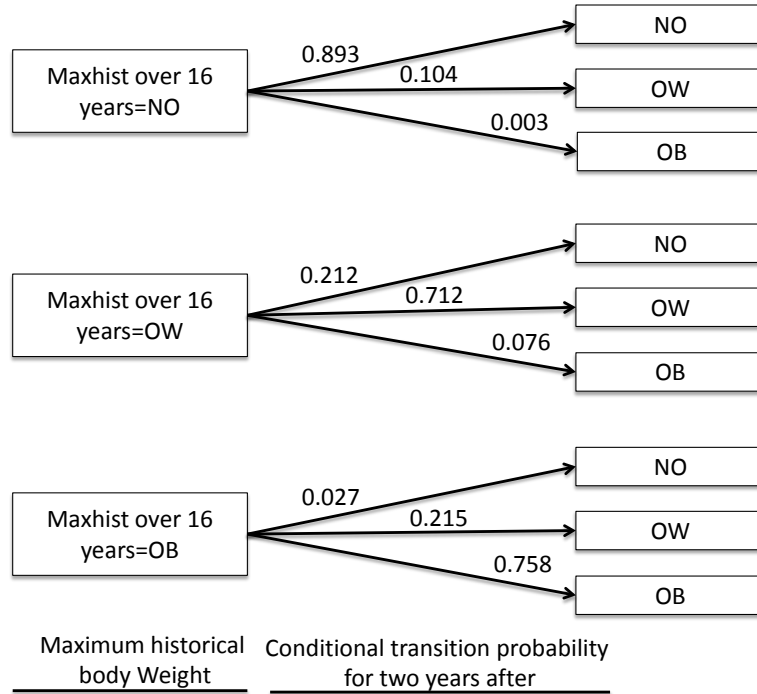


Figure 5.2: Maxhist Model

specific weight category will stay in the same weight category after two years. An exception was for OW females where the probability of staying overweight drops to 65%. An interesting aspect found was that the length of NO stability played an important role in determining the future NO.

To test the capability of the Maxhist model in projecting the prevalence of individual weight class, we compared the result of Maxhist model with that of simple 3 state Markov model. The results confirmed that the Maxhist model is superior to the simple Markov model. Also, the above two models were compared to a regression model as a common modeling technique that has been used in this area to extrapolate the prevalence of overweight and obesity into the future. The validity of the Maxhist model over the other two techniques is displayed in Figure 5.3.

To create the comparison graph, we split the available data of 18 years into the first 10

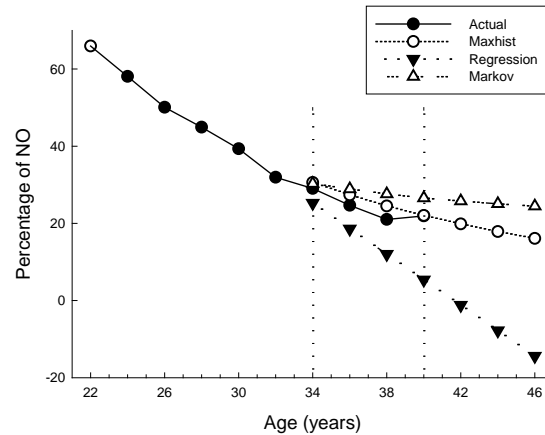


Figure 5.3: Comparison between Markov, Maxhist and regression models

and the next 8 year period. The first 10 years were used to project the weight status of an individual for the next 8 years. The graph illustrates the deviation of all three models from the actual percentage of normal weight individuals in the second 8-year period. Between the dashed lines, one can see that the Maxhist model provides a significantly better fit to the actual data than the linear regression, and also better than the three-state Markov model. Past the dashed lines, the Maxhist model provides a plausible projection further into the future.

The above example demonstrated that prior body weight of individuals can play an important role in defining an individual's future weight. Since the body weight and physique of an individual is highly associated to the risk of occurrence of CVD, a better knowledge about the progression of obesity or maintaining a healthy body weight in the future will help us to have a better vision regarding the trend of CVD in future.



### 5.3 Social interactions of eating behavior among High School Students: A Cellular Automata Approach

Cellular Automata (CA) modeling has held promise in understanding social dynamics between individuals [149, 150]. It is a mathematical modelling technique that has potential in analyzing non-linear transmissions of human behaviour. To break down the complexity of human behaviour, a CA model make assumptions based on logical possibilities, estimated associations between variables on specific data set, or based on the results of related previous research. We have used Cellular Automata to explore how social interactions among high school students can affect their eating behaviour and their food choice. The underlying premise in our model is based on social interactions among individuals and influences from media, parents, education, environment, and other factors. Students can influence one another and as a result change their eating behaviour over time to have a healthy or unhealthy eating behavior. We assumed that each student belongs to one of the four categories including: 1. bring healthy, 2. bring unhealthy, 3. purchase health and 4. purchase unhealthy.

The interplay of factors such as personal behaviour, social interactions and school food environments makes eating behavior a complex issue. One should consider the school food environment (e.g., cafeteria), as research has shown that eating behaviours in children and, more so in adolescents, are influenced by the physical environment [151, 152]. Further evidence demonstrates that eating behaviour can be influenced by factors such as peers, the amount of food consumption around different people, availability of food, home, and family environment.

In the school environment, the availability of unhealthy snacks plays a major role in the food decision making process when students are socially interacting among peers [151, 152]. Similarly, the influence of peers on one another's decision making is suggested to be a factor in other health-related behaviors, such as alcohol consumption [153] and smoking [154]. Other research has found that overweight people eat less when around normal-weight peers, while still consuming more around overweight peers [152, 155, 156]. Whether making a healthy or unhealthy decision, studies have found that the type of food eaten by peers affects individual decision making [157, 158].

The population in a CA model is represented by a two dimensional square grid where each cell is representative of an entity in the population. In this CA model, each cell

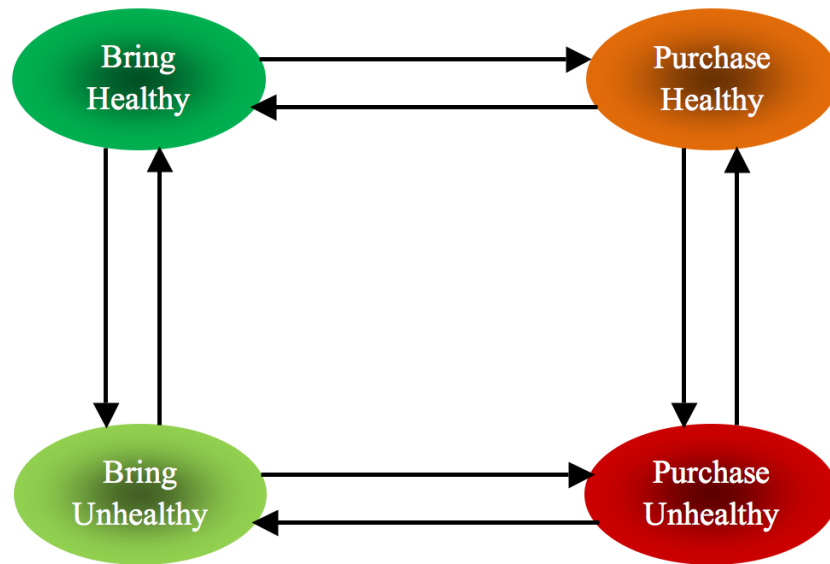


Figure 5.4: Model Structure Illustrating Transition Between Individual States

represents a single student who is surrounded by their eight closest friends or classmates.

Interactions in a social community are dependent on the transition rules integrated in the CA model. The transition rules are used to determine how and to what degree each cell is assumed to interact with surrounding cells.

Over time, cells change as they both receive and give social influence to surrounding neighbours. The core of the model is that students are socially influenced to have healthy or unhealthy eating behaviours. In our CA model, two types of social influences are considered. First, a student can be encouraged or discouraged by his or her classmates to bring or purchase foods. Second, a student can be encouraged or discouraged by his or her classmates to eat healthy or unhealthy foods (Figure 5.4).

For instance, if an individual who normally purchases healthy food spent time with individuals who brings healthy/unhealthy foods on a daily basis, the former may be influenced over time to begin bringing food. Naturally the strength of the social influence of an individual (positive or negative) may cause the individual to transition between states of healthy to unhealthy or vice versa food preferences. In a negative social influence, the individual will be more inclined to bring unhealthy foods.

Since this is a scenario-based model, the variables can be changed according to different

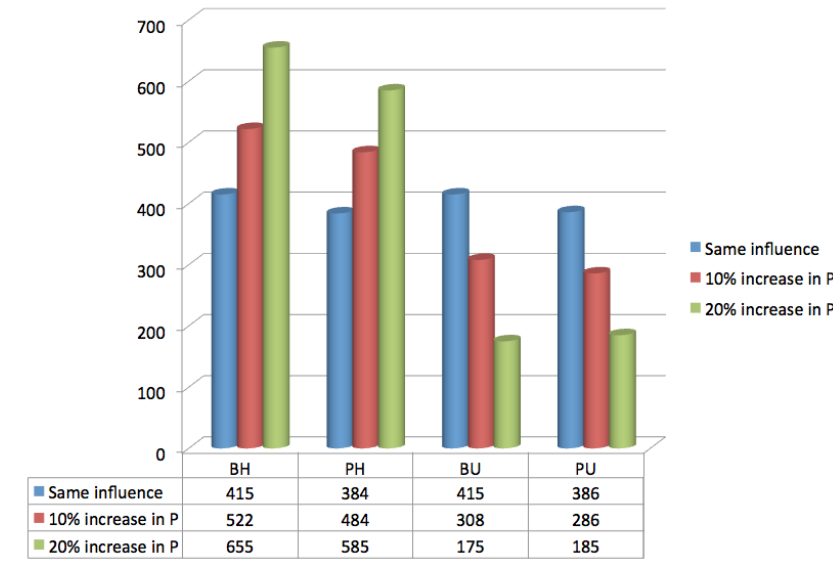


Figure 5.5: Eating Behaviour Patterns When We Change the Positive Influence

scenarios to reflect hypothetical changes in our population of interest. For example, we update the model with one extra external factor. In particular, some students may desire to purchase food, but their parents refuse to give them any money to do so, forcing those students to bring food from home.

The Figure 5.5 represents the impact of social influence on student’s healthy eating behaviors. Our assumptions listed as follow

- We have randomly distributed 1600 students in four eating behavior states (25% in each category)
- Social influences are accumulated over time from peers within the defined neighbourhood
- An individual transitions to another state after reaching a specific threshold

Using Matlab we run the simulation for 1000 days when the influence parameters for Healthy or Unhealthy are equal. The population of each group remains similar with approximately 25% each as their initial portion. Then, we increase the positive in influence

parameters of healthy/unhealthy by 10%, and as a result we observed a 25% increase in positive eating patterns (i.e., eating healthy).

Conceptualizing the social environment of high school students is important in understanding the progression of obesity and other associated diseases which accompany obesity such as CVD. The results of this exercise shows that students will cluster based on their eating preference. When we increased a positive influence, the population experienced positive effects, resulting in improved healthy eating decisions amongst students (details on [159]).

Calibrating this model by using real data as inputs will increase the potential for investigating the impact of various environmentally related interventions and improve knowledge transfer between research disciplines and public health professionals.

## 5.4 A Fuzzy Cognitive Map based tool to predict CVD mortality in Canadian population

We have used Markov and CA model in previous section to highlight the importance of body weight status, social influences and individuals' eating behavior. In this section we would like to use a mathematical model that recently have been used in the field of health sciences. It can be used as a decision making tool as it has the potential of predicting the impact of different risk factors on specific outcome. In previous chapters, we have discussed the impact of sodium reduction on prevalence of CVD at the population level, the importance of individual decision making on consumer eating behaviour, and we also highlighted the importance of family history and its impact on the development on CVD. Each of these components were studied separately to provide clearer insight on the relationship between CVD and its relevant factors. This failed to capture the comprehensive outcome of the dynamic interplay between all factors affecting CVD. Without taking interaction between system elements and known feedback into consideration, it is difficult to capture all the inter-relationships which occur in reality.

In the following section, we are proposing to use a method which will overcome the above deficiencies. The chosen method is called Fuzzy Cognitive Map (FCM), which is a graphic representation used for modelling interdependence between concepts in the real world [160, 161, 162]. The arrows between the outcome of interest and the various risk factors will be used to assess the causal flow between two components and the corresponding weight (-1,1), providing the degree of fuzzy relationship. The factors which have no impact

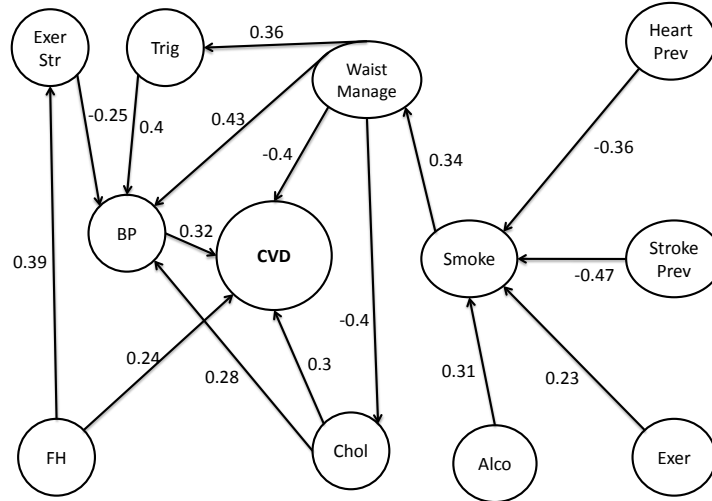


Figure 5.6: Model structure illustrating Fuzzy Cognitive Map

on one another are not connected through arrows.

#### 5.4.1 Method and discussion

The purpose of our model is to predict death due to CVD, considering an individual's health, behavior and social conditions. Through the proposed methodology, factors such as blood pressure, cholesterol, obesity, triglyceride, physical activity, family history, social influence, alcohol consumption and smoking status were considered. These factors circle around the core of our model outcome (CVD) Figure 5.6. The description of these factors are presented in Table 5.1.

The links between CVD and the surrounding components, or between any two components indicate the weight and direction of the relationship between the two factors. For example, the link and its corresponding weight that directed from cholesterol to CVD encodes that cholesterol has a positive influence on CVD. The positive relationship indicates that an increase in cholesterol results in an increase in CVD.

Commonly, within the process of defining the FCM, the relationship between each two components will be defined through either literature or expert information. The data from

several studies or experts will be gathered to form an educated guess to define the relationship between two components in the range of  $(-1,1)$ . In our model we used the Canadian Heart Health Mortality data to estimate the magnitude of the weight between each two components. Our model has an advantage of access to real data to estimate the association between the studied factors in Canadian population. We calculated the crude odds ratio (OR) between each two factors and used the expert's opinion to specify the direction of association between connected components. For example, the odds of death due to CVD in hypertensive group is 2.1 times the odds of death due to CVD in normotensive group. To re-scale the effect of estimate between -1 and 1, we used the  $\log(OR)$  instead of estimated odds ratios [160]. In regards to our previous example, the  $\log$  of 2.1 is equal to 0.32 which is restricted between  $(-1,1)$ . The model follows an iterative algorithm for several steps until it converges. Since in each step the model make adjustment, we are using the crude odds ratios instead of adjusted odds ratios to avoid any over adjusting. We also need to mention that because of using the  $\log$ , the magnitudes of adjusted and unadjusted odds ratios ( $\log(OR)$ ) in our model was very similar to each others.

The Figure 5.6 illustrates our FCM, that have been used to assess the occurrence of CVD death given the surrounding factors. The model allows for each component to be adjusted as an input in order to show its influence on the occurrence of CVD. Therefore, this model has potential to be used as a tool box to answer some “what if” scenario questions.

Unfortunately we did not have suitable information regarding the level of sodium intake of each individual. In the presence of such information we could use the model to show the impact of sodium reduction as our input on CVD mortality as our desired outcome, given the surrounding factors and compared it with our results from chapter two, when we just considered the impact of sodium reduction on CVD mortality through lowering the blood pressure.

The Table 5.1 shows the description of each variable that has been used in this model. Note, to measure the influence of obesity on CVD mortality, we have used the optimal waist circumference ( Table 5.1 ) as an indicator for weight management in our analysis. Also, we have used two variables “Heart prev” and “Stroke prev” (Table 5.1) to show the social influences that people can have on each other. Our data confirmed that an individual's belief in prevention of CVD is associated with the prevalence of smoking. The odds of smoking is lower in those who believed CVD can be prevented in comparison with those who do not believe in prevention of CVD.

Table 5.1: Description of Variables Used in FCM

	Variable	Description
1	CVD	Death due to cardiovascular disease
2	BP	Having high blood pressure (Cut point 140/90)
3	Chol	Having high cholesterol (Cut point 5.2, fasting only)
4	Waist manage	Having normal waist circumference (Male less than 94cm, Female less than 80cm)
5	Trig	Having high triglyceride (Cut point 2.3, fasting only)
6	Exer	Regularly exercise (1 plus times a week)
7	Exer str	Strength of the exercise (Most of the exercise is strenuous)
8	FH	Family history of death due to CVD
9	Heart prev	belief on heart disease prevention
10	Stroke prev	belief on stroke prevention
11	Alco	Current drinker
12	Smoke	Regular, occasional, pipe or cigar smoker

We constructed an adjacency matrix  $W$  which can be understood through the following examples. The increase in blood pressure (being hypertensive) leads to an increase in likelihood of CVD which we defined as a positive relationship between the two components  $W(2, 1) = 0.32$ . The weight of the link represents the magnitude of the association between the two components (restricted between -1 and 1). On the contrary, an increase in weight management lowers the likelihood of CVD  $W(4, 1) = -0.4$ . We defined this relationship as a negative link. When there is no direct link between two components such as drinking alcohol regularly and family history of death due to CVD, it was denoted in our matrix as a neutral (0) relationship  $W(12, 8)$ .

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0.32 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0.30 & 0.28 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & -0.40 & 0.43 & -0.4 & 0 & 0.36 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0.4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.23 \\ 7 & 0 & -0.25 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 8 & 0.24 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.39 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 9 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -0.36 \\ 10 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -0.47 \\ 11 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.31 \\ 12 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.34 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

To examine the accuracy of our model, we split our dataset in two different samples. The first sample contains 80% of the data, which was used to explore the relationship between each components. Also in the next step we used this data to tune our model and find an appropriate transformation function. Then we used our model against the second sub sample which was the remaining 20% to measure the accuracy and stability of our proposed model.

- Each individual has their initial values for each components which have been defined in the model (0 or 1 for each component). In other words, we assigned a vector  $A_i$  to each individual, where the vector  $A_i$  contains 12 entries of 0 or 1 and ( $i$  represents the  $i^{th}$  individual in our dataset. For example if the person had normal blood pressure, we assigned 0 to the second entry and if the person was hypertensive we assigned 1 to the second entry of a vector corresponding to that individual.
- In each step we calculated  $A_i(t+1) = f(A_i(t) + A_i(t) \cdot W)$  where  $W$  is the above adjacency matrix that represents the weight of interconnections between each two components,  $f$  is our transformation function and  $t$  represents the iteration count.
- In this example,  $f(x) = \tanh(x) = \frac{e^{2x}-1}{e^{2x}+1}$



Table 5.2: Sensitivity of the FCM Model Based on Different Transformation Function

Function	Sensitivity (80% data)	Sensitivity (20% remaining data)
$\tanh(x)$	0.89	0.86
$\tanh(2x)$	0.86	0.86
$\tanh(3x)$	0.72	0.72

- The model converges to a steady state when:  $A(t + 1) - A(t) \leq \epsilon$
- The magnitude of the final vector  $A_i$ , will define the status of each individual for each component. For example, in our model the first entry of vector  $A_i$  is correspond to CVD mortality. In our model if this entry was less than zero in the last iteration, we conclude that the person is in low risk of dying from CVD.

Note, that using this model, our goal was to identify people who are at high risk of dying from CVD , and potentially we were interested in estimating the impact of sodium reduction on CVD mortality while other related factors to CVD as a dynamical system were taken into account. Therefore we were interested in a model with high sensitivity (the probability of someone who has truly died from CVD will be classified as dead due to CVD) and high stability (gave us the same level of sensitivity on different samples), while the level of specificity (probability that someone who truly didn't died from CVD will be classified as didn't die due to CVD) was not an issue in our analysis . The following tables represent the sensitivity of our model in identify those who will die from CVD considering their current health and social conditions, based on different transformation functions that have been used to tune the model.

Based on our analysis, we chose the  $\tanh(2x)$  as our appropriate transformation function, because in addition to acceptable levels of sensitivity that provide to identify the high risk individuals, the model performance does not change when we apply it on the second data set to test the accuracy of our model.

It is important to note that our goal in this analysis was not to predict the cause of death in Canadian population, but instead to identify individuals who are at high risk of death due to CVD. In addition, we are highlighting the role and potential of mathematical and computational model in the area of health sciences. It is crucial to remember that there is no universal or perfect model that can answer all of our questions within a complex systems

such as human body's reactions to certain intervention. The answers to our questions and hypothesis however, can lead us to improve the level of health in our population or give us a better vision of what we can anticipate in the near future as well as our long term plans.

There are no specific rules and criteria that can define and check-mark a model as a complete or perfect model. The level of complexity can increase or decrease in our model, but the question that remains unanswered is "How much complexity is necessary?" Although, in complex models we can consider all the interactions and interrelationships between components, but it does not guarantee that the model, as a complex system performs perfectly. Usually we can design a very complex conceptual model that works perfectly on the dataset, where all the relationships derived from. However, they are in the danger of being too sensitive to the other dataset which will limit their practicality in terms of projection in future or using them as a tool to answer our questions. This strategy is similar to over fitting of an specific dataset on regression analysis. Although all the details have been considered in the model, the model per se does not have a value in regards to future prediction.

Considering the above issues, we can see the importance of validation in any proposed model. In our FCM, you can quickly notice the lack of some links between different components, the absence of some important CVD related factors, or the existance of an unusual link in our map. One has to remember that all the factors and links that we include or exclude were based on the effect estimates that we obtained based on our data. Also we should mention that all of the estimates in our model are based on direct (unadjusted) association between each pair components.

Our main interest was to be able to estimate the impact of sodium reduction on CVD mortality, when we are considering all other related factors to CVD and compare it with our results in chapter two, where we only considered the direct impact of sodium reduction on CVD through the reduction in blood pressure. Unfortunately however, we didn't have proper information in our data set that can help us to answer this question. Since the validity of our model was important, we restricted ourselves to a conceptual model that is compatible with our data (80% of the original data).

In our FCM, the conceptual impact of smoking on CVD mortality seems unusual. Because the only significant association that we have found was between smoking and waist management, which in one direction, as shown in Figure 5.6 has a protective impact on CVD mortality. To explore this issue further, we re-run the model without the link between smoking and waist circumference.

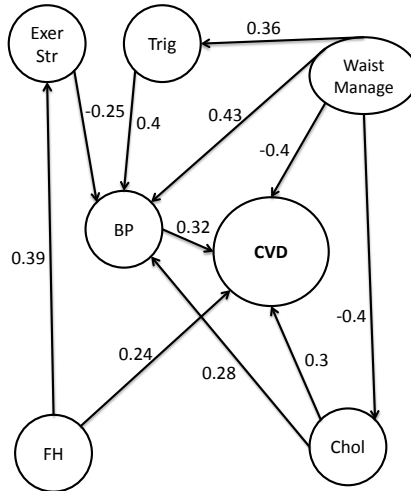


Figure 5.7: Manipulated the Original Fuzzy Cognitive Map

When we took the link off, the sensitivity of our model dropped to 74% vs the 86% in our sample (80% of original data) and also dropped to 71% in the remaining data that was used to test the accuracy of our model. Therefore, considering the above social and health condition in Canadian population, we found that our first FCM model works better in terms of identifying the individuals that are at risk of dying from CVD better than the second FCM model. The model can identify these cases at 86% of the time correctly. In our model we have replaced all the missing values with zero's in our dataset.

It is important to note that the mortality data was available to us, not the CVD events. One explanation regarding the unusual impact of smoking on CVD mortality can be related to the impact of smoking on other diseases. Although the number of deaths due to CVD may decrease, the total number of deaths due to lung cancer or other smoking related diseases may increase. To explore this idea, we need a more comprehensive model to capture this phenomena.

## Chapter 6

# Conclusion

### 6.1 Summary of Contributions

The research presented in this thesis is the combination of six papers that are directly or indirectly related to the issue of CVD prevention. First, using different strategies, we have estimated the impact of a gradual sodium reduction on reducing the number of cardiovascular events in Canada, the United States and 18 Latin American countries. Our study showed that a small change in a dietary measure, such as a decrease in salt intake (5-10% per year) at the population level, was able to lower the blood pressure distribution, and as a result reduce significantly the number of CVD events at the population level.

By reducing in small amounts the sodium intake at the individual level we may observe small changes in the blood pressure of each individual, but this intervention can shift and lower the whole blood pressure distribution of our population and reduce CVD accordingly.

While lowering salt intake is considered by many researchers and physicians as an effective approach to battling the problem of hypertension and CVD, there is some controversy about the magnitude of this relationship. The Meta analysis by Midgley (1996) , Graudal (1998), and Hooper (2002) are examples of studies that have questioned the relationship between sodium intake and hypertension [163, 164, 165]. In 2006, He has highlighted the issues and characteristics of the trials that were used in these studies. Limitations such as a short duration of salt restriction and very small reduction in salt intake were the main reasons that led them to their negative conclusions [34]. However, groups, organizations, and companies, such as the Salt Institute, which are against regulations on reducing the level of salt intake from food products, have used these negative conclusions without further

explanation to the public and created major confusion at the consumer level. Examples include the news articles on the Salt Institute's website entitled "Scientific American: Its Time to End the War on Salt", and "New Study Points Finger at Genetics (Not Salt) as Cause of Hypertension".

It is important to remember that approximately 75-80% of dietary sodium comes from processed foods. Therefore, it is important to note that this approach is highly reliable on industry and government policies. In the competitive world that we live in, it seems challenging for companies to voluntarily reduce the sodium content of their products (all products and not just selected items). Since food products are highly dependent on taste, it is unlikely that a company will take such a risk on their own where they are at risk of losing customers to competitors.

Some argue that it is not necessary to decrease the sodium level of the whole population, since some people are already at reasonable or even low levels of sodium intake. However, this argument only focuses on a minority of our population such as very healthy individuals with low sodium intake, or professional athletes who already possess a healthy lifestyle. These individuals will not be at risk due to low sodium intake.

Another argument, which many industries present, is that it is very costly and unreasonable to implement this change. However, this claim is questionable since industry already provides some healthier options with lower sodium. For example, many food brands have a "low-sodium" or "25% less sodium" alternative. If such products are already in place, why cant we continue the shift towards healthier options?

To implement laws and regulations that can help the overall health status of our population, we need the collaboration and accountability of individuals, public education systems, governments, policy makers, and the food industry. For this reason, there is a critical need for a standard, national legislation that forces companies to take action and responsibility toward population health.

In the second paper, we showed that the range of sodium content of similar products varies within and between different brands, and as a result, individuals face options in terms of the product that they choose. Our study demonstrates that although a shift to lower sodium products is feasible, a major obstacle to consumers making healthier choices is the difficulty of comparing food labels. The lack of proper labelling is not limited to supermarket products. Restaurants lack of labelling for the content on their menus, which limits an individual's ability to make informed decisions when dining out. Therefore, although

awareness and knowledge about healthy eating can motivate people to take steps toward healthier choices, our society needs encouragement to make the environment ready for those who are willing to change their lifestyle.

In the third paper we showed the influence of positive family history of CVD on the development of an individual's CVD. Using Canadian data, our analysis showed this relationship exists to some degree. We have to note that although the positive association has been observed, we have to be careful in terms of the interpretation of this relationship. Family history plays a special role in predicting the occurrence of CVD. It carries information about the individual's genetic makeup which can help us to identify high risk individuals. At the same time, we have to remember that families often share the same environment and lifestyle. Family history, as measured in this study, is an interaction between genes and environment. Genes interact with the environment and it is hard to disentangle these influences. What we see is the result of this interaction.

The negative impact of excessive sodium in our diet is not limited to raising blood pressure, but is also linked to increase in soft drink consumption. This can influence individuals eating behavior as well as their weight status [166]. Obesity is another factor that influences the development of CVD. In order to explore the complexity of CVD, we need to have a good understanding of the progression of factors that can influence the occurrence and trend of CVD. In this regard, we have used American longitudinal data (NLSY79) to explore the trend in obesity over time. Our results confirmed the importance of an individual's weight history. It shows that previous weight matters, and that people are likely to return to their heaviest historical weight class over time. Therefore, excessive salt intake not only increases the risk of CVD through elevated blood pressure, but it also has an impact on an individual's weight status, and influences the likelihood of developing CVD indirectly.

The eating behaviour of individuals can change through social influence. In the fourth paper we showed how environmental factors, awareness, education and peer influences can impact the eating behaviour and food choice of high school adolescents. They receive positive or negative influences from their friends or classmates, which consciously or unconsciously encourages them to change their behaviour over time. This model highlights the importance of interventions, proper environment, and educational programs in schools.

In the final paper, we used Canadian data to consider all the influences between CVD mortality as our outcome and CVD risk factors such as blood pressure, cholesterol, obesity, triglyceride, physical activity, family history, social influence, alcohol consumption, and

smoking status at the same time. In this model, all CVD risk factors are linked to each other. Given individual information such as blood pressure, smoking status, cholesterol level, and family history of CVD, etc., the model can identify those that are likely to die from CVD. The model also has the potential to examine the importance of a specific intervention while we are considering the impact of all other related factors. Using appropriate data we could examine the impact of sodium reduction on CVD mortality while we are taking into account other related factors, and compare the result with our findings in the first paper, where we considered the impact of sodium reduction on CVD mortality through changes in blood pressure .

In general, modelling in the field of health is more than mathematical games. Modelling has been used to simplify a real world phenomenon and help us to have a better understanding of our situation before it is too late. Models can be used as a tool to answer what if scenarios and help policymakers in shaping policy.

# Appendix A

# Appendix A

## A.1 Hypertensive diseases

### **I10-I15 Hypertensive diseases:**

I10 Essential (primary) hypertension

I11 Hypertensive heart disease (No data)

I11.9 Hypertensive heart disease without (congestive) heart failure

I12 Hypertensive renal disease (No data)

I12.0 Hypertensive renal disease with renal failure

I12.9 Hypertensive renal disease without renal failure

I13 Hypertensive heart and renal disease (No data)

I13.1 Hypertensive heart and renal disease with renal failure

I13.9 Hypertensive heart and renal disease, unspecified

I15 Secondary hypertension (No data)

I15.0 Renovascular hypertension (No data)

I15.1 Hypertension secondary to other renal disorders

I15.2 Hypertension secondary to endocrine disorders (No data)

I15.8 Other secondary hypertension

I15.9 Secondary hypertension, unspecified (No data)



## A.2 Ischaemic heart diseases

### I20-I25 Ischaemic heart diseases

I20 Angina pectoris (No data)

I20.0 Unstable angina

I20.1 Angina pectoris with documented spasm

I20.8 Other forms of angina pectoris

I20.9 Angina pectoris, unspecified

I21 Acute myocardial infarction (No data)

I21.0 Acute transmural myocardial infarction of anterior wall

I21.1 Acute transmural myocardial infarction of inferior wall

I21.2 Acute transmural myocardial infarction of other sites

I21.3 Acute transmural myocardial infarction of unspecified site

I21.4 Acute subendocardial myocardial infarction

I21.9 Acute myocardial infarction, unspecified

I22 Subsequent myocardial infarction (No data)

I22.0 Subsequent myocardial infarction of anterior wall

I22.1 Subsequent myocardial infarction of inferior wall

I22.8 Subsequent myocardial infarction of other sites

I22.9 Subsequent myocardial infarction of unspecified site

I23 Certain current complications following acute myocardial infarction (No data)

I23.0 Haemopericardium as current complication following acute myocardial infarction (No data)

I23.1 Atrial septal defect as current complication following acute myocardial infarction (No data)

I23.2 Ventricular septal defect as current complication following acute myocardial infarction

I23.3 Rupture of cardiac wall without haemopericardium as current complication following acute myocardial infarction (No data)

I23.4 Rupture of chordae tendineae as current complication following acute myocardial infarction (No data)

I23.5 Rupture of papillary muscle as current complication following acute myocardial infarction (No data)

I23.6 Thrombosis of atrium, auricular appendage, and ventricle as current complications

following acute myocardial infarction (No data)  
I23.8 Other current complications following acute myocardial infarction (No data)  
I24 Other acute ischaemic heart diseases (No data)  
I24.0 Coronary thrombosis not resulting in myocardial infarction (No data)  
I24.1 Dressler's syndrome  
I24.8 Other forms of acute ischaemic heart disease  
I24.9 Acute ischaemic heart disease, unspecified  
I25 Chronic ischaemic heart disease (No data)  
I25.0 Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, so described  
I25.1 Atherosclerotic heart disease  
I25.2 Old myocardial infarction  
I25.3 Aneurysm of heart  
I25.4 Coronary artery aneurysm  
I25.5 Ischaemic cardiomyopathy  
I25.6 Silent myocardial ischaemia  
I25.8 Other forms of chronic ischaemic heart disease  
I25.9 Chronic ischaemic heart disease, unspecified

### **A.3 Cerebrovascular diseases**

#### **I60-I69 Cerebrovascular diseases:**

I60 Subarachnoid haemorrhage (No data)  
I60.0 Subarachnoid haemorrhage from carotid siphon and bifurcation  
I60.1 Subarachnoid haemorrhage from middle cerebral artery  
I60.2 Subarachnoid haemorrhage from anterior communicating artery  
I60.3 Subarachnoid haemorrhage from posterior communicating artery  
I60.4 Subarachnoid haemorrhage from basilar artery  
I60.5 Subarachnoid haemorrhage from vertebral artery  
I60.6 Subarachnoid haemorrhage from other intracranial arteries  
I60.7 Subarachnoid haemorrhage from intracranial artery, unspecified  
I60.8 Other subarachnoid haemorrhage  
I60.9 Subarachnoid haemorrhage, unspecified

- I61 Intracerebral haemorrhage (No data)
  - I61.0 Intracerebral haemorrhage in hemisphere, subcortical
  - I61.1 Intracerebral haemorrhage in hemisphere, cortical
  - I61.2 Intracerebral haemorrhage in hemisphere, unspecified
  - I61.3 Intracerebral haemorrhage in brain stem
  - I61.4 Intracerebral haemorrhage in cerebellum
  - I61.5 Intracerebral haemorrhage, intraventricular
  - I61.6 Intracerebral haemorrhage, multiple localized
  - I61.8 Other intracerebral haemorrhage
  - I61.9 Intracerebral haemorrhage, unspecified
- I62 Other nontraumatic intracranial haemorrhage (No data)
  - I62.0 Subdural haemorrhage (acute)(nontraumatic)
  - I62.1 Nontraumatic extradural haemorrhage
  - I62.9 Intracranial haemorrhage (nontraumatic), unspecified
- I63 Cerebral infarction (No data)
  - I63.0 Cerebral infarction due to thrombosis of precerebral arteries
  - I63.1 Cerebral infarction due to embolism of precerebral arteries
  - I63.2 Cerebral infarction due to unspecified occlusion or stenosis of precerebral arteries
  - I63.3 Cerebral infarction due to thrombosis of cerebral arteries
  - I63.4 Cerebral infarction due to embolism of cerebral arteries
  - I63.5 Cerebral infarction due to unspecified occlusion or stenosis of cerebral arteries
  - I63.6 Cerebral infarction due to cerebral venous thrombosis, nonpyogenic
  - I63.8 Other cerebral infarction
  - I63.9 Cerebral infarction, unspecified
- I64 Stroke, not specified as haemorrhage or infarction
- I65 Occlusion and stenosis of precerebral arteries, not resulting in cerebral infarction (No data)
  - I65.0 Occlusion and stenosis of vertebral artery (No data)
  - I65.1 Occlusion and stenosis of basilar artery (No data)
  - I65.2 Occlusion and stenosis of carotid artery (No data)
  - I65.3 Occlusion and stenosis of multiple and bilateral precerebral arteries (No data)
  - I65.8 Occlusion and stenosis of other precerebral artery (No data)
  - I65.9 Occlusion and stenosis of unspecified precerebral artery (No data)

- I66 Occlusion and stenosis of cerebral arteries, not resulting in cerebral infarction (No data)
- I66.0 Occlusion and stenosis of middle cerebral artery
- I66.1 Occlusion and stenosis of anterior cerebral artery (No data)
- I66.2 Occlusion and stenosis of posterior cerebral artery (No data)
- I66.3 Occlusion and stenosis of cerebellar arteries (No data)
- I66.4 Occlusion and stenosis of multiple and bilateral cerebral arteries (No data)
- I66.8 Occlusion and stenosis of other cerebral artery (No data)
- I66.9 Occlusion and stenosis of unspecified cerebral artery (No data)
- I67 Other cerebrovascular diseases (No data)
- I67.0 Dissection of cerebral arteries, nonruptured
- I67.1 Cerebral aneurysm, nonruptured
- I67.2 Cerebral atherosclerosis
- I67.3 Progressive vascular leukoencephalopathy
- I67.4 Hypertensive encephalopathy
- I67.5 Moyamoya disease
- I67.6 Nonpyogenic thrombosis of intracranial venous system
- I67.7 Cerebral arteritis, not elsewhere classified
- I67.8 Other specified cerebrovascular diseases
- I67.9 Cerebrovascular disease, unspecified
- I68\* Cerebrovascular disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (No data)
- I68.0\* Cerebral amyloid angiopathy (No data)
- I68.1\* Cerebral arteritis in infectious and parasitic diseases classified elsewhere (No data)
- I68.2\* Cerebral arteritis in other diseases classified elsewhere (No data)
- I68.8\* Other cerebrovascular disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (No data)
- I69 Sequelae of cerebrovascular disease (No data)
- I69.0 Sequelae of subarachnoid haemorrhage
- I69.1 Sequelae of intracerebral haemorrhage
- I69.2 Sequelae of other nontraumatic intracranial haemorrhage
- I69.3 Sequelae of cerebral infarction
- I69.4 Sequelae of stroke, not specified as haemorrhage or infarction
- I69.8 Sequelae of other and unspecified cerebrovascular diseases

## **A.4 Cardiovascular Diseases (All above plus the followings)**

**I00-I02 Acute rheumatic fever (Excluded)**

**I05-I09 Chronic rheumatic heart diseases(Excluded)**

**I26-I28 Pulmonary heart disease and diseases of pulmonary circulation (Excluded)**

**I30-I52 Other forms of heart disease( Some of them are excluded)**

I30 Acute pericarditis (Excluded)

I30.0 Acute nonspecific idiopathic pericarditis (Excluded)

I30.1 Infective pericarditis (Excluded)

I30.8 Other forms of acute pericarditis (Excluded)

I30.9 Acute pericarditis, unspecified (Excluded)

I31 Other diseases of pericardium (Excluded)

I31.0 Chronic adhesive pericarditis (Excluded)

I31.1 Chronic constrictive pericarditis (Excluded)

I31.2 Haemopericardium, not elsewhere classified (Excluded)

I31.3 Pericardial effusion (noninflammatory) (Excluded)

I31.8 Other specified diseases of pericardium (Excluded)

I31.9 Disease of pericardium, unspecified (Excluded)

I32\* Pericarditis in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)

I32.0\* Pericarditis in bacterial diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)

I32.1\* Pericarditis in other infectious and parasitic diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)

I32.8\* Pericarditis in other diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)

I33 Acute and subacute endocarditis (Excluded)

I33.0 Acute and subacute infective endocarditis (Excluded)

I33.9 Acute endocarditis, unspecified (Excluded)

I34 Nonrheumatic mitral valve disorders (Excluded)

I34.0 Mitral (valve) insufficiency (Excluded)

I34.1 Mitral (valve) prolapsed (Excluded)

I34.2 Nonrheumatic mitral (valve) stenosis (Excluded)

I34.8 Other nonrheumatic mitral valve disorders (Excluded)

I34.9 Nonrheumatic mitral valve disorder, unspecified (Excluded)

I35 Nonrheumatic aortic valve disorders (Excluded)

I35.0 Aortic (valve) stenosis (Excluded)  
I35.1 Aortic (valve) insufficiency (Excluded)  
I35.2 Aortic (valve) stenosis with insufficiency (Excluded)  
I35.8 Other aortic valve disorders (Excluded)  
I35.9 Aortic valve disorder, unspecified (Excluded)  
I36 Nonrheumatic tricuspid valve disorders (Excluded)  
I36.0 Nonrheumatic tricuspid (valve) stenosis (Excluded)  
I36.1 Nonrheumatic tricuspid (valve) insufficiency (Excluded)  
I36.2 Nonrheumatic tricuspid (valve) stenosis with insufficiency (Excluded)  
I36.8 Other nonrheumatic tricuspid valve disorders (Excluded)  
I36.9 Nonrheumatic tricuspid valve disorder, unspecified (Excluded)  
I37 Pulmonary valve disorders (Excluded)  
I37.0 Pulmonary valve stenosis (Excluded)  
I37.1 Pulmonary valve insufficiency (Excluded)  
I37.2 Pulmonary valve stenosis with insufficiency (Excluded)  
I37.8 Other pulmonary valve disorders (Excluded)  
I37.9 Pulmonary valve disorder, unspecified (Excluded)  
I38 Endocarditis, valve unspecified (Excluded)  
I39\* Endocarditis and heart valve disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I39.0\* Mitral valve disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I39.1\* Aortic valve disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I39.2\* Tricuspid valve disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I39.3\* Pulmonary valve disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I39.4\* Multiple valve disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I39.8\* Endocarditis, valve unspecified, in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I40 Acute myocarditis (Excluded)  
I40.0 Infective myocarditis (Excluded)  
I40.1 Isolated myocarditis (Excluded)  
I40.8 Other acute myocarditis (Excluded)  
I40.9 Acute myocarditis, unspecified (Excluded)  
I41\* Myocarditis in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I41.0\* Myocarditis in bacterial diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)  
I41.1\* Myocarditis in viral diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)

- I41.2\* Myocarditis in other infectious and parasitic diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)
- I41.8\* Myocarditis in other diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)
- I42 Cardiomyopathy (Excluded)
  - I42.0 Dilated cardiomyopathy (Excluded)
  - I42.1 Obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (Excluded)
  - I42.2 Other hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (Excluded)
  - I42.3 Endomyocardial (eosinophilic) disease (Excluded)
  - I42.4 Endocardial fibroelastosis (Excluded)
  - I42.5 Other restrictive cardiomyopathy (Excluded)
  - I42.6 Alcoholic cardiomyopathy (Excluded)
  - I42.7 Cardiomyopathy due to drugs and other external agents (Excluded)
  - I42.8 Other cardiomyopathies (Excluded)
  - I42.9 Cardiomyopathy, unspecified (Excluded)
- I43\* Cardiomyopathy in diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)
  - I43.0\* Cardiomyopathy in infectious and parasitic diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)
  - I43.1\* Cardiomyopathy in metabolic diseases (Excluded)
  - I43.2\* Cardiomyopathy in nutritional diseases (Excluded)
  - I43.8\* Cardiomyopathy in other diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)
- I44 Atrioventricular and left bundle-branch block (Excluded)
  - I44.0 Atrioventricular block, first degree (Excluded)
  - I44.1 Atrioventricular block, second degree (Excluded)
  - I44.2 Atrioventricular block, complete (Excluded)
  - I44.3 Other and unspecified atrioventricular block (Excluded)
  - I44.4 Left anterior fascicular block (Excluded)
  - I44.5 Left posterior fascicular block (Excluded)
  - I44.6 Other and unspecified fascicular block (Excluded)
  - I44.7 Left bundle-branch block, unspecified (Excluded)
- I45 Other conduction disorders (Excluded)
  - I45.0 Right fascicular block (Excluded)
  - I45.1 Other and unspecified right bundle-branch block (Excluded)
  - I45.2 Bifascicular block (Excluded)
  - I45.3 Trifascicular block (Excluded)
  - I45.4 Nonspecific intraventricular block (Excluded)

- I45.5 Other specified heart block (Excluded)
- I45.6 Pre-excitation syndrome (Excluded)
- I45.8 Other specified conduction disorders (Excluded)
- I45.9 Conduction disorder, unspecified (Excluded)
- I46 Cardiac arrest (No data)
- I46.0 Cardiac arrest with successful resuscitation (No data)
- I46.1 Sudden cardiac death, so described
- I46.9 Cardiac arrest, unspecified
- I47 Paroxysmal tachycardia (No data)
- I47.0 Re-entry ventricular arrhythmia
- I47.1 Supraventricular tachycardia
- I47.2 Ventricular tachycardia
- I47.9 Paroxysmal tachycardia, unspecified
- I48 Atrial fibrillation and flutter
- I49 Other cardiac arrhythmias (No data)
- I49.0 Ventricular fibrillation and flutter
- I49.1 Atrial premature depolarization
- I49.2 Junctional premature depolarization
- I49.3 Ventricular premature depolarization
- I49.4 Other and unspecified premature depolarization
- I49.5 Sick sinus syndrome
- I49.8 Other specified cardiac arrhythmias
- I49.9 Cardiac arrhythmia, unspecified
- I50 Heart failure (No data)
- I51 Complications and ill-defined descriptions of heart disease (No data)
- I51.0 Cardiac septal defect, acquired
- I51.1 Rupture of chordae tendineae, not elsewhere classified
- I51.2 Rupture of papillary muscle, not elsewhere classified
- I51.3 Intracardiac thrombosis, not elsewhere classified
- I51.4 Myocarditis, unspecified
- I51.5 Myocardial degeneration
- I51.6 Cardiovascular disease, unspecified
- I51.7 Cardiomegaly



I51.8 Other ill-defined heart diseases

I51.9 Heart disease, unspecified

I52\* Other heart disorders in diseases classified elsewhere (No data)

I52.0\* Other heart disorders in bacterial diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)

I52.1\* Other heart disorders in other infectious and parasitic diseases classified elsewhere (Excluded)

I52.8\* Other heart disorders in other diseases classified elsewhere (No data)

**I70-I79 Diseases of arteries, arterioles and capillaries**

I70 Atherosclerosis (No data)

I70.0 Atherosclerosis of aorta

I70.1 Atherosclerosis of renal artery

I70.2 Atherosclerosis of arteries of extremities

I70.8 Atherosclerosis of other arteries

I70.9 Generalized and unspecified atherosclerosis

I71 Aortic aneurysm and dissection (No data)

I71.0 Dissection of aorta [any part]

I71.1 Thoracic aortic aneurysm, ruptured

I71.2 Thoracic aortic aneurysm, without mention of rupture

I71.3 Abdominal aortic aneurysm, ruptured

I71.4 Abdominal aortic aneurysm, without mention of rupture

I71.5 Thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysm, ruptured

I71.6 Thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysm, without mention of rupture

I71.8 Aortic aneurysm of unspecified site, ruptured

I71.9 Aortic aneurysm of unspecified site, without mention of rupture

I72 Other aneurysm (No data)

I72.0 Aneurysm of carotid artery

I72.1 Aneurysm of artery of upper extremity

I72.2 Aneurysm of renal artery

I72.3 Aneurysm of iliac artery

I72.4 Aneurysm of artery of lower extremity

I72.8 Aneurysm of other specified arteries

I72.9 Aneurysm of unspecified site

I73 Other peripheral vascular diseases

- I73.0 Raynaud's syndrome (No data)
- I73.1 Thromboangiitis obliterans [Buerger]
- I73.8 Other specified peripheral vascular diseases
- I73.9 Peripheral vascular disease, unspecified
- I74 Arterial embolism and thrombosis (No data)
- I74.0 Embolism and thrombosis of abdominal aorta
- I74.1 Embolism and thrombosis of other and unspecified parts of aorta
- I74.2 Embolism and thrombosis of arteries of upper extremities
- I74.3 Embolism and thrombosis of arteries of lower extremities
- I74.4 Embolism and thrombosis of arteries of extremities, unspecified Peripheral arterial embolism
- I74.5 Embolism and thrombosis of iliac artery
- I74.8 Embolism and thrombosis of other arteries
- I74.9 Embolism and thrombosis of unspecified artery
- I77 Other disorders of arteries and arterioles (No data)
- I77.0 Arteriovenous fistula, acquired
- I77.1 Stricture of artery
- I77.2 Rupture of artery
- I77.3 Arterial fibromuscular dysplasia
- I77.4 Coeliac artery compression syndrome
- I77.5 Necrosis of artery
- I77.6 Arteritis, unspecified
- I77.8 Other specified disorders of arteries and arterioles
- I77.9 Disorder of arteries and arterioles, unspecified
- I78 Diseases of capillaries (No data)
- I78.0 Hereditary haemorrhagic telangiectasia
- I78.1 Naevus, non-neoplastic
- I78.8 Other diseases of capillaries
- I78.9 Disease of capillaries, unspecified
- I79\* Disorders of arteries, arterioles and capillaries in diseases classified elsewhere (No data)
- I79.0\* Aneurysm of aorta in diseases classified elsewhere (No data)
- I79.1\* Aortitis in diseases classified elsewhere (No data)
- I79.2\* Peripheral angiopathy in diseases classified elsewhere (No data)

I79.8\* Other disorders of arteries, arterioles and capillaries in diseases classified elsewhere  
(No data)

**I80-I89 Diseases of veins, lymphatic vessels and lymph nodes, not elsewhere  
classified (Excluded)**

**I95-I99 Other and unspecified disorders of the circulatory system (Excluded)**

Appendix B

Appendix B

**Canada (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)**

**Without control**

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	553	1192	3028	50	239	424	107	134	545	10	27	76
2	3060	1024	2231	5647	94	455	805	250	254	1023	18	51	145
3	2754	1431	3147	7936	133	650	1149	372	365	1446	26	74	208
4	2479	1786	3962	9959	169	828	1462	479	465	1825	33	95	265
5	2231	2089	4670	11705	201	987	1740	570	556	2155	40	114	316
6	2008	2356	5304	13259	230	1131	1992	650	638	2452	45	131	363
7	1807	2595	5875	14654	256	1264	2223	722	714	2720	51	147	406
8	1626	2809	6395	15920	280	1386	2436	786	784	2965	56	162	445
9	1464	3005	6873	17079	302	1499	2633	844	849	3190	60	176	482
10	1317	3172	7285	18073	322	1598	2805	894	906	3385	64	188	514
11	1186	3324	7663	18986	339	1690	2964	940	959	3564	68	199	544
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	575	744	2467	52	149	346	151	109	542	14	22	76
2	3060	1063	1389	4588	97	283	654	352	207	1016	26	42	144
3	2754	1481	1955	6432	138	404	932	523	296	1433	37	60	206
4	2479	1844	2455	8052	175	513	1182	672	377	1804	47	77	262
5	2231	2152	2888	9445	207	610	1404	798	449	2126	55	92	312
6	2008	2423	3273	10677	236	698	1605	909	515	2413	64	106	357
7	1807	2662	3618	11776	263	778	1787	1007	575	2672	71	119	399
8	1626	2876	3930	12767	287	852	1954	1094	630	2907	78	130	437
9	1464	3070	4215	13667	309	920	2108	1173	681	3121	84	141	472
10	1317	3233	4459	14434	328	979	2242	1240	726	3305	89	151	502
11	1186	3381	4681	15132	346	1033	2365	1301	767	3473	94	160	531

## Canada (Average rate & 5% sodium reduction per year)

### Without control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	277	596	1514	25	120	212	53	67	272	5	13	38
2	3230	536	1161	2945	49	235	416	131	131	532	9	26	75
3	3069	781	1700	4303	71	346	613	203	194	779	14	39	111
4	2915	1013	2215	5597	93	454	804	272	255	1017	18	51	145
5	2769	1227	2696	6801	114	556	984	335	312	1239	22	63	178
6	2631	1429	3155	7944	134	655	1157	396	368	1451	26	75	210
7	2499	1621	3593	9035	153	750	1325	452	422	1655	30	86	240
8	2374	1804	4014	10078	172	842	1487	507	474	1850	34	97	270
9	2256	1980	4419	11081	190	932	1644	559	525	2039	37	107	299
10	2143	2139	4792	12000	207	1015	1790	606	572	2213	41	117	326
11	2036	2292	5150	12881	223	1096	1931	651	618	2380	44	127	352
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	288	372	1233	26	75	173	75	54	271	7	11	38
2	3230	556	723	2393	50	146	338	184	107	528	13	22	75
3	3069	808	1056	3488	74	215	497	286	157	772	19	32	110
4	2915	1045	1373	4526	97	281	650	382	206	1005	26	42	144
5	2769	1264	1667	5489	118	344	794	470	252	1222	31	51	176
6	2631	1470	1947	6399	138	404	932	553	297	1429	37	60	207
7	2499	1664	2213	7263	158	462	1065	632	340	1626	42	69	236
8	2374	1848	2468	8086	176	518	1193	706	381	1814	47	78	265
9	2256	2023	2711	8873	194	572	1317	777	421	1996	52	86	293
10	2143	2182	2935	9590	211	622	1431	841	458	2162	57	94	318
11	2036	2333	3148	10274	227	670	1541	902	494	2320	61	101	343

**Canada (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)**  
**With control**

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	188	405	1029	221	609	1365	36	45	185	43	68	246
2	3060	348	757	1919	419	1159	2590	85	86	348	81	131	468
3	2754	487	1068	2696	596	1656	3697	126	124	491	116	189	669
4	2479	607	1345	3384	756	2110	4703	163	158	620	148	242	853
5	2231	710	1586	3977	898	2514	5596	194	189	732	177	290	1018
6	2008	801	1801	4505	1026	2883	6408	221	217	833	203	334	1168
7	1807	882	1995	4979	1143	3220	7151	245	242	924	227	375	1306
8	1626	955	2171	5409	1250	3532	7834	267	266	1007	249	413	1433
9	1464	1022	2333	5803	1349	3820	8468	287	288	1084	269	448	1551
10	1317	1078	2473	6141	1436	4073	9022	304	308	1150	287	479	1654
11	1186	1130	2602	6451	1515	4308	9534	320	326	1211	304	508	1750
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	196	252	838	230	380	1112	51	37	184	60	56	245
2	3060	361	472	1559	434	721	2105	120	70	345	115	107	464
3	2754	504	664	2186	617	1029	2997	178	101	487	164	153	663
4	2479	627	833	2736	781	1308	3803	228	128	613	208	196	844
5	2231	732	980	3209	925	1555	4516	271	153	722	248	234	1004
6	2008	824	1111	3628	1055	1779	5162	309	175	820	284	270	1150
7	1807	905	1228	4001	1173	1984	5749	342	195	908	317	302	1283
8	1626	978	1334	4338	1280	2171	6286	372	214	988	347	332	1405
9	1464	1044	1431	4644	1379	2344	6781	399	231	1060	375	360	1518
10	1317	1099	1514	4904	1465	2495	7211	422	246	1123	399	384	1616
11	1186	1150	1589	5142	1543	2634	7606	442	260	1180	421	407	1707

## Canada (Weighted average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### Without control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	542	1167	2973	49	234	417	104	131	535	9	26	75
2	3060	1004	2185	5544	92	445	791	245	249	1004	18	50	143
3	2754	1403	3082	7791	131	637	1128	365	357	1420	26	72	204
4	2479	1751	3880	9777	166	811	1435	469	456	1792	33	93	260
5	2231	2048	4574	11492	197	966	1708	559	544	2116	39	111	311
6	2008	2310	5194	13017	225	1108	1956	637	625	2407	45	128	356
7	1807	2543	5754	14387	251	1238	2183	707	699	2671	50	144	398
8	1626	2754	6264	15630	274	1357	2391	770	768	2911	55	159	437
9	1464	2946	6731	16768	296	1468	2585	828	831	3132	59	172	473
10	1317	3109	7135	17744	315	1565	2754	877	887	3323	63	184	505
11	1186	3258	7505	18640	333	1655	2910	921	939	3499	67	195	534
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	565	728	2424	51	146	340	148	107	533	13	21	75
2	3060	1045	1360	4508	96	277	643	346	203	998	25	41	142
3	2754	1455	1913	6320	136	395	915	514	290	1408	36	59	203
4	2479	1812	2403	7912	172	502	1162	660	369	1772	46	75	258
5	2231	2115	2827	9280	204	597	1380	785	440	2089	55	90	307
6	2008	2381	3204	10490	232	684	1577	893	504	2371	62	104	351
7	1807	2616	3542	11571	258	762	1756	990	563	2626	70	116	392
8	1626	2826	3847	12544	282	834	1920	1076	617	2856	76	127	429
9	1464	3017	4126	13429	304	900	2071	1153	667	3067	82	138	464
10	1317	3177	4365	14182	322	958	2203	1219	710	3247	88	148	494
11	1186	3323	4583	14868	340	1012	2323	1278	750	3413	93	156	521



## Canada (Weighted average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### With control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	184	396	1010	217	597	1340	36	44	182	42	67	241
2	3060	341	742	1884	410	1135	2543	83	85	341	80	128	459
3	2754	477	1046	2647	584	1622	3629	124	121	483	114	185	657
4	2479	595	1317	3322	741	2067	4617	160	155	609	145	237	838
5	2231	696	1553	3905	880	2463	5494	190	185	719	173	284	999
6	2008	785	1764	4423	1006	2823	6291	217	212	818	199	327	1147
7	1807	865	1954	4889	1120	3154	7020	241	237	907	222	367	1282
8	1626	936	2127	5311	1225	3459	7692	262	261	989	244	404	1407
9	1464	1002	2285	5697	1323	3742	8313	281	282	1064	264	439	1522
10	1317	1057	2422	6029	1407	3989	8857	298	301	1129	282	469	1624
11	1186	1108	2548	6333	1486	4219	9360	313	319	1189	298	498	1718
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	192	247	823	226	372	1093	50	36	181	59	55	240
2	3060	355	462	1532	427	706	2068	118	69	339	113	104	456
3	2754	495	650	2147	606	1007	2944	175	98	478	161	150	651
4	2479	616	816	2688	767	1280	3737	225	125	602	205	192	829
5	2231	719	960	3153	909	1522	4438	267	149	710	243	229	987
6	2008	809	1088	3564	1037	1742	5072	304	171	806	279	264	1130
7	1807	889	1202	3931	1153	1942	5648	336	191	892	311	296	1261
8	1626	961	1306	4262	1258	2126	6176	366	209	970	341	325	1381
9	1464	1026	1401	4563	1356	2295	6662	392	226	1042	368	352	1491
10	1317	1080	1482	4819	1440	2442	7085	414	241	1103	392	376	1588
11	1186	1130	1556	5052	1517	2578	7473	435	255	1160	414	398	1677

## Canada (Constant death/events & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### Without control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	553	1192	3028	50	239	424	107	134	545	10	27	76
2	3060	1038	2243	5693	94	452	802	250	253	1027	18	51	145
3	2754	1463	3173	8044	133	643	1139	377	359	1453	26	72	205
4	2479	1838	3997	10121	168	813	1440	488	455	1832	33	92	260
5	2231	2169	4728	11961	199	965	1709	586	540	2168	39	109	309
6	2008	2461	5377	13592	227	1101	1949	673	617	2468	44	125	352
7	1807	2720	5955	15042	252	1223	2164	750	685	2734	49	139	391
8	1626	2950	6469	16330	274	1332	2356	818	747	2972	53	151	426
9	1464	3154	6928	17478	294	1429	2528	879	802	3184	57	163	457
10	1317	3335	7338	18501	311	1517	2682	933	851	3373	61	173	486
11	1186	3497	7704	19414	327	1596	2820	981	895	3543	64	182	511
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	575	744	2467	52	149	346	151	109	542	14	22	76
2	3060	1079	1400	4637	97	282	654	354	206	1022	26	41	144
3	2754	1522	1980	6552	138	401	928	533	293	1447	36	59	204
4	2479	1912	2495	8244	174	507	1173	690	371	1824	46	75	259
5	2231	2255	2951	9743	207	602	1392	829	441	2159	55	89	307
6	2008	2559	3356	11071	236	687	1587	952	503	2457	62	102	351
7	1807	2829	3717	12252	262	763	1762	1061	559	2722	69	113	389
8	1626	3068	4038	13302	285	831	1919	1157	609	2958	75	123	424
9	1464	3280	4324	14236	305	892	2059	1243	654	3170	81	133	455
10	1317	3469	4580	15070	324	947	2185	1319	695	3358	86	141	483
11	1186	3637	4808	15813	340	996	2297	1387	731	3527	90	148	509

## Canada (Constant death/events & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### With control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	188	405	1029	221	609	1365	36	45	185	43	68	246
2	3060	353	762	1934	418	1153	2581	85	86	349	81	130	465
3	2754	498	1077	2733	593	1638	3665	128	122	494	115	184	661
4	2479	625	1357	3439	749	2071	4632	166	154	622	145	234	836
5	2231	737	1605	4064	888	2459	5496	199	183	737	172	278	992
6	2008	837	1826	4618	1012	2806	6269	229	209	838	197	318	1133
7	1807	925	2022	5111	1123	3116	6959	255	233	929	219	354	1258
8	1626	1003	2196	5549	1222	3394	7577	278	253	1010	238	386	1371
9	1464	1072	2352	5939	1311	3643	8131	299	272	1082	256	414	1472
10	1317	1134	2491	6286	1390	3866	8627	317	289	1146	271	440	1562
11	1186	1189	2616	6596	1461	4066	9072	333	304	1204	285	464	1643
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3400	196	252	838	230	380	1112	51	37	184	60	56	245
2	3060	367	475	1576	435	720	2102	120	70	347	114	106	463
3	2754	517	672	2226	617	1022	2985	181	100	492	162	151	658
4	2479	650	847	2801	779	1293	3773	235	126	620	205	191	832
5	2231	767	1002	3310	924	1535	4477	282	150	733	244	227	988
6	2008	870	1139	3762	1053	1751	5106	324	171	835	278	259	1128
7	1807	962	1262	4163	1168	1945	5669	361	190	925	309	289	1253
8	1626	1043	1371	4520	1271	2118	6172	393	207	1005	337	315	1365
9	1464	1115	1468	4837	1363	2274	6623	423	222	1077	361	338	1465
10	1317	1179	1555	5120	1446	2413	7027	449	236	1141	384	359	1555
11	1186	1237	1632	5373	1520	2538	7389	472	248	1198	404	378	1636

## US (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### Without control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	5287	12956	33171	474	2600	4649	1019	1452	5968	91	291	836
2	3033	9780	24229	61780	895	4937	8809	2382	2763	11192	174	558	1590
3	2730	13644	34130	86709	1272	7047	12555	3546	3953	15803	248	802	2272
4	2457	17005	42904	108653	1612	8965	15947	4556	5039	19908	316	1027	2894
5	2211	19896	50584	127734	1914	10683	18977	5426	6015	23517	377	1231	3451
6	1990	22443	57448	144698	2187	12247	21730	6192	6907	26753	432	1418	3960
7	1791	24710	63631	159913	2436	13679	24245	6872	7726	29677	483	1592	4426
8	1612	26749	69247	173681	2663	14997	26555	7483	8481	32339	530	1752	4855
9	1451	28602	74388	186249	2874	16215	28689	8037	9180	34780	573	1901	5253
10	1306	30223	78934	197323	3061	17307	30598	8522	9808	36945	612	2036	5609
11	1175	31709	83120	207501	3234	18319	32366	8966	10390	38940	648	2161	5940
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	6056	9366	25789	543	1880	3614	1587	1372	5671	142	275	795
2	3033	11181	17481	47939	1023	3562	6836	3704	2607	10614	270	526	1508
3	2730	15567	24576	67152	1451	5075	9724	5502	3723	14958	385	755	2151
4	2457	19364	30835	83980	1835	6444	12327	7056	4736	18808	489	965	2734
5	2211	22618	36295	98568	2176	7666	14646	8390	5645	22181	583	1155	3256
6	1990	25471	41154	111476	2483	8775	16745	9558	6472	25193	667	1329	3730
7	1791	27997	45510	122997	2761	9786	18654	10591	7228	27902	745	1489	4162
8	1612	30257	49446	133368	3014	10713	20400	11513	7922	30356	816	1637	4559
9	1451	32298	53031	142785	3247	11565	22005	12344	8562	32596	881	1774	4925
10	1306	34082	56197	151066	3454	12328	23440	13071	9137	34578	940	1897	5252
11	1175	35708	59098	158643	3645	13033	24762	13733	9667	36397	994	2011	5555

## US (Average rate & 5% sodium reduction per year)

### Without control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	2644	6478	16585	237	1300	2325	509	726	2984	46	146	418
2	3202	5118	12610	32219	464	2550	4555	1246	1425	5817	90	287	821
3	3041	7443	18433	47008	681	3754	6700	1936	2101	8514	132	424	1209
4	2889	9637	23983	61049	890	4917	8768	2587	2755	11090	173	557	1585
5	2745	11679	29195	74190	1088	6024	10732	3193	3379	13516	212	685	1942
6	2608	13606	34158	86664	1277	7090	12622	3765	3981	15831	250	809	2287
7	2477	15432	38899	98544	1460	8119	14444	4306	4563	18046	286	929	2620
8	2353	17169	43442	109897	1636	9115	16204	4821	5127	20172	321	1046	2943
9	2236	18829	47808	120783	1807	10080	17910	5313	5675	22219	355	1160	3256
10	2124	20370	51896	130946	1967	10993	19521	5769	6194	24140	388	1269	3553
11	2018	21844	55824	140691	2122	11877	21079	6206	6697	25987	419	1374	3840
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	3028	4683	12895	271	940	1807	794	686	2836	71	138	397
2	3202	5851	9098	25001	530	1840	3534	1938	1345	5517	139	271	778
3	3041	8493	13274	36407	777	2704	5189	3005	1979	8059	205	399	1145
4	2889	10976	17238	47192	1013	3534	6778	4007	2590	10478	268	524	1497
5	2745	13279	20951	57260	1237	4323	8284	4938	3171	12750	328	643	1832
6	2608	15446	24475	66782	1450	5080	9727	5813	3730	14910	386	758	2154
7	2477	17491	27828	75817	1655	5809	11115	6639	4269	16971	441	870	2465
8	2353	19430	31030	84419	1852	6512	12451	7420	4790	18941	495	978	2764
9	2236	21274	34096	92637	2042	7191	13740	8164	5294	20831	546	1083	3053
10	2124	22985	36963	100300	2220	7832	14957	8854	5771	22602	595	1182	3327
11	2018	24615	39710	107625	2392	8452	16131	9511	6232	24301	643	1279	3592

## US (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### With control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	2644	6469	16575	1718	5653	12458	509	725	2982	331	633	2242
2	3033	4890	12097	30870	3245	10732	23607	1191	1379	5592	629	1212	4261
3	2730	6822	17040	43327	4611	15320	33643	1773	1974	7896	899	1743	6090
4	2457	8502	21421	54291	5842	19489	42734	2278	2516	9948	1145	2232	7754
5	2211	9948	25256	63826	6937	23223	50853	2713	3003	11751	1366	2676	9249
6	1990	11221	28683	72302	7927	26624	58230	3096	3449	13368	1567	3083	10611
7	1791	12355	31770	79905	8829	29737	64970	3436	3857	14829	1751	3460	11861
8	1612	13375	34574	86784	9655	32602	71161	3742	4234	16159	1921	3809	13011
9	1451	14301	37141	93064	10416	35250	76878	4018	4583	17379	2079	4133	14076
10	1306	15112	39411	98597	11096	37624	81994	4261	4897	18460	2220	4426	15031
11	1175	15855	41501	103683	11724	39824	86732	4483	5188	19457	2350	4698	15917
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	3028	4676	12886	1968	4086	9686	794	685	2834	516	599	2130
2	3033	5590	8728	23954	3709	7743	18318	1852	1302	5304	978	1144	4041
3	2730	7784	12271	33554	5261	11033	26057	2751	1859	7474	1396	1642	5765
4	2457	9682	15395	41963	6654	14008	33034	3528	2365	9398	1774	2098	7327
5	2211	11309	18122	49252	7887	16666	39249	4195	2819	11083	2112	2511	8725
6	1990	12736	20547	55702	9000	19077	44873	4779	3232	12588	2420	2890	9995
7	1791	13999	22722	61458	10008	21275	49988	5295	3609	13942	2700	3237	11154
8	1612	15129	24688	66641	10927	23288	54667	5756	3955	15168	2958	3558	12217
9	1451	16149	26478	71346	11770	25142	58968	6172	4275	16287	3195	3856	13197
10	1306	17041	28058	75484	12522	26800	62812	6536	4562	17278	3407	4124	14075
11	1175	17854	29507	79270	13214	28332	66356	6867	4827	18187	3604	4372	14886

## US (Weighted average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### Without control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	5107	12485	32245	458	2506	4519	984	1399	5802	88	281	813
2	3033	9446	23348	60055	864	4757	8563	2301	2662	10879	168	537	1546
3	2730	13178	32889	84289	1229	6791	12204	3424	3810	15362	240	773	2209
4	2457	16424	41344	105620	1557	8639	15502	4401	4856	19352	305	990	2813
5	2211	19216	48745	124169	1848	10294	18447	5241	5797	22860	364	1186	3355
6	1990	21676	55359	140658	2112	11802	21123	5980	6656	26006	418	1367	3849
7	1791	23866	61318	155449	2352	13182	23568	6638	7445	28849	467	1534	4302
8	1612	25836	66729	168833	2573	14451	25814	7227	8172	31436	512	1688	4720
9	1451	27625	71683	181050	2775	15625	27888	7762	8846	33809	554	1832	5106
10	1306	29191	76064	191814	2956	16678	29744	8231	9451	35913	591	1962	5453
11	1175	30627	80098	201708	3124	17653	31462	8660	10012	37853	626	2082	5774
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	5821	8931	24772	522	1792	3472	1525	1309	5448	137	263	763
2	3033	10746	16670	46048	984	3396	6566	3560	2486	10195	259	502	1449
3	2730	14962	23435	64503	1395	4839	9340	5288	3550	14368	370	720	2066
4	2457	18611	29403	80667	1764	6145	11841	6782	4516	18066	470	920	2626
5	2211	21739	34610	94679	2091	7310	14069	8064	5383	21306	560	1102	3127
6	1990	24481	39243	107078	2386	8368	16084	9186	6172	24199	642	1267	3583
7	1791	26909	43397	118144	2653	9332	17918	10179	6893	26801	716	1420	3998
8	1612	29081	47151	128107	2897	10215	19595	11065	7554	29159	784	1561	4379
9	1451	31043	50569	137152	3121	11028	21137	11865	8165	31310	847	1691	4731
10	1306	32757	53587	145107	3320	11756	22515	12563	8712	33214	903	1809	5045
11	1175	34320	56354	152384	3504	12428	23785	13199	9218	34961	956	1918	5336

## US (Weighted average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### With control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	2553	6234	16112	1659	5447	12110	492	698	2899	320	610	2179
2	3033	4723	11657	30008	3134	10341	22948	1151	1329	5436	608	1168	4142
3	2730	6589	16421	42117	4454	14763	32704	1712	1902	7676	869	1680	5920
4	2457	8212	20643	52776	5643	18781	41541	2200	2424	9670	1106	2151	7538
5	2211	9608	24338	62044	6700	22379	49433	2621	2894	11423	1319	2578	8990
6	1990	10838	27640	70284	7656	25656	56605	2990	3323	12995	1513	2971	10315
7	1791	11933	30615	77674	8527	28656	63156	3319	3717	14415	1692	3334	11529
8	1612	12918	33317	84362	9325	31416	69174	3614	4080	15708	1856	3670	12648
9	1451	13812	35790	90466	10061	33968	74732	3881	4417	16894	2008	3983	13683
10	1306	14596	37978	95845	10717	36256	79706	4116	4719	17945	2144	4265	14612
11	1175	15313	39992	100789	11324	38376	84311	4330	4999	18914	2270	4527	15473
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	2910	4459	12378	1891	3897	9304	763	653	2722	496	571	2046
2	3033	5373	8323	23009	3565	7384	17596	1780	1241	5094	940	1091	3882
3	2730	7481	11701	32230	5057	10521	25029	2644	1772	7179	1341	1566	5537
4	2457	9306	14680	40307	6395	13358	31731	3391	2255	9027	1705	2001	7038
5	2211	10870	17280	47309	7581	15892	37700	4032	2688	10646	2030	2395	8380
6	1990	12241	19593	53504	8650	18191	43102	4593	3082	12092	2326	2755	9601
7	1791	13455	21667	59034	9619	20287	48016	5090	3441	13392	2595	3087	10714
8	1612	14541	23542	64012	10502	22207	52510	5533	3772	14570	2843	3393	11735
9	1451	15522	25249	68531	11313	23974	56642	5932	4077	15645	3071	3677	12677
10	1306	16379	26756	72506	12035	25556	60334	6282	4350	16596	3275	3932	13520
11	1175	17160	28137	76143	12700	27016	63739	6600	4603	17469	3464	4169	14299



**US (Constant death/events & 10% sodium reduction per year)**  
**Without control**

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	5287	12956	33171	474	2600	4649	1019	1452	5968	91	291	836
2	3033	9919	24392	62368	895	4919	8790	2394	2749	11246	173	553	1583
3	2730	13988	34507	88126	1270	6990	12482	3602	3908	15922	246	787	2250
4	2457	17572	43468	110896	1604	8839	15777	4666	4946	20071	311	998	2847
5	2211	20734	51420	131059	1901	10493	18720	5605	5874	23757	369	1186	3380
6	1990	23531	58486	148945	2167	11972	21351	6435	6706	27037	421	1356	3858
7	1791	26008	64773	164833	2405	13296	23704	7171	7451	29959	468	1508	4285
8	1612	28207	70374	178966	2617	14482	25811	7823	8119	32564	510	1645	4669
9	1451	30160	75369	191551	2807	15545	27697	8403	8719	34889	547	1768	5012
10	1306	31898	79826	202770	2977	16498	29387	8919	9256	36966	581	1879	5320
11	1175	33446	83808	212782	3129	17353	30902	9379	9739	38823	611	1978	5597
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	6056	9366	25789	543	1880	3614	1587	1372	5671	142	275	795
2	3033	11362	17633	48489	1025	3556	6834	3729	2598	10687	269	522	1504
3	2730	16023	24944	68515	1454	5053	9704	5611	3694	15130	383	744	2138
4	2457	20127	31422	86218	1837	6390	12266	7269	4675	19072	484	943	2705
5	2211	23750	37171	101894	2178	7585	14554	8731	5553	22575	575	1122	3212
6	1990	26954	42279	115800	2482	8654	16600	10025	6339	25692	656	1282	3666
7	1791	29792	46824	128152	2754	9612	18429	11171	7044	28468	729	1426	4072
8	1612	32310	50873	139140	2998	10469	20067	12187	7675	30944	794	1555	4436
9	1451	34547	54483	148924	3215	11238	21533	13091	8242	33153	852	1672	4763
10	1306	36538	57706	157647	3410	11926	22847	13895	8750	35127	905	1776	5056
11	1175	38311	60584	165431	3584	12544	24025	14610	9206	36891	952	1870	5318

## US (Constant death/events & 10% sodium reduction per year)

### With control

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	2644	6469	16575	1718	5653	12458	509	725	2982	331	633	2242
2	3033	4960	12179	31164	3244	10694	23555	1197	1372	5619	626	1201	4242
3	2730	6994	17229	44035	4603	15195	33448	1801	1951	7956	890	1711	6030
4	2457	8786	21703	55412	5813	19215	42278	2333	2469	10029	1126	2169	7628
5	2211	10367	25673	65487	6893	22810	50165	2802	2933	11871	1338	2579	9058
6	1990	11765	29201	74424	7856	26026	57215	3218	3348	13510	1527	2948	10337
7	1791	13004	32340	82363	8717	28905	63521	3585	3720	14970	1696	3279	11484
8	1612	14103	35137	89425	9486	31483	69166	3912	4054	16272	1847	3577	12511
9	1451	15080	37631	95713	10175	33794	74220	4202	4353	17433	1983	3844	13432
10	1306	15949	39856	101319	10791	35866	78750	4460	4622	18471	2105	4084	14257
11	1175	16723	41844	106322	11343	37723	82809	4689	4863	19399	2215	4300	14998
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3370	3028	4676	12886	1968	4086	9686	794	685	2834	516	599	2130
2	3033	5681	8804	24229	3716	7731	18313	1865	1297	5340	976	1136	4031
3	2730	8011	12454	34235	5272	10984	26005	2806	1845	7560	1387	1618	5730
4	2457	10064	15689	43081	6659	13890	32870	3634	2334	9530	1755	2050	7248
5	2211	11875	18559	50914	7895	16489	39002	4366	2773	11280	2084	2438	8607
6	1990	13477	21109	57862	8999	18814	44483	5012	3165	12838	2378	2787	9823
7	1791	14896	23379	64035	9985	20895	49386	5585	3517	14225	2642	3100	10912
8	1612	16155	25400	69525	10866	22759	53774	6094	3832	15462	2878	3381	11888
9	1451	17274	27203	74414	11655	24429	57704	6545	4115	16566	3090	3634	12763
10	1306	18269	28812	78772	12360	25927	61225	6947	4369	17552	3280	3861	13548
11	1175	19156	30249	82662	12993	27270	64382	7305	4597	18434	3450	4065	14252

**Summary table for LA countries (without control)  
(Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)**

Country	Number of years	Number of events reduced			Number of lives saved		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
Argentina	14	156955	109079	687453	48948	15130	141897
Bolivia	12	4453	1701	13188	1373	229	2677
Brazil	12	449658	306182	1396816	138831	41591	284672
Chile	12	38190	29433	119621	11864	4000	24455
Colombia	12	70796	90069	288091	22218	12280	58814
Costa Rica	12	5578	9340	26787	1739	1266	5441
Cuba	12	32097	43728	138231	9979	5996	28211
Dominican Republic	12	12422	11082	45280	3799	1507	9201
Ecuador	12	14753	9201	66851	4561	1241	13630
El Salvador	12	4758	7503	26823	1493	1038	5520
Guatemala	16	21580	23257	126848	6800	3359	26516
Mexico	9	65719	71736	254313	20089	9625	51510
Nicaragua	12	5995	6489	22583	1867	891	4616
Panama	12	6817	4918	18756	2099	666	3807
Paraguay	12	20882	11692	60460	6510	1580	12329
Peru	12	17301	12347	74079	5377	1683	15166
Uruguay	5	8196	5042	24757	2577	659	5003
Venezuela	12	46295	67832	201559	14384	9161	40923

**Summary table for LA countries (without control)**  
**(Average rate & 5% sodium reduction per year)**

Country	Number of years	Sodium level	Number of events reduced			Number of lives saved		
			Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
Argentina	14	2423	105059	70817	451588	32942	9416	91687
Bolivia	12	2235	2847	1062	8312	884	138	1666
Brazil	12	2235	287648	191153	880254	89366	25106	177049
Chile	12	2235	24428	18371	75372	7637	2414	15206
Colombia	12	2207	45237	56198	181406	14287	7414	36560
Costa Rica	12	2235	3567	5831	16880	1119	764	3384
Cuba	12	2133	20464	27218	86838	6402	3611	17494
Dominican Republic	12	2207	7938	6915	28512	2443	910	5719
Ecuador	12	2235	9436	5745	42130	2936	749	8479
El Salvador	12	2207	3040	4681	16890	960	626	3431
Guatemala	16	2733	15135	15746	87058	4792	2165	17855
Mexico	9	1858	39190	42127	150228	12065	5534	30176
Nicaragua	12	2207	3830	4049	14220	1200	538	2870
Panama	12	2207	4356	3069	11812	1350	402	2367
Paraguay	12	2207	13341	7296	38074	4186	955	7666
Peru	12	2207	11055	7705	46649	3458	1017	9428
Uruguay	5	1596	1088	653	3237	325	83	646
Venezuela	12	2207	29581	42326	126923	9250	5532	25441

**Summary table for LA countries (with control)**  
**(Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)**

Country	Number of years	Number of events reduced			Number of lives saved		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
Argentina	14	145349	101404	637409	44006	13975	131233
Bolivia	12	4213	1614	12493	1274	216	2533
Brazil	12	429941	293484	1336828	130667	39760	272163
Chile	12	36254	28024	113686	11058	3797	23213
Colombia	12	66218	84588	269890	20292	11488	55014
Costa Rica	12	5278	8866	25379	1614	1198	5148
Cuba	12	30369	41508	130954	9260	5673	26692
Dominican Republic	12	11753	10520	42897	3525	1426	8705
Ecuador	12	14327	8948	64956	4385	1205	13235
El Salvador	12	4502	7123	25412	1385	982	5223
Guatemala	16	20526	22157	120686	6337	3183	25173
Mexico	9	59992	65940	232862	17801	8821	47111
Nicaragua	12	5672	6159	21392	1732	843	4367
Panama	12	6450	4668	17768	1947	631	3602
Paraguay	12	20250	11356	58666	6247	1532	11955
Peru	12	16256	11645	69709	4942	1582	14251
Uruguay	5	7783	4805	23548	2406	627	4756
Venezuela	12	43899	64521	191356	13386	8687	38805

**Summary table for LA countries (without control)**  
**(Weighted average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)**

Country	Number of years	Number of events reduced			Number of lives saved		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
Argentina	14	151607	104284	667355	47332	14466	137826
Bolivia	12	4509	1628	12914	1388	219	2620
Brazil	12	442605	304052	1381322	136687	41293	281474
Chile	12	37671	28851	119353	11712	3916	24399
Colombia	12	69665	91436	287469	21867	12466	58678
Costa Rica	12	5294	9055	26091	1651	1227	5300
Cuba	12	32501	44257	139312	10109	6070	28437
Dominican Republic	12	12881	11459	45281	3941	1558	9197
Ecuador	12	14944	9183	66498	4619	1238	13556
El Salvador	12	4624	7460	27649	1451	1031	5688
Guatemala	16	21681	23650	128660	6823	3415	26884
Mexico	9	64614	72207	251987	19751	9688	51039
Nicaragua	12	6097	6940	23060	1896	952	4711
Panama	12	6854	4989	18927	2108	675	3839
Paraguay	12	20478	11664	58952	6388	1576	12019
Peru	12	17202	13330	75027	5343	1819	15357
Uruguay	5	8201	4888	24514	2579	639	4955
Venezuela	12	45520	67715	198453	14141	9142	40288

**Summary table for LA countries (with control)**  
**(Weighted average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)**

Country	Number of years	Number of events reduced			Number of lives saved		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
Argentina	14	140397	96946	618774	42553	13362	127468
Bolivia	12	4266	1546	12234	1288	208	2479
Brazil	12	423197	291442	1321999	128650	39475	269106
Chile	12	35762	27470	113431	10915	3717	23161
Colombia	12	65160	85872	269307	19972	11662	54887
Costa Rica	12	5010	8596	24719	1532	1161	5015
Cuba	12	30751	42010	131978	9380	5743	26906
Dominican Republic	12	12188	10877	42898	3657	1474	8702
Ecuador	12	14513	8931	64614	4441	1202	13163
El Salvador	12	4375	7081	26194	1346	976	5382
Guatemala	16	20623	22533	122410	6359	3236	25523
Mexico	9	58984	66373	230732	17502	8879	46680
Nicaragua	12	5768	6587	21844	1759	901	4457
Panama	12	6485	4736	17930	1955	639	3633
Paraguay	12	19859	11329	57203	6129	1528	11654
Peru	12	16164	12572	70601	4910	1710	14431
Uruguay	5	7788	4659	23317	2408	608	4710
Venezuela	12	43164	64410	188408	13160	8669	38203

**Summary table for LA countries (without control)**  
**(Constant death/events & 10% sodium reduction per year)**

Country	Number of years	Number of events reduced			Number of lives saved		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
Argentina	14	170045	111727	719665	52537	14351	144156
Bolivia	12	4291	1572	12395	1313	200	2462
Brazil	12	465370	303810	1408452	142454	38925	280517
Chile	12	39899	29469	121741	12294	3777	24321
Colombia	12	71048	86741	281874	22108	11173	56276
Costa Rica	12	5577	8959	26109	1724	1146	5184
Cuba	12	35657	46586	149647	11002	6028	29851
Dominican Republic	12	12550	10745	44589	3804	1379	8856
Ecuador	12	14780	8845	65277	4529	1126	13011
El Salvador	12	4821	7296	26497	1500	953	5332
Guatemala	16	19829	19976	111894	6180	2632	22577
Mexico	9	65084	69308	248049	19765	8988	49574
Nicaragua	12	5765	5993	21184	1780	778	4237
Panama	12	6800	4709	18242	2076	603	3621
Paraguay	12	20195	10867	57039	6237	1388	11375
Peru	12	17359	11891	72467	5349	1532	14508
Uruguay	5	8361	5026	24911	2619	638	4978
Venezuela	12	45958	64663	195131	14152	8250	38740



**Summary table for LA countries (with control)**  
**(Constant death/events & 10% sodium reduction per year)**

Country	Number of years	Number of events reduced			Number of lives saved		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
Argentina	14	155904	103146	661886	46791	13222	132476
Bolivia	12	4041	1488	11695	1213	189	2322
Brazil	12	443161	290377	1343500	133582	37172	267492
Chile	12	37696	27965	115252	11408	3580	23015
Colombia	12	66059	81124	262789	20083	10436	52440
Costa Rica	12	5251	8475	24636	1592	1083	4890
Cuba	12	33570	44067	141193	10162	5696	28154
Dominican Republic	12	11817	10165	42073	3514	1304	8353
Ecuador	12	14316	8586	63293	4344	1092	12612
El Salvador	12	4540	6901	25002	1385	900	5029
Guatemala	16	18706	18923	105748	5715	2489	21321
Mexico	9	59142	63504	226282	17443	8227	45206
Nicaragua	12	5428	5670	19988	1644	735	3996
Panama	12	6402	4454	17213	1917	570	3416
Paraguay	12	19533	10535	55228	5971	1345	11011
Peru	12	16222	11172	67886	4891	1437	13585
Uruguay	5	7922	4783	23652	2441	607	4726
Venezuela	12	43377	61305	184550	13114	7814	36625

## Argentina (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	4720	1399	933	5437	125	187	762	270	105	978	24	21	137
2	4248	2551	1727	10007	235	354	1437	624	198	1818	46	40	260
3	3823	3514	2411	13900	333	504	2039	918	283	2547	65	58	370
4	3441	4330	3008	17261	420	639	2581	1166	360	3186	83	74	470
5	3097	5021	3525	20148	497	760	3064	1376	429	3744	99	89	560
6	2787	5620	3983	22684	566	870	3502	1558	493	4240	113	102	641
7	2508	6147	4392	24938	629	970	3901	1718	551	4686	126	115	716
8	2258	6616	4762	26965	687	1063	4267	1860	604	5089	138	126	785
9	2032	7040	5100	28807	740	1148	4606	1988	654	5459	150	137	849
10	1829	7403	5394	30402	787	1224	4905	2097	698	5782	160	147	906
11	1646	7735	5664	31864	830	1295	5183	2197	739	6079	169	156	959
12	1481	8042	5914	33219	870	1361	5442	2290	777	6355	178	164	1008
13	1333	8329	6149	34486	908	1422	5684	2376	813	6613	186	172	1054
14	1200	8600	6369	35680	943	1480	5912	2456	847	6856	193	180	1097
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	4720	1020	470	4184	91	94	586	267	69	920	24	14	129
2	4248	1859	870	7697	172	178	1105	619	131	1709	45	26	244
3	3823	2558	1214	10685	242	254	1568	909	186	2393	65	38	348
4	3441	3151	1514	13261	306	321	1983	1154	237	2992	82	49	441
5	3097	3652	1773	15472	361	382	2353	1362	282	3514	98	58	525
6	2787	4086	2002	17411	412	437	2688	1541	324	3978	112	67	602
7	2508	4466	2207	19132	457	488	2993	1698	362	4394	125	75	672
8	2258	4805	2392	20677	499	534	3273	1837	397	4770	137	83	736
9	2032	5110	2560	22078	537	577	3530	1962	429	5114	148	90	796
10	1829	5373	2707	23297	571	615	3760	2070	458	5416	158	96	849
11	1646	5613	2843	24416	602	650	3972	2169	485	5694	167	102	898
12	1481	5835	2968	25450	632	683	4170	2260	510	5951	175	108	944
13	1333	6043	3085	26417	659	714	4355	2344	534	6192	183	113	987
14	1200	6238	3195	27327	685	743	4529	2423	556	6419	191	118	1027

## Bolivia (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	45	17	122	4	3	17	9	2	22	1	0	3
2	3537	83	31	229	8	6	33	20	4	42	1	1	6
3	3183	117	44	324	11	9	47	31	5	59	2	1	9
4	2865	147	56	411	14	12	61	40	7	75	3	1	11
5	2578	174	67	488	17	14	73	48	8	90	3	2	13
6	2321	199	77	559	20	17	85	55	9	104	4	2	15
7	2089	221	86	625	22	19	96	62	11	116	4	2	18
8	1880	242	95	687	24	21	106	68	12	128	5	2	19
9	1692	262	104	746	27	23	116	74	13	140	5	3	21
10	1523	281	111	800	29	25	125	79	14	150	6	3	23
11	1370	298	119	852	31	26	134	84	15	160	6	3	25
12	1233	315	126	901	33	28	143	89	16	170	7	3	26
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	31	8	85	3	2	12	8	1	19	1	0	3
2	3537	58	16	160	5	3	23	19	2	36	1	0	5
3	3183	82	22	227	8	5	33	29	3	51	2	1	7
4	2865	103	28	287	10	6	42	38	4	64	3	1	9
5	2578	122	33	340	12	7	51	45	5	77	3	1	11
6	2321	139	38	389	14	8	59	52	6	88	4	1	13
7	2089	154	43	435	15	9	67	58	7	99	4	1	15
8	1880	169	47	478	17	10	74	64	8	109	5	2	17
9	1692	182	51	518	19	11	81	70	8	119	5	2	18
10	1523	195	55	555	20	12	87	75	9	128	5	2	20
11	1370	207	59	590	21	13	93	80	10	136	6	2	21
12	1233	218	62	624	23	14	99	84	10	144	6	2	22

### Brazil (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	4832	3065	13555	433	615	1900	931	343	2439	83	69	342
2	3537	8904	5720	25176	818	1168	3600	2173	654	4566	159	132	650
3	3183	12384	8047	35265	1162	1669	5134	3225	937	6441	227	190	930
4	2865	15402	10107	44132	1473	2126	6526	4135	1196	8110	290	244	1186
5	2578	18011	11925	51894	1752	2539	7782	4922	1432	9590	346	294	1418
6	2321	20320	13558	58832	2006	2918	8932	5617	1649	10925	398	340	1631
7	2089	22390	15042	65102	2240	3269	9992	6239	1849	12140	446	383	1828
8	1880	24269	16402	70829	2456	3594	10976	6802	2036	13258	491	423	2012
9	1692	25996	17661	76115	2657	3898	11893	7318	2212	14294	533	460	2183
10	1523	27492	18765	80731	2836	4169	12710	7765	2368	15206	571	494	2337
11	1370	28878	19792	85020	3003	4423	13474	8179	2515	16055	606	526	2480
12	1233	30177	20756	89042	3159	4662	14192	8566	2653	16852	638	556	2615
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	3419	1721	10004	306	345	1402	896	252	2200	80	51	308
2	3537	6303	3214	18591	579	657	2658	2092	481	4121	153	97	587
3	3183	8772	4524	26056	823	939	3793	3107	689	5816	219	140	840
4	2865	10917	5686	32627	1044	1196	4825	3986	880	7328	279	180	1072
5	2578	12769	6710	38373	1242	1429	5754	4745	1053	8667	334	216	1281
6	2321	14409	7630	43513	1423	1642	6606	5417	1213	9875	384	250	1474
7	2089	15881	8467	48162	1589	1840	7392	6018	1361	10977	431	282	1653
8	1880	17218	9235	52413	1742	2023	8121	6563	1499	11990	474	311	1819
9	1692	18449	9947	56341	1886	2195	8803	7062	1629	12931	514	339	1975
10	1523	19514	10571	59770	2013	2349	9409	7496	1744	13759	551	364	2114
11	1370	20503	11152	62959	2131	2492	9976	7897	1853	14530	585	387	2244
12	1233	21431	11698	65954	2243	2627	10511	8273	1955	15255	617	410	2367

## Chile (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	399	297	1141	36	60	160	77	33	205	7	7	29
2	3537	737	555	2123	68	113	304	180	63	385	13	13	55
3	3183	1027	782	2978	96	162	433	267	91	544	19	18	79
4	2865	1279	983	3733	122	207	552	343	116	686	24	24	100
5	2578	1491	1157	4375	145	246	656	408	139	809	29	29	120
6	2321	1677	1311	4945	166	282	751	464	159	918	33	33	137
7	2089	1843	1451	5457	184	315	838	514	178	1018	37	37	153
8	1880	1992	1578	5921	202	346	918	558	196	1109	40	41	168
9	1692	2128	1694	6347	218	374	992	599	212	1192	44	44	182
10	1523	2240	1792	6701	231	399	1056	633	226	1263	47	47	194
11	1370	2342	1882	7026	244	421	1115	664	239	1327	49	50	205
12	1233	2437	1966	7327	256	442	1170	692	252	1388	52	53	216
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	308	167	895	28	34	125	81	25	197	7	5	28
2	3537	568	313	1665	52	64	238	189	47	369	14	9	53
3	3183	791	441	2335	74	91	340	280	67	521	20	14	75
4	2865	985	554	2927	94	117	433	360	86	657	25	18	96
5	2578	1149	652	3431	112	139	515	427	102	775	30	21	115
6	2321	1293	739	3879	128	159	589	486	118	880	34	24	131
7	2089	1421	818	4281	142	178	657	538	132	976	39	27	147
8	1880	1536	890	4646	156	195	720	585	145	1063	42	30	161
9	1692	1641	956	4982	168	211	779	628	157	1144	46	33	175
10	1523	1728	1012	5262	178	225	829	664	167	1212	49	35	186
11	1370	1808	1063	5520	188	238	876	697	177	1275	52	37	197
12	1233	1882	1111	5759	197	250	919	727	186	1333	54	39	207

## Colombia (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	670	846	2651	60	170	372	129	95	477	12	19	67
2	3492	1243	1589	4954	114	324	708	303	182	898	22	37	128
3	3143	1739	2248	6980	163	466	1015	453	262	1274	32	53	184
4	2829	2176	2840	8786	208	597	1298	584	336	1614	41	69	236
5	2546	2555	3364	10372	248	715	1553	698	403	1916	49	83	283
6	2291	2894	3839	11806	285	825	1789	800	466	2191	57	96	327
7	2062	3202	4276	13115	320	927	2009	892	525	2444	64	108	367
8	1856	3485	4680	14324	352	1023	2214	976	580	2679	70	120	406
9	1670	3748	5058	15452	382	1114	2408	1054	632	2899	77	131	442
10	1503	3978	5393	16447	409	1195	2582	1123	678	3094	82	141	474
11	1353	4194	5708	17382	434	1272	2745	1187	723	3278	87	151	505
12	1218	4398	6006	18268	458	1345	2901	1248	765	3452	93	160	534
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	588	519	2060	53	104	289	154	76	453	14	15	63
2	3492	1090	975	3849	100	199	550	362	146	853	26	29	121
3	3143	1526	1379	5423	143	286	789	540	210	1210	38	43	175
4	2829	1909	1743	6827	182	366	1008	697	269	1533	49	55	224
5	2546	2241	2064	8059	218	439	1207	833	324	1819	58	66	269
6	2291	2539	2355	9172	250	506	1390	954	374	2080	67	77	310
7	2062	2809	2623	10188	280	569	1561	1064	421	2320	76	87	349
8	1856	3056	2871	11127	308	628	1720	1164	465	2543	84	96	385
9	1670	3287	3103	12004	335	683	1871	1258	507	2752	91	105	419
10	1503	3489	3309	12778	359	733	2006	1340	544	2938	98	113	450
11	1353	3678	3502	13504	381	780	2133	1416	580	3113	104	121	480
12	1218	3858	3685	14193	402	825	2254	1488	614	3278	110	128	507

## Costa Rica (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	55	91	258	5	18	36	11	10	46	1	2	6
2	3537	102	171	482	9	35	69	25	20	87	2	4	12
3	3183	142	243	680	13	50	99	37	28	124	3	6	18
4	2865	179	307	857	17	65	127	48	36	158	3	7	23
5	2578	210	364	1012	20	77	152	57	44	187	4	9	28
6	2321	237	415	1151	23	89	175	66	50	214	5	10	32
7	2089	263	462	1279	26	100	196	73	57	238	5	12	36
8	1880	286	506	1398	29	111	216	80	63	261	6	13	40
9	1692	308	547	1509	31	121	235	87	68	283	6	14	43
10	1523	326	582	1603	34	129	252	92	73	302	7	15	46
11	1370	343	616	1691	36	137	268	97	78	319	7	16	49
12	1233	359	647	1775	38	145	282	102	83	336	8	17	52
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	44	50	179	4	10	25	12	7	39	1	1	6
2	3537	82	94	335	8	19	48	27	14	74	2	3	11
3	3183	115	133	472	11	28	69	41	20	105	3	4	15
4	2865	144	169	596	14	35	88	52	26	134	4	5	20
5	2578	168	200	703	16	42	105	63	31	159	4	6	23
6	2321	191	228	800	19	49	121	72	36	181	5	7	27
7	2089	211	254	888	21	55	136	80	41	202	6	8	30
8	1880	230	278	971	23	61	150	88	45	222	6	9	34
9	1692	247	300	1048	25	66	163	95	49	240	7	10	37
10	1523	262	320	1114	27	71	175	101	53	256	7	11	39
11	1370	276	339	1178	29	76	186	106	56	272	8	12	42
12	1233	290	356	1237	30	80	197	112	59	286	8	12	44

## Cuba (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3750	353	439	1411	32	88	198	68	49	254	6	10	36
2	3375	645	813	2600	59	166	371	157	93	471	11	19	67
3	3038	891	1135	3614	83	235	525	232	132	660	16	27	95
4	2734	1100	1415	4491	105	297	663	295	167	825	21	34	120
5	2460	1270	1649	5214	123	351	781	347	198	963	24	41	142
6	2214	1416	1853	5841	139	398	885	391	225	1084	28	46	162
7	1993	1542	2032	6391	154	441	979	430	249	1191	31	52	179
8	1794	1654	2193	6880	167	480	1065	464	272	1287	33	56	195
9	1614	1754	2339	7322	179	516	1143	494	293	1375	36	61	210
10	1453	1830	2452	7662	189	545	1206	517	309	1443	38	65	222
11	1308	1897	2554	7968	197	571	1263	538	325	1505	40	68	233
12	1177	1959	2647	8246	205	595	1316	556	339	1561	42	71	242
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3750	277	293	1086	25	59	152	73	43	239	7	9	33
2	3375	507	543	2001	47	111	286	168	81	443	12	16	63
3	3038	701	758	2783	66	157	405	248	115	621	17	23	90
4	2734	866	946	3460	83	199	511	316	146	777	22	30	113
5	2460	1001	1102	4018	97	234	601	372	173	907	26	35	134
6	2214	1115	1238	4501	110	266	682	419	196	1021	30	40	152
7	1993	1216	1358	4926	121	295	755	461	218	1122	33	45	169
8	1794	1304	1466	5306	132	321	821	497	238	1213	36	49	184
9	1614	1384	1564	5649	141	345	882	530	256	1296	39	53	198
10	1453	1444	1641	5915	149	364	931	555	271	1361	41	56	209
11	1308	1499	1710	6155	156	382	976	578	284	1421	43	59	219
12	1177	1549	1774	6376	162	399	1017	598	297	1475	45	62	229



## Dominican Republic (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	137	107	438	12	21	61	26	12	79	2	2	11
2	3492	254	200	818	23	41	117	62	23	148	5	5	21
3	3143	355	283	1151	33	59	167	92	33	210	7	7	30
4	2829	443	357	1447	42	75	214	119	42	266	8	9	39
5	2546	520	422	1706	50	90	255	142	51	315	10	10	47
6	2291	588	481	1938	58	103	294	162	58	360	11	12	54
7	2062	649	535	2149	65	116	329	181	66	400	13	14	60
8	1856	705	584	2342	71	128	362	197	72	438	14	15	66
9	1670	756	630	2521	77	139	393	213	79	473	15	16	72
10	1503	803	672	2683	83	149	421	227	85	505	17	18	77
11	1353	846	711	2835	88	159	448	240	90	535	18	19	82
12	1218	887	748	2978	93	168	473	252	95	563	19	20	87
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	85	62	307	8	13	43	22	9	67	2	2	9
2	3492	158	117	573	14	24	82	52	17	127	4	4	18
3	3143	221	165	808	21	34	117	78	25	180	6	5	26
4	2829	276	209	1016	26	44	150	101	32	228	7	7	33
5	2546	324	247	1199	31	53	180	120	39	271	8	8	40
6	2291	367	282	1365	36	61	207	138	45	309	10	9	46
7	2062	406	314	1515	41	68	232	154	50	345	11	10	52
8	1856	442	344	1654	45	75	256	168	56	378	12	12	57
9	1670	475	371	1783	48	82	278	182	61	409	13	13	62
10	1503	504	396	1900	52	88	298	194	65	437	14	14	67
11	1353	532	420	2009	55	93	317	205	69	463	15	15	71
12	1218	558	442	2113	58	99	336	215	74	488	16	15	76

## Ecuador (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	153	92	624	14	19	87	29	10	112	3	2	16
2	3537	283	173	1165	26	35	167	69	20	211	5	4	30
3	3183	395	245	1640	37	51	239	103	29	299	7	6	43
4	2865	493	309	2062	47	65	305	132	37	379	9	7	55
5	2578	580	367	2436	56	78	365	158	44	450	11	9	67
6	2321	657	419	2775	65	90	421	182	51	515	13	10	77
7	2089	728	467	3085	73	101	473	203	57	575	14	12	87
8	1880	792	511	3371	80	112	522	222	63	631	16	13	96
9	1692	853	553	3638	87	122	568	240	69	683	17	14	104
10	1523	905	590	3874	93	131	609	256	74	729	19	15	112
11	1370	955	624	4095	99	139	648	270	79	773	20	17	119
12	1233	1001	657	4304	105	147	684	284	84	814	21	18	126
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3930	109	47	468	10	9	66	29	7	103	3	1	14
2	3537	203	88	873	19	18	125	67	13	194	5	3	28
3	3183	283	124	1229	27	26	179	100	19	274	7	4	40
4	2865	354	157	1546	34	33	229	129	24	347	9	5	51
5	2578	417	186	1828	41	40	274	155	29	413	11	6	61
6	2321	473	213	2084	47	46	316	178	34	473	13	7	71
7	2089	524	237	2319	52	52	355	198	38	528	14	8	79
8	1880	571	260	2536	58	57	392	217	42	580	16	9	88
9	1692	615	282	2739	63	62	427	235	46	628	17	10	96
10	1523	653	300	2918	67	67	458	251	49	671	18	10	103
11	1370	689	318	3086	71	71	488	265	53	712	20	11	110
12	1233	723	335	3245	75	75	516	279	56	750	21	12	116

## El Salvador (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	46	65	232	4	13	33	9	7	42	1	1	6
2	3492	84	122	432	8	25	62	21	14	78	2	3	11
3	3143	118	173	607	11	36	88	31	20	111	2	4	16
4	2829	147	217	762	14	46	113	39	26	140	3	5	20
5	2546	172	258	900	17	55	135	47	31	166	3	6	25
6	2291	195	294	1024	19	63	155	54	36	190	4	7	28
7	2062	216	328	1138	22	71	174	60	40	212	4	8	32
8	1856	235	359	1243	24	78	192	66	44	233	5	9	35
9	1670	253	388	1341	26	85	209	71	48	252	5	10	38
10	1503	267	412	1422	27	91	223	76	52	268	6	11	41
11	1353	281	434	1498	29	97	237	80	55	282	6	11	44
12	1218	294	455	1569	31	102	249	83	58	297	6	12	46
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	40	50	211	4	10	30	10	7	46	1	1	7
2	3492	74	93	393	7	19	56	24	14	87	2	3	12
3	3143	103	131	553	10	27	80	36	20	123	3	4	18
4	2829	128	165	694	12	35	103	47	26	156	3	5	23
5	2546	151	196	820	15	42	123	56	31	185	4	6	27
6	2291	171	223	933	17	48	141	64	35	212	5	7	32
7	2062	189	249	1037	19	54	159	72	40	236	5	8	36
8	1856	206	272	1132	21	59	175	78	44	259	6	9	39
9	1670	221	294	1221	23	65	190	85	48	280	6	10	43
10	1503	234	312	1295	24	69	203	90	51	298	7	11	46
11	1353	245	329	1364	25	73	216	94	55	314	7	11	48
12	1218	257	345	1429	27	77	227	99	58	330	7	12	51

## Guatemala (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	5900	135	130	693	12	26	97	26	15	125	2	3	17
2	5310	247	242	1287	23	50	186	61	28	234	4	6	34
3	4779	344	342	1807	33	72	268	90	41	332	6	8	49
4	4301	429	433	2272	42	93	345	116	53	422	8	11	63
5	3871	504	515	2692	51	113	416	139	64	504	10	13	76
6	3484	573	592	3079	59	131	485	159	75	580	12	16	89
7	3136	637	664	3444	67	149	550	178	85	652	14	18	101
8	2822	698	733	3792	74	167	613	197	95	722	15	20	113
9	2540	756	800	4128	82	184	674	214	105	789	17	22	125
10	2286	812	864	4447	89	200	733	230	114	853	18	24	136
11	2057	867	927	4761	95	216	791	247	124	916	20	26	147
12	1851	922	989	5072	102	232	848	263	133	978	21	28	158
13	1666	976	1050	5383	109	247	904	279	142	1040	22	30	168
14	1500	1031	1112	5695	116	263	961	295	151	1102	24	32	179
15	1350	1083	1170	5988	122	277	1014	310	159	1160	25	34	189
16	1215	1135	1229	6283	128	292	1067	325	168	1219	27	36	199
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	5900	102	79	557	9	16	78	27	12	122	2	2	17
2	5310	187	148	1033	17	31	149	63	22	230	5	5	33
3	4779	260	209	1449	25	44	215	93	32	326	7	7	48
4	4301	324	264	1820	32	57	276	119	42	413	9	9	62
5	3871	380	314	2152	38	69	333	142	51	492	10	11	75
6	3484	431	360	2458	44	80	387	163	59	566	12	12	87
7	3136	479	403	2745	50	91	438	182	67	635	14	14	99
8	2822	523	444	3017	56	101	488	201	75	702	15	16	110
9	2540	567	484	3280	61	111	536	218	83	766	17	18	121
10	2286	607	522	3527	66	121	582	234	90	827	18	19	132
11	2057	647	559	3770	71	130	627	250	98	887	20	21	142
12	1851	687	595	4009	76	140	671	266	105	945	21	22	152
13	1666	726	631	4247	81	149	714	282	112	1003	23	24	163
14	1500	766	667	4485	86	158	758	298	118	1061	24	25	173
15	1350	803	701	4708	90	166	798	312	125	1115	25	27	182
16	1215	840	735	4932	95	175	839	327	131	1170	27	28	191

## Mexico (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	2800	1000	938	3444	90	188	483	193	105	620	17	21	87
2	2520	1874	1774	6492	171	361	923	456	202	1175	33	41	166
3	2268	2648	2526	9217	245	519	1327	686	291	1676	48	59	240
4	2041	3340	3210	11679	313	666	1700	893	374	2133	61	76	308
5	1837	3948	3817	13858	375	799	2037	1074	449	2541	74	92	370
6	1653	4497	4372	15840	432	922	2349	1238	519	2914	85	106	427
7	1488	4999	4884	17661	484	1037	2640	1387	584	3259	96	120	481
8	1339	5462	5359	19348	533	1144	2911	1524	646	3580	106	133	531
9	1205	5894	5804	20925	580	1246	3167	1652	703	3881	115	145	578
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	2800	782	763	2998	70	153	420	205	112	659	18	22	92
2	2520	1466	1443	5651	134	293	803	485	215	1250	35	43	177
3	2268	2071	2055	8023	192	422	1155	730	310	1783	51	63	255
4	2041	2613	2611	10166	245	542	1480	950	398	2269	65	81	328
5	1837	3087	3105	12059	293	650	1773	1142	478	2702	78	97	393
6	1653	3516	3555	13780	337	750	2044	1316	552	3099	90	113	454
7	1488	3907	3970	15361	379	843	2296	1474	621	3465	102	127	511
8	1339	4268	4355	16825	417	930	2532	1620	686	3805	112	141	564
9	1205	4605	4716	18193	453	1012	2754	1756	748	4124	122	154	614

## Nicaragua (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	57	56	196	5	11	28	11	6	35	1	1	5
2	3492	106	106	369	10	22	53	26	12	67	2	2	10
3	3143	150	151	524	14	31	76	39	18	96	3	4	14
4	2829	189	192	665	18	40	98	51	23	122	4	5	18
5	2546	223	228	789	22	48	118	61	27	146	4	6	22
6	2291	255	262	903	25	56	137	70	32	168	5	7	25
7	2062	283	293	1009	28	64	154	79	36	188	6	7	28
8	1856	310	323	1108	31	71	171	87	40	207	6	8	31
9	1670	336	351	1203	34	77	187	94	44	225	7	9	34
10	1503	357	376	1285	37	83	201	101	47	241	7	10	37
11	1353	378	399	1363	39	89	215	107	50	257	8	11	39
12	1218	398	421	1437	41	94	228	113	53	271	8	11	42
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	45	38	158	4	8	22	12	6	35	1	1	5
2	3492	84	73	297	8	15	42	28	11	66	2	2	9
3	3143	119	104	422	11	21	61	42	16	94	3	3	14
4	2829	150	132	535	14	28	79	55	20	120	4	4	18
5	2546	177	157	635	17	33	95	66	25	143	5	5	21
6	2291	201	180	727	20	39	110	76	29	165	5	6	25
7	2062	224	202	812	22	44	124	85	32	185	6	7	28
8	1856	245	222	891	25	49	138	93	36	204	7	7	31
9	1670	265	242	968	27	53	150	101	39	222	7	8	34
10	1503	282	259	1033	29	57	162	108	42	237	8	9	36
11	1353	299	275	1095	31	61	173	115	45	252	8	9	39
12	1218	314	290	1155	33	65	183	121	48	266	9	10	41

## Panama (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	72	48	180	6	10	25	14	5	32	1	1	5
2	3492	133	89	337	12	18	48	32	10	61	2	2	9
3	3143	186	126	474	17	26	69	48	15	87	3	3	12
4	2829	233	160	598	22	34	88	62	19	110	4	4	16
5	2546	273	189	706	27	40	106	75	23	130	5	5	19
6	2291	310	216	804	31	46	122	86	26	149	6	5	22
7	2062	343	241	895	34	52	137	96	30	167	7	6	25
8	1856	374	264	978	38	58	151	105	33	183	8	7	28
9	1670	402	286	1056	41	63	164	113	36	198	8	7	30
10	1503	428	305	1126	44	68	177	121	38	212	9	8	32
11	1353	453	324	1193	47	72	188	128	41	225	9	9	35
12	1218	476	342	1257	50	76	199	135	43	237	10	9	37
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	49	27	125	4	5	17	13	4	27	1	1	4
2	3492	90	50	233	8	10	33	30	7	52	2	2	7
3	3143	127	71	328	12	15	48	45	11	73	3	2	11
4	2829	158	89	413	15	19	61	58	14	93	4	3	14
5	2546	186	106	488	18	22	73	69	17	110	5	3	16
6	2291	211	121	556	21	26	84	79	19	126	6	4	19
7	2062	234	135	619	23	29	95	89	22	141	6	4	21
8	1856	255	148	677	26	32	105	97	24	155	7	5	23
9	1670	275	160	732	28	35	114	105	26	168	8	5	26
10	1503	293	171	782	30	38	123	112	28	180	8	6	28
11	1353	310	182	829	32	40	131	119	30	191	9	6	29
12	1218	326	192	873	34	43	139	126	32	202	9	7	31

## Paraguay (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	199	111	542	18	22	76	38	12	97	3	2	14
2	3492	371	210	1017	34	43	145	91	24	184	7	5	26
3	3143	521	298	1439	49	62	209	136	35	263	10	7	38
4	2829	655	378	1820	63	79	269	176	45	334	12	9	49
5	2546	774	450	2159	75	96	323	211	54	399	15	11	59
6	2291	881	516	2470	87	111	374	243	63	458	17	13	68
7	2062	979	578	2757	98	125	422	273	71	514	19	15	77
8	1856	1071	635	3027	108	139	467	300	79	566	22	16	86
9	1670	1158	690	3281	118	152	510	326	86	615	24	18	94
10	1503	1235	739	3510	127	164	550	349	93	660	25	19	101
11	1353	1309	786	3727	135	175	587	370	99	702	27	21	108
12	1218	1380	831	3936	143	186	623	391	106	743	29	22	115
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	159	60	412	14	12	58	42	9	91	4	2	13
2	3492	296	113	773	27	23	111	98	17	171	7	3	24
3	3143	416	161	1096	39	33	159	147	25	245	10	5	35
4	2829	523	205	1387	50	43	205	191	32	311	13	6	45
5	2546	618	244	1648	60	52	247	230	38	372	16	8	55
6	2291	705	280	1887	69	60	286	265	44	428	19	9	64
7	2062	785	314	2110	78	68	323	297	50	480	21	10	72
8	1856	860	345	2318	87	75	358	327	56	530	24	12	80
9	1670	930	376	2516	95	83	391	356	61	576	26	13	88
10	1503	993	403	2694	102	89	422	381	66	619	28	14	95
11	1353	1053	429	2863	109	95	451	405	71	659	30	15	101
12	1218	1111	454	3027	115	101	479	428	75	698	32	16	108



## Peru (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	174	116	665	16	23	93	33	13	120	3	3	17
2	3492	322	218	1242	30	44	177	78	25	225	6	5	32
3	3143	449	308	1747	42	64	254	117	36	319	8	7	46
4	2829	562	388	2197	54	82	325	151	46	404	11	9	59
5	2546	660	460	2595	64	98	389	180	55	479	13	11	71
6	2291	748	525	2955	74	113	448	207	64	548	15	13	82
7	2062	827	585	3283	83	127	503	230	72	612	16	15	92
8	1856	901	641	3587	91	140	554	252	79	671	18	16	102
9	1670	969	692	3869	99	152	603	273	86	726	20	18	111
10	1503	1030	739	4125	106	164	647	291	93	776	21	19	119
11	1353	1088	784	4366	113	175	689	308	99	823	23	21	127
12	1218	1142	826	4595	119	185	729	324	105	868	24	22	134
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	134	71	546	12	14	77	35	10	120	3	2	17
2	3492	248	134	1020	23	27	146	82	20	226	6	4	32
3	3143	347	189	1436	33	39	209	123	29	320	9	6	46
4	2829	434	238	1805	41	50	267	158	37	405	11	8	59
5	2546	509	282	2133	49	60	319	189	44	482	13	9	71
6	2291	578	323	2430	57	69	368	217	51	551	15	11	82
7	2062	639	359	2701	64	78	414	242	58	615	17	12	92
8	1856	696	394	2952	70	86	456	265	64	675	19	13	102
9	1670	749	426	3185	76	94	496	287	69	730	21	14	111
10	1503	797	455	3397	82	101	533	306	75	781	22	16	120
11	1353	841	482	3596	87	107	568	324	80	829	24	17	128
12	1218	884	508	3786	92	114	601	341	85	874	25	18	135

## Uruguay (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	1960	73	48	215	7	10	30	14	5	39	1	1	5
2	1764	136	91	404	12	18	57	33	10	73	2	2	10
3	1588	191	129	572	18	26	82	49	15	104	3	3	15
4	1429	241	163	721	22	33	104	64	19	131	4	4	19
5	1286	284	193	854	27	40	124	77	22	156	5	5	22
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	1960	71	29	190	6	6	27	19	4	42	2	1	6
2	1764	132	55	357	12	11	51	44	8	79	3	2	11
3	1588	186	78	504	17	16	72	65	12	112	5	2	16
4	1429	234	98	635	22	20	91	85	15	141	6	3	20
5	1286	275	116	751	26	24	109	102	18	167	7	4	24

## Venezuela (Average rate & 10% sodium reduction per year)

Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)			Hypertensive (Male)			Normotensive (Male)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	461	666	1926	41	134	270	89	75	346	8	15	49
2	3492	856	1252	3602	79	256	515	209	143	653	15	29	93
3	3143	1199	1773	5080	112	368	739	312	206	928	22	42	134
4	2829	1502	2242	6402	143	471	946	403	265	1176	28	54	172
5	2546	1766	2659	7568	171	565	1133	482	319	1398	34	65	206
6	2291	2003	3039	8625	197	653	1307	554	369	1600	39	76	239
7	2062	2219	3388	9593	221	735	1469	618	416	1787	44	86	269
8	1856	2418	3713	10490	244	812	1621	677	460	1961	49	95	297
9	1670	2604	4017	11330	265	884	1765	732	501	2125	53	104	324
10	1503	2768	4291	12080	284	950	1895	781	540	2272	57	112	348
11	1353	2924	4549	12788	302	1013	2019	828	576	2411	61	120	371
12	1218	3071	4794	13462	320	1073	2136	871	610	2543	65	128	393
Number of years	Sodium Intake	Number of events reduced by gender and hypertension status per year						Number of lives saved by gender and hypertension status per year					
		Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)			Hypertensive (Female)			Normotensive (Female)		
		Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD	Stroke	CHD	CVD
1	3880	353	352	1336	32	71	187	92	52	294	8	10	41
2	3492	655	662	2501	60	135	357	217	99	554	16	20	79
3	3143	919	939	3529	86	195	513	325	143	788	23	29	114
4	2829	1151	1188	4451	110	250	657	420	184	999	29	37	146
5	2546	1355	1410	5265	132	300	788	503	221	1188	35	45	175
6	2291	1538	1612	6004	151	346	910	578	256	1361	41	53	203
7	2062	1705	1799	6683	170	390	1023	646	288	1522	46	60	229
8	1856	1859	1973	7313	187	431	1130	708	319	1671	51	66	253
9	1670	2003	2136	7905	204	470	1231	766	349	1812	56	72	276
10	1503	2132	2283	8436	219	506	1323	818	375	1939	60	78	297
11	1353	2253	2423	8938	233	539	1410	867	401	2059	64	84	317
12	1218	2369	2556	9417	247	572	1494	914	425	2174	68	89	336

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