What Marketing Messages Do Adults Remember About Health and Nutrition? (P04-179-19)

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Objectives: To determine the salient elements of nutrition and health marketing messages recalled by U.S. adults in a Midwestern state.

Methods: Convenience sample of 700 adults was collected via an intercept survey to elicit up to six marketing messages respondents could recall pertaining to nutrition or health.

Results: 2689 individual messages (M = 3.8 messages per person; SD = 1.79; CI = 3.71-3.97) were coded for food group or macronutrient content; additional codes emerged for specific marketing messages that emerged. Participants who identified as a racial or ethnic minority listed fewer messages on average (M = 3.5; SD = 1.83) as compared to those identifying as non-Hispanic White (M = 3.9; SD = 1.78), t(698) = 2.424, P = .016 (CIdiff = 0.07-0.75). Men listed fewer messages (M = 3.4; SD = 1.83) than women (M = 3.9; SD = 1.76), t(698) = 3.548, P = .000 (CIdiff = 0.25-0.88;). The correlation between the number of messages reported and participant age was not significant; r = .07, P > .05. Stepwise binary logistic regression indicated that older respondents, males, and those identifying as racial or ethnic minorities were less likely to name a message coded as a Fruit, Vegetable, Protein Group, or Grain. Similarly, older respondents and those identifying as a racial or ethnic minority were less likely to have a message coded as Fat or Water.

Conclusions: Greater degree of recall of messages by women and adults who are not racial/ethnic minorities may indicate more successful marketing of these messages to these target groups.

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