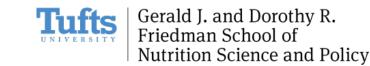


# Food is Medicine National Summit

## **Dariush Mozaffarian, MD, DrPH** Jean Mayer Professor of Nutrition & Medicine

Friedman School of Nutrition Science & Policy April 25, 2023

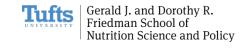


## **Diet-Related Disease in the U.S.**

- More American adults are sick than are healthy:
  - 1 in 2 have diabetes or prediabetes
  - 1 in 2 lifetime risk of cancer
  - 3 in 4 have overweight or obesity
  - Only 1 in 15 (6.8%) are metabolically healthy
- Among American <u>teenagers</u>:
  - 1 in 4 have prediabetes
  - 1 in 4 have overweight or obesity
  - 1 in 6 have fatty liver disease

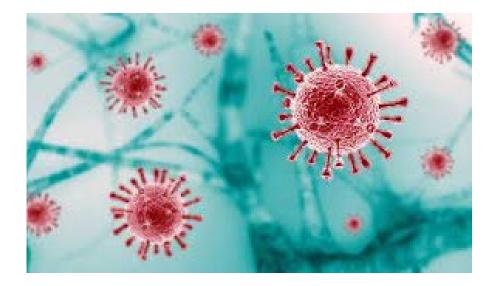
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2018 American Heart Association, *Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics*, 2018 The Milken Institute, *America's Obesity Crisis*, 2018 O'Hearn M et al., JACC 2022



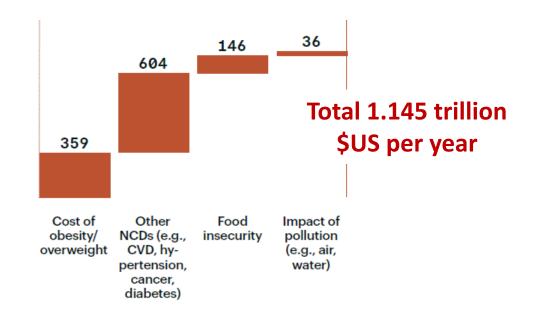


## **Poor Nutrition: True Societal Costs**

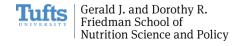
Diet-related diseases like diabetes, obesity, and hypertension have contributed to an estimated 723,000 excess U.S. deaths from COVID-19



Poor nutrition causes an estimated
\$1.1 trillion in economic losses each
year due to excess healthcare spending
and lost productivity



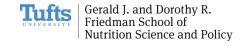




## **Potential to Unlock Business Innovation**

- **1 in 10 U.S. jobs** 19.7 million are directly supported by the food and agriculture sector
- The food and agriculture sector contributes **\$1.1 trillion** to the nation's economic output
- Food and agriculture **exports total \$183 billion** each year
- Food sector businesses are the #1 source of new small businesses and new jobs in racial and ethnic minority communities
- Consumers demanding healthier, more authentic, more nourishing foods
- Rapid growth of Environment, Social, Governance (ESG) investing



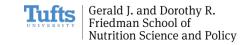




# **Food is Medicine: Rising National Interest**



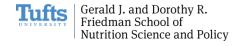
Source: Google analytics

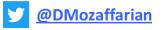




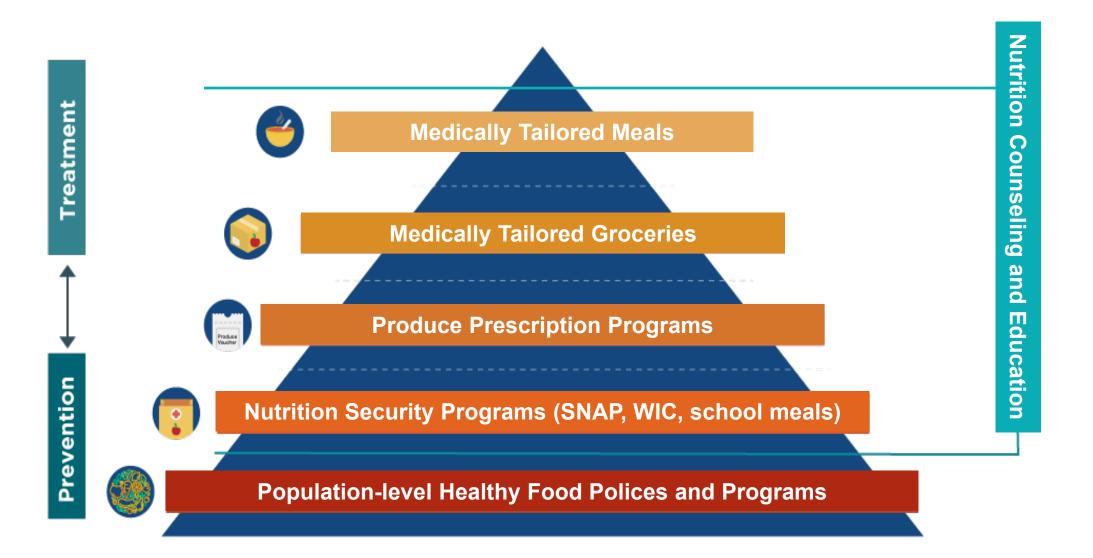
## Food is Medicine: Varying Conceptual Frameworks

- **1. Food as foundational to health** ("Food is health")
- 2. Food-based natural bioactive compounds to treat or prevent disease
- 3. Food-based nutrition interventions in healthcare to treat or prevent disease
  - centered in health equity
  - focuses on nutrition security, while addressing food security
  - not a social determinant of health, but a determinant of health



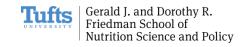


### **Food is Medicine: Healthcare Systems**





Mozaffarian et al., Nature Medicine 2022



#### **Food is Medicine: Advancing Nutrition Security**

Nutrition security: *Consistent access, availability, and affordability of foods and beverages that promote well-being and prevent (and if needed, treat) disease* 

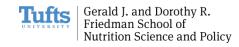
- Additive to (not replacing) food security: Moving beyond diet quantity alone to *diet quality* nourishing foods
- Centered in *health equity* to address large and rising dietrelated disparities
- Not a social determinant of health a top determinant of health
- Available brief screeners: e.g., the 2-item Nutrition Security Screener (NSS)



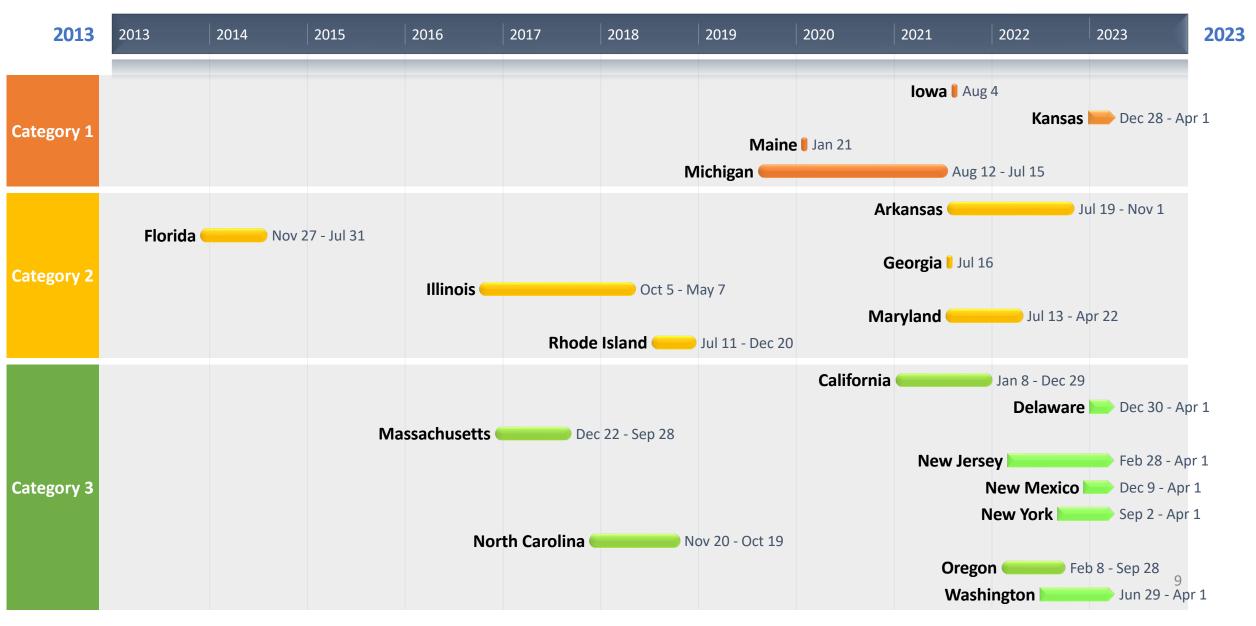




Mozaffarian, Fleischhacker, & Andres, JAMA 2021 Mozaffarian, Health Affairs 2023 https://nutrition.tufts.edu/about/public-impact-initiative-friedman-school/food-is-medicine



#### **Food is Medicine: Medicaid Section 1115 Waivers**



Harvard Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation, Tufts Friedman School, in preparation

# Food is Medicine: National Momentum

- White House Conference and National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health
- State Medicaid 1115 and 1915(b) waivers, and Medicaid managed care organization services ("in lieu of", value-added, or QI)
- Medicare Advantage Organization and Medicare Shared Savings ACO programs
- Private healthcare investments, e.g. Kaiser Permanente, Geisinger Health, others
- Veterans Affairs and Indian Health Services pilots on Produce Rx
- Potential **Medicare pilot** on medically tailored meals
- USDA GusNIP Produce Rx programs
- **CDC programs** such as SPAN, HOP, and REACH
- New prioritization of human nutrition at FDA
- AAP and ACLM commitments, and ACGME/AAMC/AAMOC deliberations, on **nutrition education for physicians**
- NIH Office of Nutrition Research FIM Centers of Excellence
- Rockefeller Foundation/AHA FIM research initiative
- Non-profit and private sector implementers and innovators

