

# Ecologically sustainable nutrition for older adults (55+) with obesity.

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Our primary objective of the feasibility study is to assess the acceptability and feasibility of the developed 2EAT dietary treatment in older adults with obesity. The primary objective of the main study (RCT) is to investigate whether a shift towards...

<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruiting
<b>Health condition type</b>	Other condition
<b>Study type</b>	Interventional

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON53195

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

2EAT

### Condition

- Other condition
- Appetite and general nutritional disorders

### Synonym

Sarcopenic obesity; Loss of muscle mass in severely overweight

### Health condition

Sarcopenic obesity

### Research involving

Human

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Vrije Universiteit Medisch Centrum

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Regieorgaan SIA - Praktijk gericht onderzoek (RAAK-PRO)

## Intervention

**Keyword:** (Plant-based) Protein, Muscle health, Obesity, Sarcopenia

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

The main study parameter is the change in plant-based protein intake compared to animal protein intake between baseline and three (primary) and six-months intervention (3-day dietary record).

### Secondary outcome

Weight loss;

Skeletal muscle mass;

Exploratory parameters:

Muscle strength: hand grip strength

Physical performance: 400m walk test, short physical performance battery

Body composition: fat free mass, total body water, body weight, waist circumference, BMI

Metabolic outcomes: blood pressure, heart rate, lipid profile, blood glucose (HOMA-index), inflammation (CRP), nutritional status (vitamin B12 and hemoglobin)

Quality of life

Vitality

Nutritional adequacy

Behavioral change

Process evaluation of the dietary treatment

## Study description

### Background summary

In the Netherlands, there is a high prevalence of obesity among older adults (55+) which is expected to rise in the coming years. Weight loss is crucial to improving health outcomes for older adults, but it also poses the risk of losing skeletal muscle mass. Therefore, dietetic advice for older obese clients should consider the exacerbated age-related loss of skeletal muscle mass and encourage the intake of extra proteins, alongside calorie restriction.

Currently, dietitians typically suggest an increase in animal-based proteins due to their proven ability to stimulate muscle protein synthesis. On average 60% of the protein intake in the Netherlands is of animal-based sources. However, animal-based proteins have a high ecological impact, while plant-based proteins have a lower impact and offer numerous health benefits. To address this, we developed a new dietary concept that aligns with current dietary guidelines for older adults (55+) with obesity, incorporating a calorie restriction and protein enrichment (towards 1.2 g/kg/d, minimum of 0.8 g/kg/d), of which  $\geq 60\%$  (minimum of 50%) (compared to current 40%) is plant-based proteins and providing all essential amino acids.

### Study objective

Our primary objective of the feasibility study is to assess the acceptability and feasibility of the developed 2EAT dietary treatment in older adults with obesity.

The primary objective the main study (RCT) is to investigate whether a shift towards more plant-based ( $\geq 60\%$ ) protein intake can be achieved in a calorie restricted diet for three (primary) and six months in older adults (55+) with obesity.

The secondary objectives of the study are to assess the effects of the 2EAT dietary treatment on weight loss and skeletal muscle mass.

The exploratory objectives of the study are to assess the effect of the 2EAT dietary treatment on physical health outcomes: muscle strength and physical performance; body composition; metabolic bloodparameters; vitality and quality

of life; nutritional intake; behavioral changes; process of dietary treatment.

## **Study design**

The study consists of two phases. In phase 1, a feasibility study will evaluate the acceptability and feasibility of the 2EAT dietary treatment in older adults with obesity. In phase 2, a randomized controlled trial of 6 months with two parallel intervention groups will be conducted to investigate the effect of the 2EAT diet ( $\geq 60\%$  plant-based protein) over time.

## **Intervention**

The 2EAT dietary intervention includes dietary counselling focussed on behavioural change, and a diet with an energy restriction of 500 kcal and increased protein intake based towards 1.2 g/kg/day (minimum of 0.8 g/kg/d), of which  $\geq 60\%$  (minimum of 50%) is plant-based. In the randomized controlled trial, half of the participants will be randomized to the control dietary treatment (40% plant-based protein).

## **Study burden and risks**

The risks associated with participation are minimal. Assessments will be carried out in a private controlled setting and interventions are guided by trained dietitians and researchers. Participation in this study should benefit older adults by improving body composition, providing social aspects and personal health insights. The results of this trial will be used to support evidence-based practice for more environmentally sustainable dietetic practice.

## **Contacts**

### **Public**

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## **Trial sites**

### **Listed location countries**

Netherlands

## **Eligibility criteria**

### **Age**

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

### **Inclusion criteria**

Aged 55 or older

Are obese: have a BMI of  $>30$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> or BMI  $>27$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> and waist circumference  $>88$  cm (women) or  $>102$  cm (men)

Living independently (not in a health facility)

The willingness that the general practitioner will be notified of study participation

Written informed consent

Willingness to comply with the protocol

Consent of the study physician

### **Exclusion criteria**

Inability to understand the Dutch language

Cognitive impairment (MMSE  $<15$ )

Use of total or partial parenteral nutrition (TPN)

Alcohol or drug abuse in the opinion of the investigator

Current enrolment in a fixed rehabilitation program or other intervention studies

Palliative treatment or a life expectancy of  $\leq 3$  months

Following a vegetarian or vegan (100% plant-based) diet

Bariatric surgery;

Active medical treatment interfering with this intervention (e.g. weight loss medication such as Ozempic cancer patients receiving systemic and immune therapy)

Physical disabled: unable to meet the general daily exercise guideline for adults (24)

Planned a holiday during the intervention period and is unable to attend group-

or individual sessions for > 1 week (in phase 1) or > 3 weeks (in phase 2)

The health conditions below will be assessed by the study physician. When a condition interferes the dietary treatment or if the diet worsens the participants health it counts as exclusion criteria:

Diagnosed with unstable coronary heart disease (CHD), decompensated heart failure, uncontrolled hypertension or uncontrolled arrhythmias (e.g. heart failure NYHA >3)

Diagnosed degenerative neurocognitive disorders

Diagnosed with renal failure

COPD GOLD >3

## Study design

### Design

Study type:	Interventional
Intervention model:	Other
Allocation:	Randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Prevention

### Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruiting
Start date (anticipated):	01-02-2024
Enrollment:	220
Type:	Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO	
Date:	04-12-2023
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC Amsterdam UMC
Approved WMO	

Date: 03-04-2025  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

### Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

### In other registers

Register	ID
CCMO	NL84358.018.23