



science and policy
for a healthy future



Γενικό Χημείο του Κράτους
State General Laboratory



HBM4EU-MOM

Development of fish consumption recommendations for healthy pregnancy

A harmonized pilot research study in five European countries

Phase 1 QUESTIONNAIRE



Questionnaire

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION	
ID (PARTICIPANT)	
ID (INTERVIEWER)	
DATE OF THE INTERVIEW	
START TIME	:
END TIME	:
INTERVIEW PLACE / INTERVIEW PLATFORM	
WHO IS YOUR HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER? 	
What is your age? (years)	
Gestational age: (weeks)	
Have you resided in Cyprus for the last 3 years? ☐ Yes ☐ No	

1. Sociodemographic information

1.1 Where were you and your parents born?

	In Cyprus			In another country			Please specify the country
	Yes	No	Don't know / Refuse to answer	Yes	No	Don't know / Refuse to answer	
Respondent	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	
Mother	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	
Father	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	

1.2 What best describes the location of your home? Click all that applies.

1	Rural / Village	☐
2	Urban	☐
3	Industrial area. Please specify type of activities below:	☐
4	Refuse to answer / Don't know	☐

1.3 How many people live in your house? (specify the number of adults and children)

Adults	Children

1.4 Which of the following best describes your family situation?

1	I live with a partner	☐
2	I live with my parents	☐
3	I live alone	☐
4	Other situations. Please specify:	☐
5	Refuse to answer	☐

1.5 What is the highest level of education attained by you and by your (live-in) partner?

	You	Partner
1. No formal education or below primary education (ISCED 0)	☐	☐
2. Primary education (ISCED 1)	☐	☐
3. Lower secondary education, or second stage of basic education (ISCED 2)	☐	☐
4. Upper secondary education (ISCED 3)	☐	☐
5. Post-secondary non-tertiary education (ISCED 4)	☐	☐
6. Short-cycle tertiary education (ISCED 5)	☐	☐
7. Bachelor's or equivalent level (ISCED 6)	☐	☐
8. Master's or equivalent level (ISCED 7)	☐	☐
9. Doctoral or equivalent level (ISCED 8)	☐	☐
10. Don't know / Refuse to answer	☐	☐

1.6 What is the main labour status over the past 4 months of yourself and your (live-in) partner?

		You	Partner
1	Employee working full-time. Please specify your job:	☐	☐
2	Employee working part-time. Please specify your job:	☐	☐
3	Self-employed working full-time. Please specify your job:	☐	☐
4	Self-employed working part-time. Please specify your job:	☐	☐
5	Unemployed	☐	☐
6	Home-maker	☐	☐
7	Pupil, student, further training, unpaid work experience	☐	☐
8	In retirement or in early retirement or has given up business	☐	☐

2. General health and pregnancy

2.1 Please, indicate the following information:

			Don't know	Refuse to answer
a.	Your height	 cm	☐	☐
b.	Your typical weight before the pregnancy	 Kg	☐	☐
c.	Your weight now	 Kg	☐	☐

2.2 Is this pregnancy...

		Yes	No	Refuse to answer
a.	...your first?	☐	☐ Number of previous pregnancies of gestational age equal or larger than 24 weeks 	☐
b.	...planned?	☐	☐	☐

2.3 Please mark what applies to you before and during your pregnancy:

		Refuse to answer	No	Yes			
				Less or once per week	More than once a week but not daily	Daily	Refuse to answer
BEFORE YOUR PREGNANCY	Smoking of tobacco products	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	Passive smoker	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	Consumption of alcoholic drinks	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
DURING YOUR PREGNANCY	Smoking of tobacco products	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	Passive smoker	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	Consumption of alcoholic drinks	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

2.4 Did you make any changes to your usual (pre-pregnancy) diet specifically for this pregnancy?

Yes ☐	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="331 302 507 472">> 3 months before planned pregnancy</td> <td data-bbox="507 302 683 472">1-3 months before planned pregnancy</td> <td data-bbox="683 302 858 472">As soon as I started planned pregnancy</td> <td data-bbox="858 302 1034 472">As soon as I found out I was pregnant</td> <td data-bbox="1034 302 1145 472">Refuse to answer</td> <td data-bbox="1145 302 1278 472">Other (please specify below)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="331 472 507 544">☐</td> <td data-bbox="507 472 683 544">☐</td> <td data-bbox="683 472 858 544">☐</td> <td data-bbox="858 472 1034 544">☐</td> <td data-bbox="1034 472 1145 544">☐</td> <td data-bbox="1145 472 1278 544">☐</td> </tr> </table> 						> 3 months before planned pregnancy	1-3 months before planned pregnancy	As soon as I started planned pregnancy	As soon as I found out I was pregnant	Refuse to answer	Other (please specify below)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
> 3 months before planned pregnancy	1-3 months before planned pregnancy	As soon as I started planned pregnancy	As soon as I found out I was pregnant	Refuse to answer	Other (please specify below)													
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐													
No ☐	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="331 846 480 1048">I find it difficult to change</td> <td data-bbox="480 846 667 1048">My diet was already healthy and balanced</td> <td data-bbox="667 846 815 1048">I didn't think I needed to</td> <td data-bbox="815 846 975 1048">I don't know what change to make</td> <td data-bbox="975 846 1118 1048">Refuse to answer</td> <td data-bbox="1118 846 1278 1048">Other (please specify below)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="331 1048 480 1144">☐</td> <td data-bbox="480 1048 667 1144">☐</td> <td data-bbox="667 1048 815 1144">☐</td> <td data-bbox="815 1048 975 1144">☐</td> <td data-bbox="975 1048 1118 1144">☐</td> <td data-bbox="1118 1048 1278 1144">☐</td> </tr> </table> 						I find it difficult to change	My diet was already healthy and balanced	I didn't think I needed to	I don't know what change to make	Refuse to answer	Other (please specify below)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I find it difficult to change	My diet was already healthy and balanced	I didn't think I needed to	I don't know what change to make	Refuse to answer	Other (please specify below)													
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐													

2.5 How often did /do you consume the following foods before and during your pregnancy?

	Before the pregnancy				During the pregnancy			
	Never	Meals per week	Times per month	Don't know / refuse to answer	Never	Meals per week	Times per month	Don't know / refuse to answer
FISH	☐			☐	☐			☐
MEAT	☐			☐	☐			☐
DAIRY PRODUCTS	☐			☐	☐			☐
EGGS	☐			☐	☐			☐
CEREAL	☐			☐	☐			☐
FATS (e.g. oil, butter, margarine)	☐			☐	☐			☐
VEGETEBLES	☐			☐	☐			☐
FRUIT	☐			☐	☐			☐
PULSES	☐			☐	☐			☐
NUTS	☐			☐	☐			☐
SNACKS	☐			☐	☐			☐
DRINKS (that contain caffeine)	☐			☐	☐			☐

2.6 Do you consume dietary supplements (e.g. vitamins and minerals)? If yes, please indicate type and trademark.

Dietary supplement type		Yes		No	Don't know
		Subscribed	Trademark		
A	Folate	☐		☐	☐
B	Pregnancy supplement	☐		☐	☐
C	Multivitamins	☐		☐	☐
D	Multi-mineral	☐		☐	☐
E	Omega-3 fatty acids	☐		☐	☐
F	Vitamin A	☐		☐	☐
G	Vitamin B/ B-complex	☐		☐	☐
H	Vitamin C	☐		☐	☐
I	Vitamin D	☐		☐	☐
J	Vitamin E	☐		☐	☐
K	Iodine	☐		☐	☐
L	Iron	☐		☐	☐
M	Selenium	☐		☐	☐
N	Magnesium	☐		☐	☐
O	Zinc	☐		☐	☐
P	Calcium	☐		☐	☐
Q	Other. Specify:	☐		☐	☐

3. Fish Consumption

Please answer the following questions about your fish consumption habits.

3.1 Please choose what applies to the three main fish categories you ate *over the past 4 months* and how often you eat it, in the following table. Circle the number (1-8), which best describes how often you ate the specific category. Circle the letter (a-c) that best describes the portion you normally eat. Circle the letter (i-l) that describes any seasonal change in consumption. Please specify the portion using the pictures in Appendix A

FISH SPECIES	PORTION			FREQUENCY								SEASONALITY			
	Choose from the picture in the Appendix			Never	Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-4 times per week	5-6 times per week	1 time per day	More than 2 times per day	NO seasonal change in consumption	Higher consumption in summer	Higher consumption in winter	Seasonal change - other
White fish (e.g. european hake, sea bas, sea bream)	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	i	j	k	l
Small oily fish (e.g. sardines, anchovy, salmon)	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	i	j	k	l
Big oily fish (e.g. sword fish, tuna, school shark)	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	i	j	k	l
Other sea food (e.g. octopus, squid)	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	i	j	k	l

3.2 Please choose what applies to the species of fish you ate *over the past 4 months* and how often you eat it, in the following table. Circle the number (1-8), which best describes how often you ate the specific fish. Circle the letter (a-c) that best describes the portion you normally eat. Circle the letters (d-l) that describe the origin of the fish and any seasonal change in consumption. Please specify the portion using the pictures in Appendix A

FISH SPECIES	PORTION			FREQUENCY								TYPE AND SEASONALITY								
	<i>Choose from the picture in the Appendix</i>			Never	Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-4 times per week	5-6 times per week	1 time per day	More than 2 times per day	Fresh/frozen from the region	Fresh from other origin	Frozen from other origin	Fresh, I don't know the origin	Frozen, I don't know the origin	NO seasonal change in consumption	Higher consumption in summer	Higher consumption in winter	Seasonal change - other
Fish broth	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Sea Bass	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Gilt head bream	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Stripped red mullet	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Salmon	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Salmon smoked	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	i	j	k	l
Boque	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Picarel	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Red porgy snapper	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Common pandora	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Sargo	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Dusky grouper	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Swordfish	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Sole	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Tuna	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Tuna canned	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	i	j	k	l
European hake	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	i	j	k	l
Atlantic cod	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Anchovy	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Anchovy canned	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	i	j	k	l

FISH SPECIES	PORTION			FREQUENCY								TYPE AND SEASONALITY								
	<i>Choose from the picture in the Appendix</i>			Never	Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-4 times per week	5-6 times per week	1 time per day	More than 2 times per day	Fresh/frozen from the region	Fresh from other origin	Frozen from other origin	Fresh, I don't know the origin	Frozen, I don't know the origin	NO seasonal change in consumption	Higher consumption in summer	Higher consumption in winter	Seasonal change - other
Sardine	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Sardine canned	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	i	j	k	l
Mediterranean sand smelt	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Redfish	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Meagre croaker	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Trout	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
School shark	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Painted comber	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Pangasius	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other fish. Please specify	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other fish. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other fish. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other fish. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other fish. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other fish. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l

Remark: in case of 'Other', please specify the type using the list in Appendix A

SEAFOOD OTHER THAN FISH	PORTION			FREQUENCY								TYPE AND SEASONALITY								
	Choose from the picture in the Appendix			Never	Less than once per month	1-3 times per month	Once per week	2-4 times per week.	5-6 times per week	1 time per day	More than 2 times per day	Fresh/frozen from the region	Fresh from other origin	Frozen from other origin	Fresh, I don't know the origin	Frozen, I don't know the origin	NO seasonal change	Higher in summer time	Higher in winter time	Seasonal change - other
Octopus	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Octopus canned	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	i	j	k	l
Squid	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Squid - canned	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-			-	i	j	k	l
Cuttlefish	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Cuttlefish - canned	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-			-	i	j	k	l
Mussel	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Mussel - canned	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-			-	i	j	k	l
Oyster	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Oyster - canned	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-	-			-	i	j	k	l
Shrimps	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
Other. Please specify:	a	b	c	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l

Remark: in case of 'Other', please specify the type using the list in Appendix A

4. Lifestyle

4.1 Excluding your professional activities, did you carry out activities, which involved the following (for example during Do-it-yourself projects or hobbies), during the past three months?

	Products / DIY activities/hobbies	Yes	No	Don't know
A	Gardening that included fertilizers, pesticides	☐	☐	☐
B	Artist paints, other paints, pigments, dyes	☐	☐	☐
C	Leather tanning or preservatives	☐	☐	☐
D	Recycling of electrical parts	☐	☐	☐
E	Smelting, Welding/Soldering	☐	☐	☐

4.2 Please mark what applies to you.

A. Have you ever had amalgam (silver colour) fillings in your teeth?	Yes			No	Don't know / Refuse to answer
	☐			☐	☐
	How many?				
		Less than 4 months ago	4-12 months ago	More than 1 year ago	
	Last placed?	☐	☐	☐	
	Last removed?	☐	☐	☐	

B. Do you have any tattoos?

☐

	Less than 4 months ago	4-12 months ago	More than 1 year ago
Last done?	☐	☐	☐
Size	S	M	L

C. Did a mercury thermometer ever break inside your home?

☐

	Less than 4 months ago	4-12 months ago	More than 1 year ago
How long ago?	☐	☐	☐

Do you know how to react in such an incident?	Yes	No
	☐	☐

How would you react if it happened to you?

D. Did an energy-saving lamp ever break inside your home?

☐

	Less than 4 months ago	4-12 months ago	More than 1 year ago
How long ago?	☐	☐	☐

Do you know how to react in such an incident?	Yes	No
	☐	☐

How would you react if it happened to you?

5. Preferences

5.1 Which of the following influences your decision about eating fish during your pregnancy? Click all that applies.

A	Fish is a staple in my diet	☐
B	How much it costs	☐
C	How readily available it is to me to purchase and / or consume	☐
D	I find it difficult to cook	☐
E	I don't like the taste and / or smell	☐
F	My family (partner, children) doesn't like to eat it	☐
G	It doesn't keep well as left-overs	☐
H	I don't think it is safe to eat during pregnancy	☐
I	I think it is safe to eat during pregnancy	☐
J	I don't think it is nutritious to eat during pregnancy	☐
K	I think it is nutritious to eat during pregnancy	☐
L	Other. Specify:	☐

5.2 When making choices around nutrition during your pregnancy, who influences your decisions? Please rank your top three influences.

A	Medical Doctor (GP, Obstetrician, other)	☐
B	Midwife	☐
C	Dietician	☐
D	Pregnancy Assistance	☐
E	Women's or family health centers	☐
F	Antenatal classes	☐
G	Family / friends	☐
H	Governmental / Professional Associations websites	☐
I	Self help (specialized pregnancy books, websites, seminars, apps)	☐
J	Mass media (internet)	☐
K	Mass media (traditional (tv, radio)	☐
L	Other. Specify:	☐

5.3 Would you be willing to change your diet during your pregnancy? Please mark all that apply.

A	No	☐
B	Yes	☐
C	Yes, if I knew it would benefit my baby	☐
D	Yes, if it didn't take a great effort from me	☐
E	Yes, if I had guidance	☐
F	Yes, if it wasn't expensive to do	☐
G	Don't know / Refuse to answer	☐
H	Other. Please specify	☐

5.4 If new pregnancy related nutritional information was to become available, how would you prefer to receive it? Please click all that apply to you.

A	I am not interested in receiving new information	☐
B	Through my doctor	☐
C	Through my dietician	☐
D	Mass media (TV, radio)	☐
E	Internet / social media	☐
F	Leaflets	☐
G	Webinars / Seminars	☐
H	Phone (sms)	☐
I	Other. Specify	☐

THE END

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORT