

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Department of Nutrition 677 Huntington Avenue Boston, Massachusetts 02115 (617) 998–1067

## Dear Colleague:

On behalf of our research group, I thank you once more for your invaluable participation in the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study. The response rate to our follow-up questionnaire in 2020 was nearly 90%, ensuring valid data on the relation of diet and other lifestyle factors to heart disease, stroke, cancer, prostatic symptoms, and other major illnesses.

The attached **very brief** questionnaire asks for the most important information necessary for maintaining records. We have made it as short as possible in the hope that you will take just a few minutes to complete the form.

As an original member of the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study, you are an indispensable colleague in our research. Whether you are retired or still working, whether your health is excellent or you have been ill, your response is equally important. In short, **no matter what your circumstances, we want to hear from you!** As always, your answers will be kept strictly confidential and used for research purposes only.

It is with our deepest gratitude that we thank you for your ongoing commitment and care that you have generously provided as we continue to learn more about men's health.

Sincerely,

Walter Willett, M.D.

Co-Principal Investigator

Walter Willett

Lorelei Mucci, ScD.

Co-Principal Investigator

# **INSTRUCTIONS:**



#### INTERNET:

Go to our website at <a href="https://sites.sph.harvard.edu/hpfs/">https://sites.sph.harvard.edu/hpfs/</a> and use your ID number (see front of this page) to login. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the survey online.

### PAPER FORM:

Please use an ordinary No. 2 pencil to answer all questions. Fill in the appropriate response circles completely. The form is designed to be read by optical-scanning equipment, so it is important that you keep any write-in responses within the spaces provided and erase any incorrect marks completely. If you have comments, please write them on a separate piece of paper.

## **USE OF BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES**

In performing specialized analyses on blood, toenails, tissue or urine samples that have been provided by participants in this study, we often collaborate with laboratories outside our university who are capable of doing these. These samples are always sent without any personal identifier to ensure confidentiality. On the basis of these analyses, it is possible that these tests could be found to have value in clinical practice. To make such a test available to health care providers, it is usually necessary that they be developed as a commercial product. Although we would work to facilitate such applications, under no circumstances would members of our research group personally profit financially from this research. Also, you would not receive any compensation for use of these samples. You may withdraw your sample at any time to the extent the data derived from them have not yet been aggregated. As always, our goal is to ensure that research findings are translated into ways that can most effectively benefit men everywhere.

If you have questions about the analysis of samples or other studies, or if you wish not to have your specimens provided to outside laboratories, please send an email to <a href="https://hpfs@hsph.harvard.edu">hpfs@hsph.harvard.edu</a> or write us at HPFS, Walter C. Willett, 677 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115. One of our researchers can answer any questions you may have.

The research team has great respect for your continued study participation, and therefore would like to remind you of several important points, as is standard practice in research. We do so in recognition of the fact that consent is an ongoing process rather than a one-time agreement. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding this information.

- a. You are participating in a research study that focuses on how to decrease the risk of cancer, heart disease, impaired cognitive function and other major chronic diseases in men. Participation involves the completion of questionnaires.
- b. Your participation is voluntary. Refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.
- c. There is a small risk of breach of confidentiality; however we have taken many steps to minimize this risk.
- d. Samples are sometimes shared with entities outside of Harvard as part of research collaborations; in such cases, we use a separate ID number to ensure confidentiality.
- e. You will not receive monetary compensation for participating.
- f. There are no direct benefits to you from study participation.
- g. If you wish to speak with someone not directly involved in this research study about your rights as a research participant, please contact the Harvard School of Public Health's Office for Human Research Administration at 617-432-2143 (local calls) or 866-606-0573 (long distance calls) or email at irb@hsph.harvard.edu.
- h. If you have any questions regarding the study itself, please call the study Project Coordinator, Betsy Frost-Hawes at <u>866-762-6609</u>.

If your name and address as printed on this questionnaire are no longer correct or are incomplete, or if you are providing your email address, please make any necessary changes on the letter and return it to us.

Thank you for completing the 2022 Health Professionals Follow-Up Study short questionnaire.

Your CURRENT weight:  Ibs.  Do you currently smoke pipe, cigar or cigarettes?  No Yes	a (	D (1) (2)	230	4 5 (		9	
elinician diagnosed conditi EAVE BLANK FOR "NO," MARK HERE FOR "YES"	ions	YEAF BEFORE	OF C	DIAGN	IOSIS 2022 OR LATER		
Colon or rectal polyp (benign)	Ŷ					23	
Cancer of the colon or rectum	Ŷ			0	0	24	
Basal cell skin cancer	Ŷ					25)	
Squamous cell skin cancer	Ŷ	0	0	0	0	26	
Melanoma	Ŷ					27	
Prostatic enlargement treated by drugs, surgery, or laser	Ŷ					28	
Prostate cancer	Ŷ					29	
Lymphoma or leukemia	Ŷ		0			30	
Other cancer  Please specify site and year:	Ŷ					(31) (a)	
Parkinson's disease	Ŷ					32	
Depression, clinician-diagnosed	Ŷ					33	
Ulcerative colitis or microscopic colitis/Crohn's disease	Ŷ		0	0		34)	
Barrett's esophagus	Ŷ					35	
Diverticulitis or Diverticulosis	Ŷ		0	0		36	
Kidney stones	Ŷ					37)	
Gall bladder removed	Ŷ	0	0	0	0	38	
Fatty liver disease Confirmed by liver biopsy?	Ŷ O	No (	Yes			39 a	
Cirrhosis	Ŷ					40	
Gout	Ŷ					41)	
0.1							

TOTAL TRUE TRUE	
HEALTH PROFESSIONAL FOLLOW-UP STUDY	LS

1.	Please WRITE in	
	your date of birth:	

MONTH DAY

Since January 1, 2020, have you had any of the following clinician diagnose YEAR OF DIAGNOSIS BEFORE LEAVE BLANK FOR "NO," MARK HERE FOR "YES" 2020 2020 2021 LATER 4 High blood pressure Y (Y) 2 Diabetes mellitus Elevated cholesterol Y Myocardial infarction Y 4 (heart attack) Hospitalized for this MI? No Yes a (5) Angina pectoris Confirmed by an No ○ Yes a angiogram? Coronary bypass, angioplasty, (6) Congestive heart failure Y (CHF) Atrial fibrillation Y 8 Pulmonary embolus or Y (9) deep vein thrombosis Y TIA (Transient Ischemic Attack) (Y) Stroke (CVA) Carotid surgery **Y**) (endarterectomy) Peripheral artery disease or claudication of legs (not varicose veins) Y (Y) (14) Glaucoma Y Cataract extraction

Macular degeneration of

retina

Osteoarthritis

Osteoporosis

x-ray confirmed

Hip replacement

Knee replacement

Hip fracture

**Y** (16) Y (17) Y (18) Vertebral (spine) fracture, Y (19) Y 20 (Y)

Y

21) 22

If yes, was it elevated?

PSA test within past 2 years?

Colonoscopy or

Sigmoidoscopy

DIAGNOSIS

Other major illness?

Unknown

Y

Yes | ○ | Yes |

DATE

)No

42

43

a

(a)

**(b)** 

hom we might Name:	the name of someone write in the event we	are unable	to conta	act you:		(4) (8) (P) to	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7)	222 3333
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							① 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	0 0 1 1 2 2 3 3 3 4 4 MED 5 5 6 6 6 7 7 8 8 8 9 9 W
	THANK FOR YOUR O PARTICI	ONTIN					(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (12) (12)	PLEASI DO NO

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