

# Scientific background for app

All foods in the JoyHealth app are given a score indicating how much, on average, the food is expected to influence your blood sugars levels (also called, post-prandial glucose response or PPGR). These values range from 1-5, with a score of 1 indicating a small PPGR (equivalent to less than 30 mg/dl) and a score of 5 indicating a large PPGR (equivalent to greater than 120 mg/d).

These predictions are based on studies published in the peer-reviewed scientific literature. In specific, we base our estimates of post-prandial glucose response on the method proposed by Franc et al which includes factors that are unique to you (such as you age, hemoglobin A1c, height, weight and weight circumference) as well as the food you are eating (such as the carbohydrate and protein content as well as when during the day you are eating)(1). These models are more accurate than those based on measures from food alone, such as carbohydrate content, glycemic index or glycemic load (2). We personalize these predictions by incorporating additional variables from models developed by Zeevi et al (3) and Mendes-Soares et al (4).

In those cases where the anticipated PPGR is moderate or larger (i.e., a score of  $\geq 3$ ), we also provide information about alternative foods or ways to eat that are predicted to result in a smaller PPGR. This information is based on dozens of peer-reviewed scientific papers that describes the impact of alternations when food is eaten, the sequence in which parts of a meal are consumed, what is eaten, their form, how nutrition and activity are paired and other techniques from the field of chrononutrition (5-7). For example, Trico et al evaluated the impact of eating lipid and protein ingested before carbohydrate and observed substantial reductions in PPGR compared with a diet of similar foods and similar calories but that were not consumed in a specific sequence (8).

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