MEAT SNACKS CONSUMPTION: ASPECT THAT THE CONSUMER LOOKS FOR TO CONSIDER THEM A HEALTHY FOOD

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INTRODUCTION





The aim of this work was to study snack consumption and to analyse in snacks and meat snacks, which consumers' preferences are considered as healthy.

- Online survey.
- Participants: 234
- 63,8% women
- 36,2% men
- 18 74 years old.





meat snack



Survey

snack

| Dimension | Motivation |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| | Small |
| Portion size | Medium |
| | Large |
| weight control | High-protein |
| | It helps to lose weight |
| | It satiates me |
| | Low-calories |
| | It can be consumed anywhere |
| | It can be consumed at any |
| Convenience | time |
| | No preparation required |
| | To snack |
| | Vegetarian |
| Special needs | Gluten-free |
| | Lactose-free |

| Dimension | Motivation |
|------------------|---|
| | I have an appetite for it |
| Acceptability | It tastes good |
| Acceptability | I like it, |
| | I enjoy it |
| | I am used to eating it |
| Habits | I consume it normally |
| | It is familiar to me |
| | It gives me energy |
| | It fills me up |
| Satiety / hunger | It helps me to hold on until the next |
| | It takes away my hunger |
| | It satiates me |
| | Quick to get / buy |
| Convenience | Easy to store at work / home |
| | Can be purchased nearby my work |
| | I can eat it with people/accompanied |
| Sociability | To spend time with other people |
| | It can be shared |
| | It helps me if I am sad or depressed |
| Mood | It makes me feel good if I'm frustrated |
| | It helps me to fight stress |
| Indulgence/ | I want to cheat myself |
| pleasure | As a reward |

• <u>Survey</u>

- How frequency do you consume it?
- Can the snacks be considered as healthy food?
- Is this aspect decisive in the purchase and consumption of it?
- What characteristics you look for in a healthy snack?

Most consumed snacks

| fruits | 67,9 % | |
|---------------|--------|--|
| dairy | 53,8 % | |
| Nuts or seeds | 53 % | |
| coffee | 50,9 % | |
| cookies | 31,2 % | |
| Meat snacks | 28,6 % | |

| dehydrated meat (ham, loin, jerky, etc.) | 53.8 % |
|---|--------|
| cooked sausages | 39.7 % |
| products such as fuet, chorizo, salami, etc. | 31.2 % |
| nuggets | 25.2 % |
| meat sticks | 14.5 % |

• Can the snacks be considered as healthy food?





 Is the healthy nature of a snack the key in purchase and consumption choices?



• Frequency of consumption?





Motivations

snack

| Dimension | Motivation | Motivation score (1) | Alfa-Cronbach | P-value |
|------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Portion size | Small | 3.50 ± 0.14 ª | | < 0.01 |
| | Medium | 3.39 ± 0.13 ª | 0.68 | |
| | Large | 2.83 ± 0.13 ^ь | | |
| weight control | High-protein | $4.48\pm0.14^{\tt a}$ | | < 0.01 |
| | It helps to lose weight | $3.87 \pm 0.14^{\circ}$ | 0.86 | |
| | It satiates me | $4.35\pm0.14^{\tt ab}$ | | |
| | Low-calories | $4.03\pm0.14^{\rm bc}$ | | |
| | It can be consumed anywhere | 5.13 ± 0.13^{a} | 0.89 | < 0.01 |
| Convenience | It can be consumed at any time | 5.22 ± 0.13^{a} | | |
| | No preparation required | 5.03 ± 0.13^{a} | | |
| | To snack | $4.35\pm0.14^{\rm b}$ | | |
| Special needs | Vegetarian | 2.55 ± 0.13^{ab} | | < 0.05 |
| | Gluten-free | $2.40\pm0.13^{\rm b}$ | 0.85 | |
| | Lactose-free | 2.82 ± 0.14^{a} | | |
| l) mean ± indivi | idual standard error. Different letter | in the same dime | ension are significan | tly different |

Characteristics that consumers mentioned to consider as a healthy snack

snack

| that improve health (functional) | 30.3% |
|---|-------|
| low in sugar | 27.7% |
| low in fat | 13% |
| high in vitamins and minerals | 7.8% |
| high in protein | 7.4% |
| high in fiber | 6.5% |
| low in salt | 3.5% |
| high in omega-3 fatty acids | 2.6% |
| high content in proteins of plant origin | 0.4% |
| low content of nutrients with high risk to health | 0.4% |
| high content of nutrients in general | 0.4% |

Motivations

Meat snack

| Dimension | Motivation | Motivation | Alfa- | P-value |
|------------------|--|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| | T1 | score (1) | Cronbach | |
| Acceptability | I have an appetite for it | 4.32 ± 0.14^{a} | 0,96 | 0,07 |
| | It tastes good | $4.76\pm0.14^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| | I like it, | 4.66 ± 0.15^{a} | | |
| | I enjoy it | $4,36 \pm 0.14^{a}$ | | |
| | I am used to eating it | $3.71\pm0.15^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | 0.14 |
| Habits | I consume it normally | $3.48\pm0.14^{\mathtt{a}}$ | 0.94 | |
| | It is familiar to me | $3.88\pm0.14^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| | It gives me energy | $3.44 \pm 0.13^{\mathrm{b}}$ | | < 0.05 |
| | It fills me up | $3.92\pm0.14^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| Satiety / hunger | It helps me to hold on until the next | $4.03\pm0.14^{\mathtt{a}}$ | 0.95 | |
| | It takes away my hunger | $4.12\pm0.14^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| | It satiates me | $3.91\pm0.14^{\tt a}$ | | |
| | Quick to get / buy | 4.27 ± 0.14 ª | 0.95 | 0.86 |
| Convenience | Easy to store at work / home | $4.18\pm0.15^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| | Can be purchased nearby my work | $4.17\pm0.15^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| | I can eat it with people/accompanied | $4.24\pm0.15^{\mathtt{a}}$ | 0.95 | 0.73 |
| Sociability | To spend time with other people | $4.08\pm0.15^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| | It can be shared | $4.16\pm0.14^{\tt a}$ | | |
| | It helps me if I am sad or depressed | $2.43\pm0.12^{\mathtt{a}}$ | 0.97 | 0.93 |
| Mood | It makes me feel good if I'm frustrated | $2.38\pm0.12^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| | It helps me to fight stress | $2.42\pm0.12^{\mathtt{a}}$ | | |
| Indulgence/ | I want to cheat myself | $4.00\pm0.15^{\mathtt{a}}$ | 0.87 | < 0.01 |
| pleasure | As a reward | 3.30 ± 0.15^{b} | 0.07 | |
| (1) mean ± indiv | ridual standard error. Different letter in the determined by LSD test | | n are significantl | y different a |

Characteristics that consumers mentioned to consider as a healthy snack

Meat snack



CONCLUSIONS

- The most important motivations for the acquisition and consumption of snacks were those related to convenience. On the other hand, specifically for meat snacks the participants exposed the acceptability's motivations as the most crucial (it tastes good, I like, I enjoy and I have an appetite for it), above convenience and sociability dimensions.
- The most popular snacks were fruits, dairy, nuts/seeds and meat snacks. More than 50% of those surveyed consumed them from once a day to two or three times a week. As for meat snacks, the most consumed were dehydrated meats (ham, loin, jerky, etc.), but for the majority of respondents only occasionally eats. Moreover, in a healthy meat snack consumers were looking for high protein and low salt content.