

# **Beyond the lab**

Spreading the joy of figuring things out



**bio**  
*-hacking*





# The Glucose Monitoring experiment

*What and Why*



# The Glucose Monitoring experiment

## *What and Why*

- *Wearing a glucose monitor (CGM)*
- *Tracking food, activities etc.*

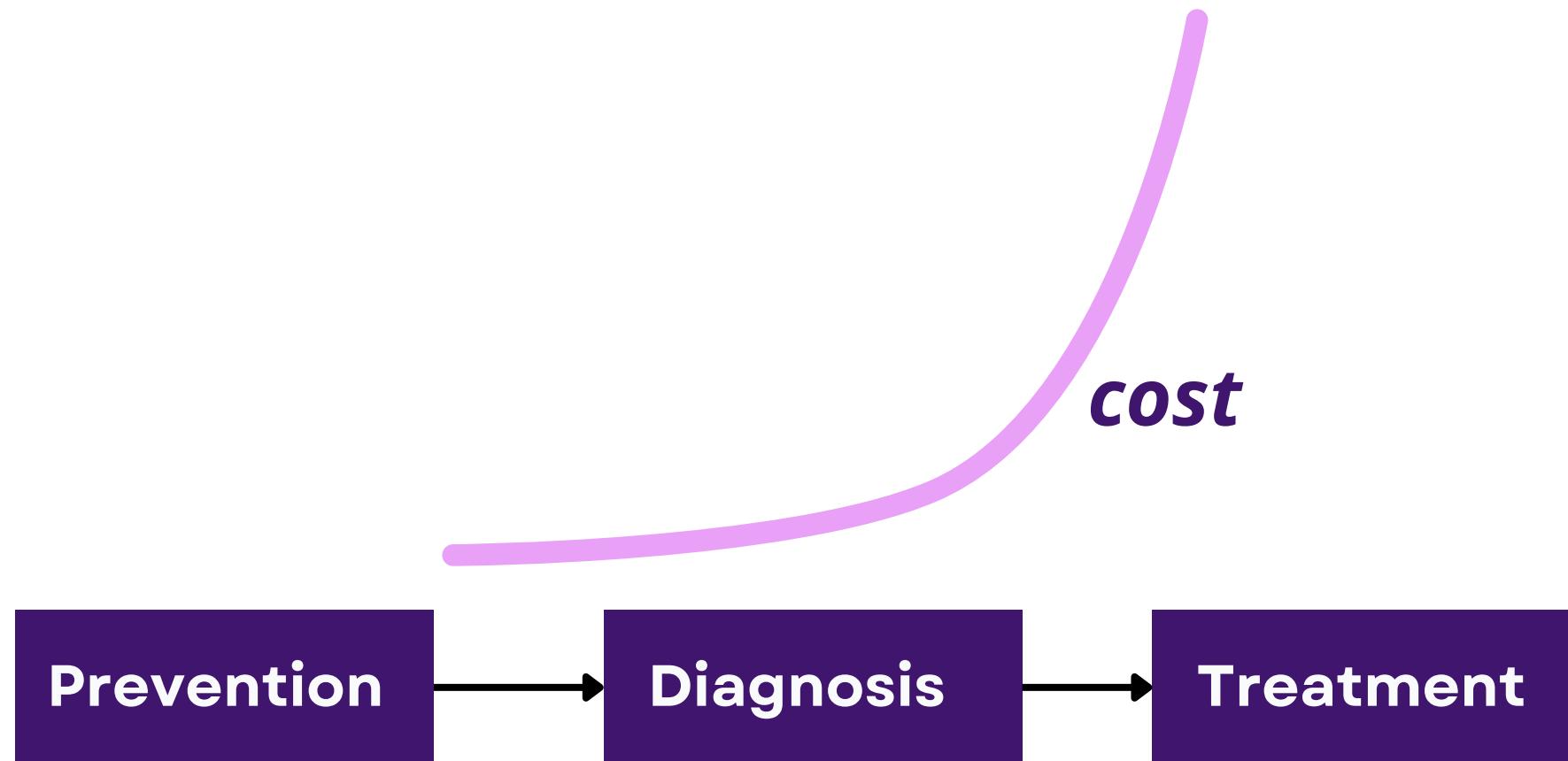


Region Uppsala

# The Glucose Monitoring experiment

## What and Why

- Wearing a glucose monitor (CGM)
- Tracking food, activities etc.

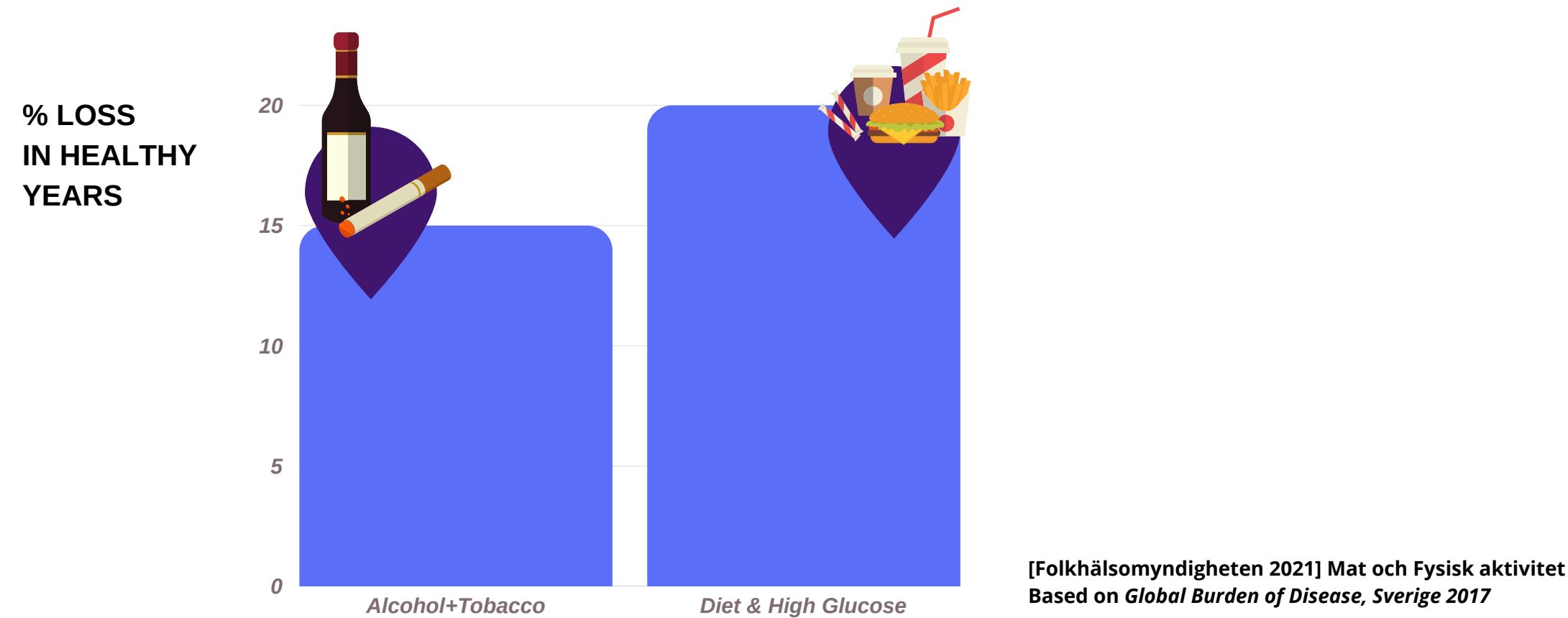


Region Uppsala

# The Glucose Monitoring experiment

## *What and Why*

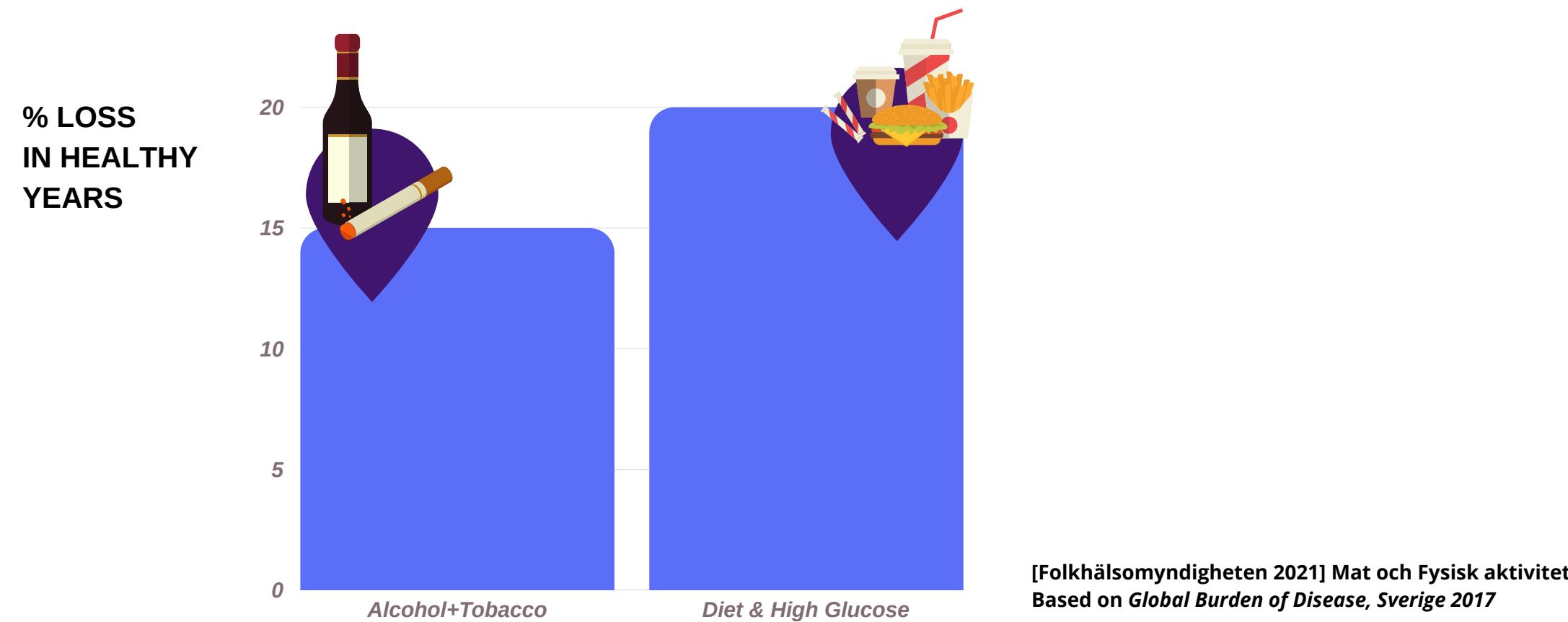
- *Wearing a glucose monitor (CGM)*
- *Tracking food, activities etc.*



# The Glucose Monitoring experiment

## *What and Why*

- *Wearing a glucose monitor (CGM)*
- *Tracking food, activities etc.*



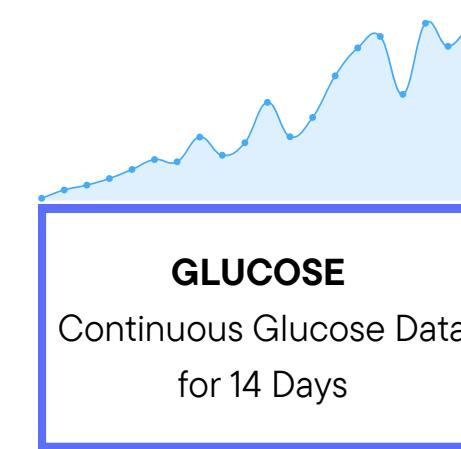
# The Glucose Monitoring experiment

## *What and Why*

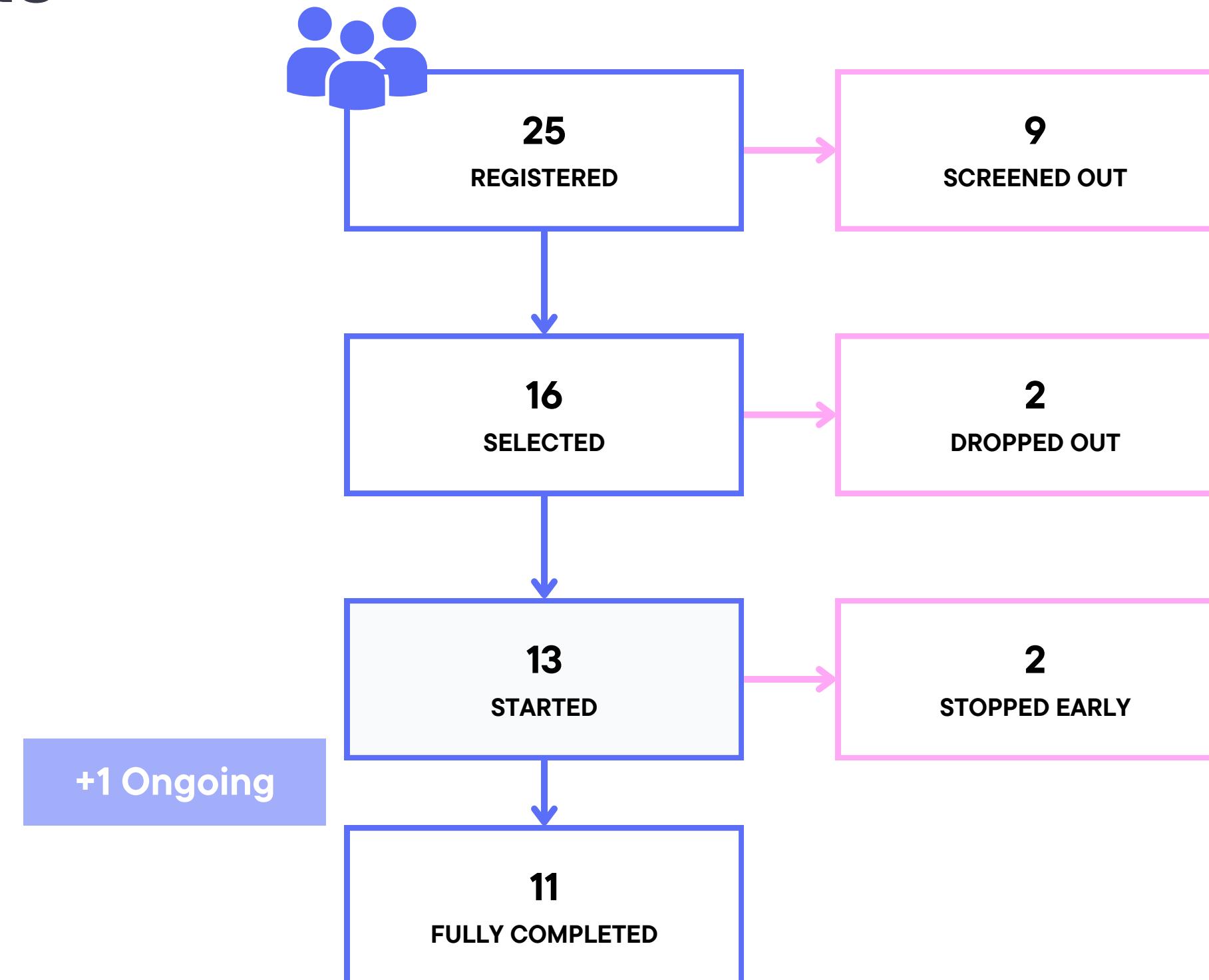
- *Wearing a glucose monitor (CGM)*
- *Tracking food, activities etc.*
- Can people do this with minimal support?
- Is there any risk or harm?
- Awareness and habits
- Value to healthcare
- Find challenges before scaling

# The Glucose Monitoring experiment

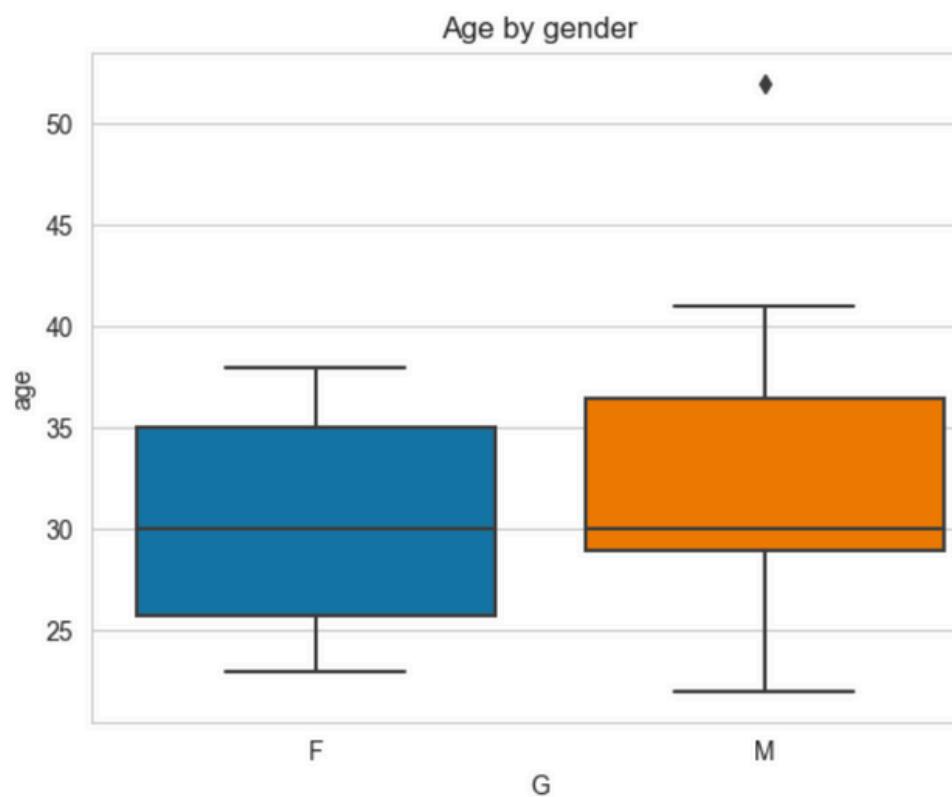
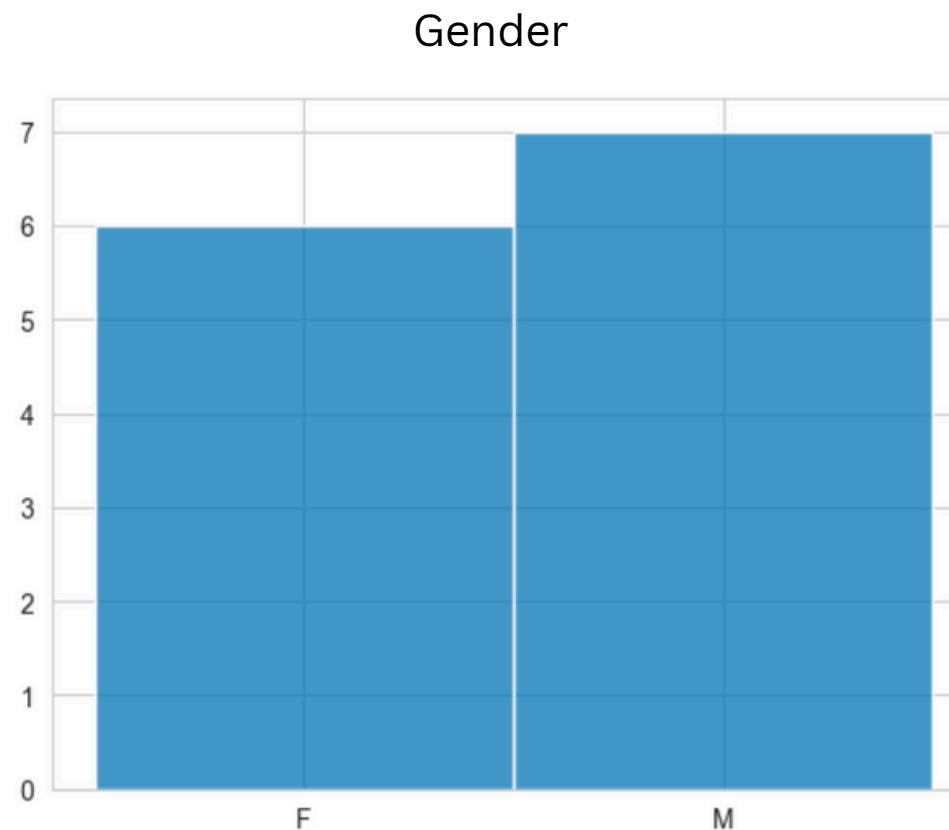
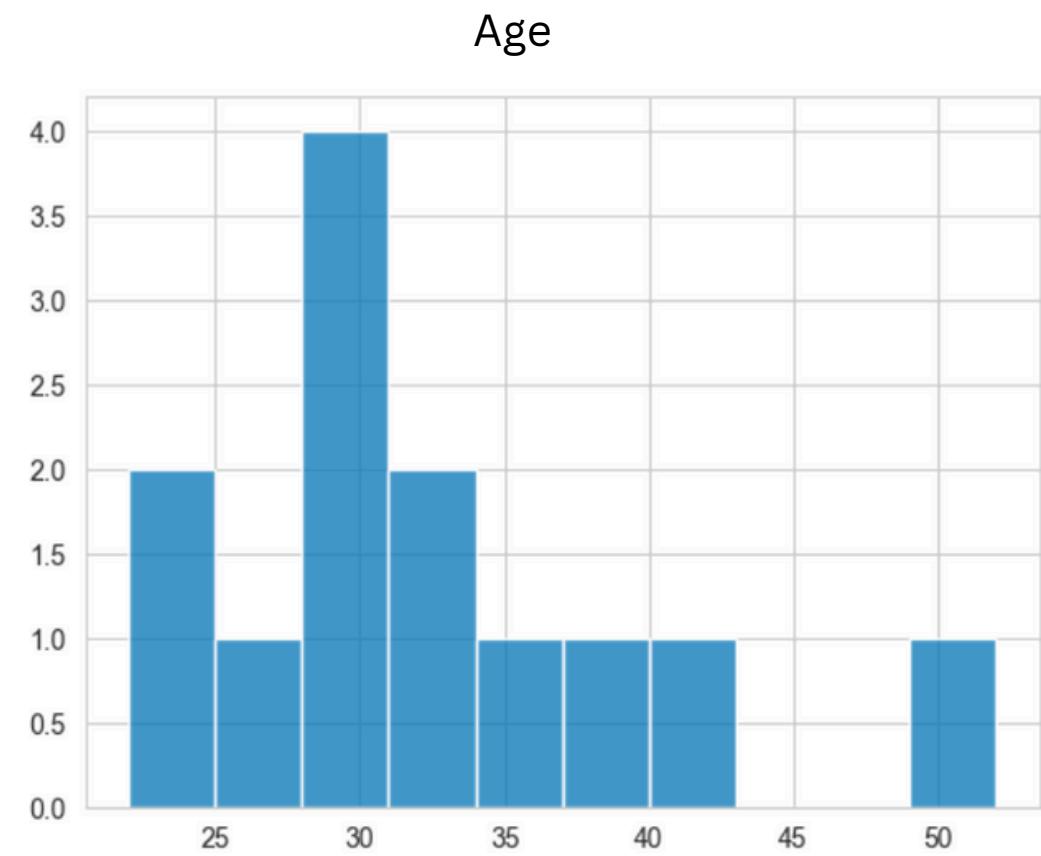
## *What and Why*



# Participants

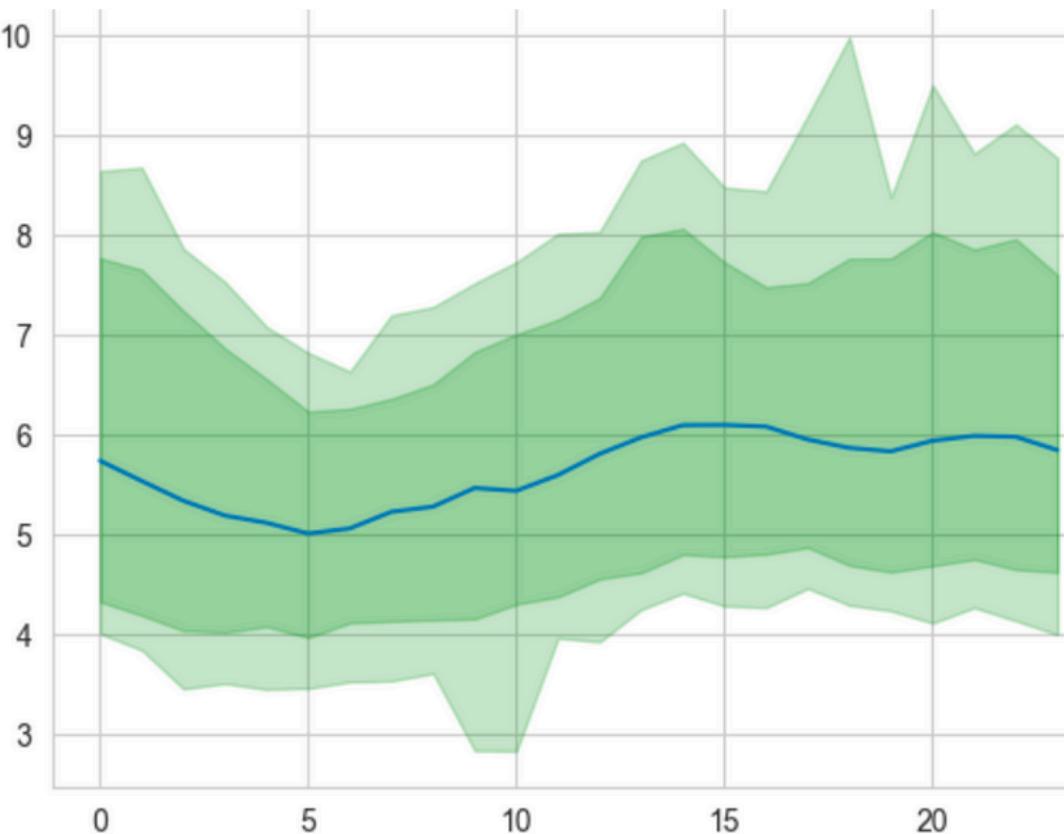


# Participants



# Circadian rhythm

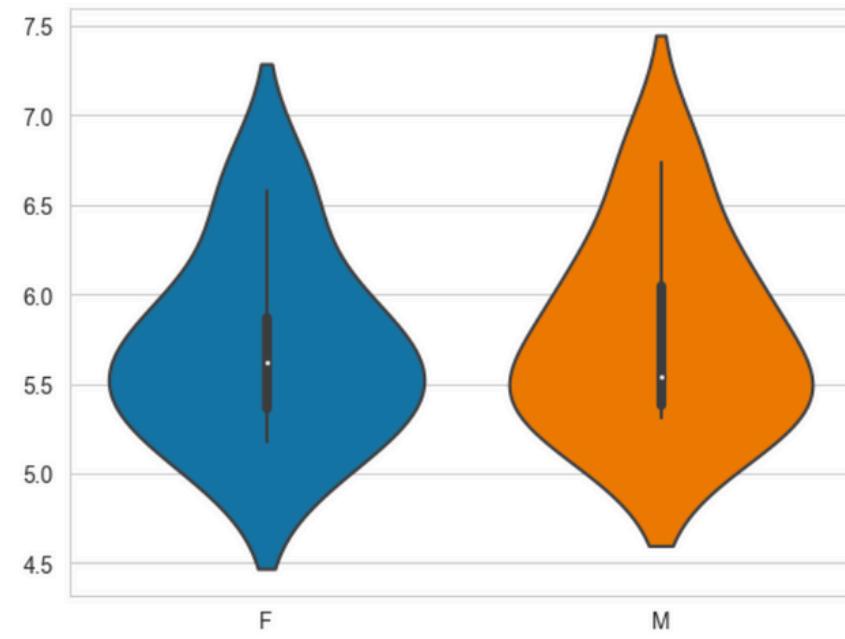
*Daily glucose trend (11 participants)*



There is a clear rise and fall related to the circadian rhythm as has been observed in previous studies [Phillips et al. 2023]

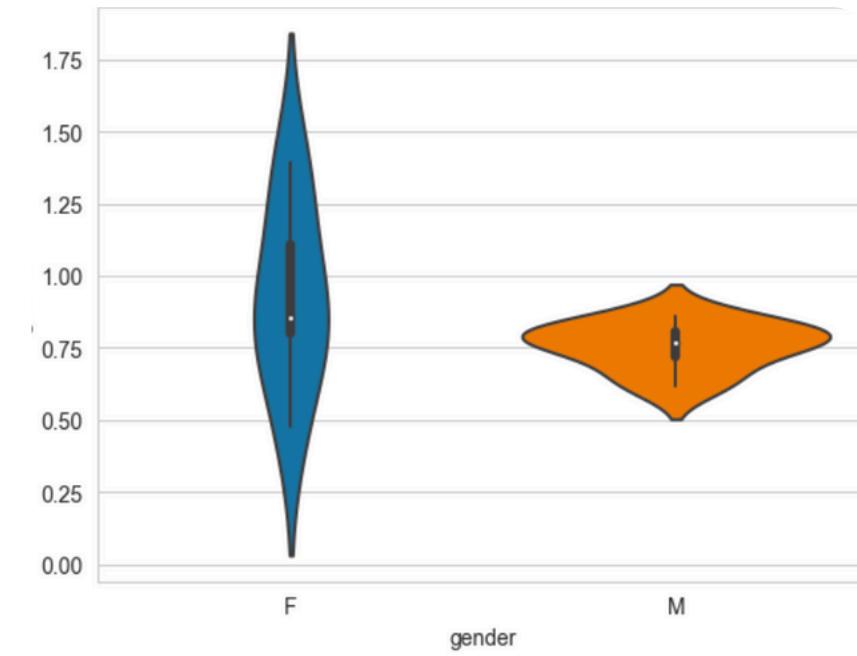
# Possible gender differences?

*Distribution of mean values for different Genders*



There doesn't seem to be a difference in terms of glucose fluctuations between individuals

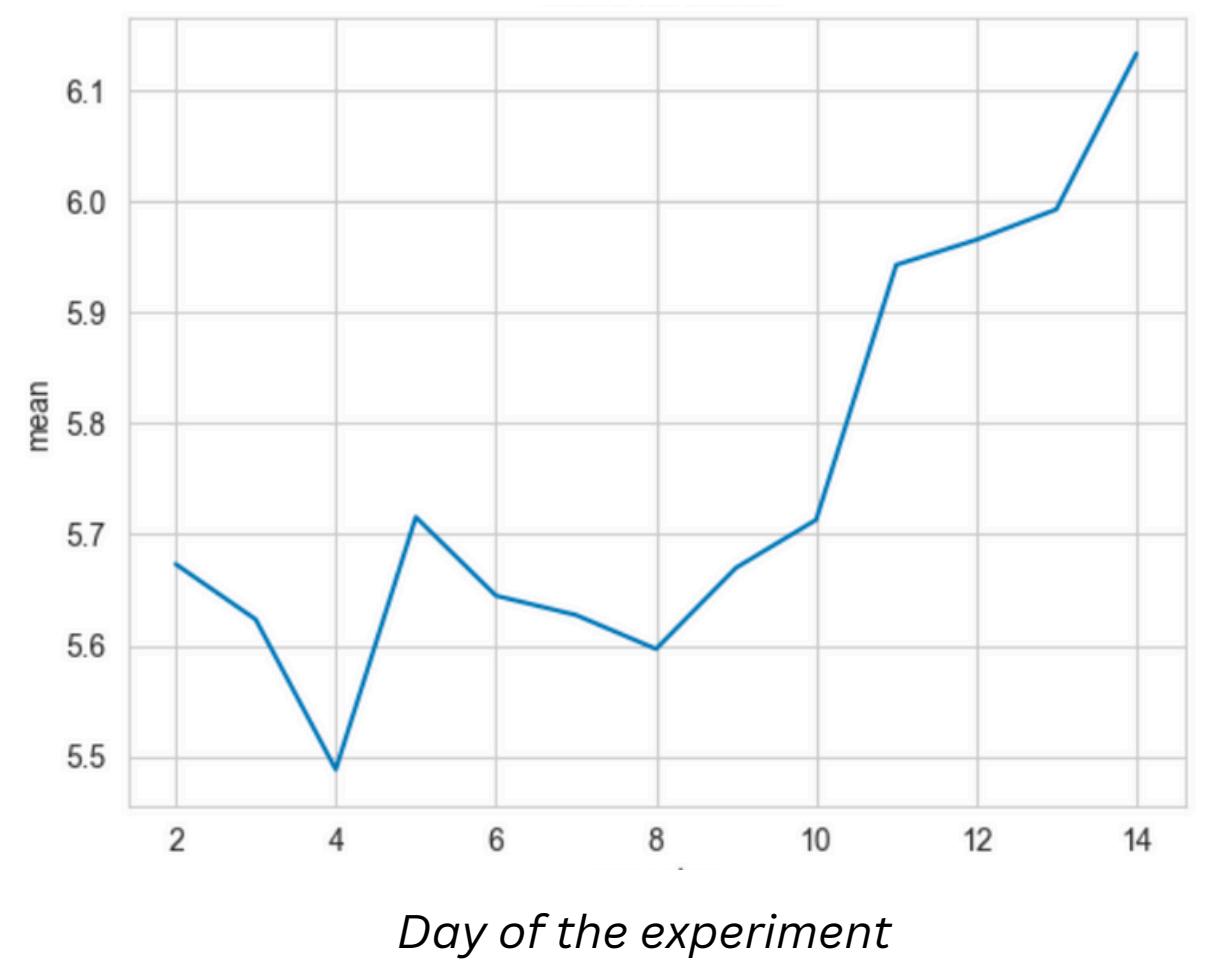
*Distribution of Standard Deviation values for different Genders*



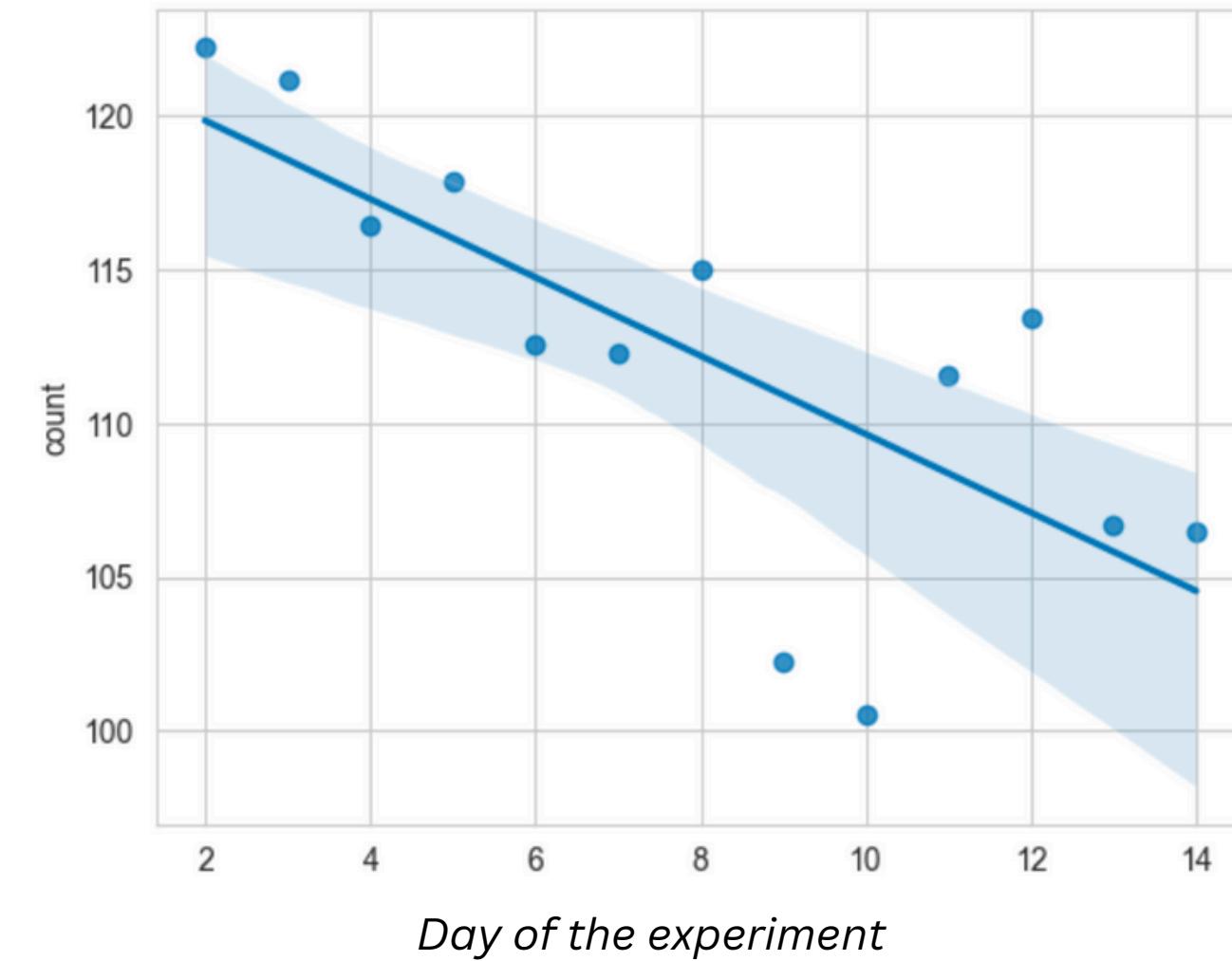
It may be possible that there is a difference in standard deviation. However, the dataset is too small to make any valid conclusions.

# Behaviours and habits

*Average of glucose averages per day*



*Number of values collected*



# Behaviours and habits

GLUCOSE MONITORING PERIOD			
WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
Planning.  Heavy monitoring.	Participants are very engaged and excited.  Reading and learning.	Participants track less but are still engaged with the glucose data.  Experimenting.  The interview meetings seem to help re-engage the participants.	Most participants kept their habit changes.  All participants would do it again with different frequencies differing from once to four times a year.
CHALLENGES	ISSUES & RISK	ISSUES & RISK	ISSUES & RISK
Difficulty monitoring foods and activities for 2 participants.	No pain.  No physical/mental harm.	Two participants stopped early. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One due to errors in the readings, perhaps due to blood coagulation.</li><li>• One due to discomfort from the sensor after an exercise and sauna session.</li></ul>	None of the participants seem to have had any mental or physical harm due to the experiment.

# Main challenges

Misinformation and understanding the data

Sensor and app design (fear of needles, discomfort etc.)

Journaling food and activity

Analysing glucose data for healthy individuals

One on one interviews take time and are hard to schedule

# Next steps

# Next steps

## AWARENESS EVENTS

An open source Python Library

## COLLABORATIONS

for health data usage

### Open Source Glucose Monitor Design

As part of a biohackathon in the SynbioHub.

To address sensor issues and make it more democratised.

### GLYCO

An open source Python Library

When trying to analyse glucose data we realised that this was not straightforward and all the tools were created for the purpose of diabetes.

To bridge this gap have created [GLYCO an open source Python library for Glucose Analysis.](#)

## Next steps

### The main finding

## Next steps

### The main finding

Beyond the lab

- People love this approach.
- People are happy to share their data for a good cause.
- People become more aware of their own health and start engaging with it.
- There are no failures when it's an experiment.

## Next steps

### The main finding

Enabling an easy system for such experiments.

# How do I get involved?

[biohackeri.com](http://biohackeri.com)

*updates*

# How do I get involved?

[biohackeri.com](http://biohackeri.com)

*ismail@biohackeri.com*

***contribute or participate***

# How do I get involved?

[biohackeri.com](http://biohackeri.com)

*[ismail@biohackeri.com](mailto:ismail@biohackeri.com)*

Facebook/Instagram (biohackeri)

**events**

# THANK YOU



**BIOHACKERI**