Nut-13. Participants: report the number of individuals excluded on the basis of missing, incomplete, or implausible dietary and nutritional data.

Example. “We excluded participants with cancer, implausible energy intakes (reported as <600 or >3600 kcal/d for women and <800 or >4200 kcal/d for men; 1 kcal = 4.18 kJ), or missing alcohol intake at baseline”.

Explanation.

Missing and implausible data are omnipresent in dietary assessments and may introduce bias or attenuate associations (see also Nut-9 and -17). Individuals with biologically extreme values are commonly excluded. To enable the reader to better evaluate the study, information with regard to the final study power and any bias is needed. It is helpful to describe the number and characteristics of excluded individuals due to missing or incomplete dietary data. Also describe any sensitivity analyses performed to explore the robustness of study findings.