



Only the following timepoints were used when testing for direct diet and age–diet interaction effects (all timepoints were used when testing for direct age effects): 05 months, 16 months and 28 months. The effects of age, diet, and the age–diet interaction were estimated using mixed linear models and the significance of the effects were assessed with an approximate F–test using the Kenward and Roger (1997) approach. The p–values for the diet effect at each timepoint are: 05 months = 0.0121; 16 months = 0.00342 and 28 months = 0.115. The diet pairs that have significantly different (Tukey p–value < 0.05) means at 05 months are AL–1D, AL–2D and AL–40. The diet pairs that have significantly different (Tukey p–value < 0.05) means at 16 months are 2D–40 and 20–40. The p–value for the direct effect of age on NK_CD11BnegCD11CposPercNK is 5.53e^{-13} . The p–value for the effect of the interaction between age and diet on NK_CD11BnegCD11CposPercNK is 0.0237. The diet pairs that have significantly different (Tukey p–value < 0.05) rates of change with age are AL–40.