중국의 전통식과 비만

YongPing Zhu

중국 절강의과대학교

The Serious Issue: 200 Million Chinese Overweight

Yongping Zhu M.D., Ph.D.

Dept. of Public Health, Zhejiang University School of Medicine

Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006, China

A recent survey shows that the overweight and obesity rates of Chinese adults have reached 22.8 percent

and 7.1 percent. It is estimated that the number of Chinese who suffer from overweight and obesity totals 200 million and 60 million respectively. The adult overweight and obesity rates in urban areas reach 30.0

percent and 12.3 percent each and children obesity rate has also grown to 8.1 percent. It is estimated that

the obesity rate of Chinese will increase by a big margin in the future.

This is based on the situation of the National Survey on Chinese residents' Nutrition and Health conducted

from August to December 2002. The survey shows that the diet and nutrition conditions of China's urban

and rural residents have been clearly improved over the past decade, as a result, incidence of diseases has

kept decreasing. At the same time, however, the rates of high blood pressure, diabetes and obesity have been

rising. The Chinese are now facing double challenges from a lack of nutrition and imbalanced trophic

structure.

The survey also reveals that the level of Chinese children's growth and development is rising steadily.

Compared to 1992, the present height of youngsters aged between 3 and 18 has increased 3.3 cm on average.

The incidence of a disease caused by malnutrition has notably declined and that of anemia among residents

has somewhat fallen.

In the meantime, however, urban residents consumed too much poultry, meat and fat, while their

consumption of cereal is too low. The inadequate intake of micronutrients such as calcium, iron, vitamin-A

is a common problem existing among urban and rural dwellers.

The survey demonstrates that currently the nation has 160 million high blood pressure patients, the inci-

dence of this disease is rising rapidly in rural areas, difference between urban and rural areas is already

not distinct in this respect. The adult diabetes rate stands at 2.6 percent, the number of diabetes patients

is estimated to be over 20 million nationwide. The morbidity of abnormal blood-fat among adults stands

at 18.6 percent, and the number of such patients is estimated to be 160 million.

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E-mail: zhuyt@zju.edu.cn

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