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The logo of the University of Cincinnati, featuring a stylized "UC" monogram and the text "University of CINCINNATI".

**Opportunities for Patient-Centric CV Healthcare  
through Retail and Nontraditional Industries**

Mar 4, 2024

Dylan L. Steen MD MS


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## Disclosures

- Consultant: Sanofi, Esperion
- CEO/Cofounder: High Enroll, LLC
- Grant: The Kroger Company, a large U.S. supermarket chain.

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## Topics

- Industry observations and opportunity
- Choosing a retailer and strategy
- SuperWIN Trial
- Post-SuperWIN activity
- Final thoughts

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# Value of Research from Academic/Industry Partnerships

- Example: Lipitor (Pfizer)

Death or Major Cardiovascular Event (%)

Months of Follow-up

40 mg of pravastatin

80 mg of atorvastatin

P=0.005

No. at Risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
Pravastatin	2063	1688	1536	1423	810	138					
Atorvastatin	2099	1736	1591	1485	842	133					

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A Correction Has Been Published

## Intensive versus Moderate Lipid Lowering with Statins after Acute Coronary Syndromes

Christopher P. Cannon, M.D., Eugene Braunwald, M.D., Carolyn H. McCabe, B.S., Daniel J. Rader, M.D., Jean L. Rouleau, M.D., Rene Bellet, M.D., Steven V. Joyal, M.D., Karen A. Hill, B.A., Marc A. Pfeffer, M.D., Ph.D., and Allan M. Skene, Ph.D., for the Pravastatin or Atorvastatin Evaluation and Infection Therapy-Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction 22 Investigators

1. High-intensity statin therapy should be initiated or continued as first-line therapy in women and men ≤75 years of age who have *clinical ASCVD\**, unless contraindicated.

A (Strong)

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### 1) How did it Happen? History of Pharmaceutical Industry



George Merck

Cultural Shift in how Pharmaceutical Industry Pursued Its Purpose:

- R&D Investment
- Hiring Top-quality Scientists
- Collaboration

### 2) What is Needed Now? New Partners for Unsolved Challenges



Hospitals



Clinics

Expansion of Healthcare Beyond Traditional System:

- Access, Convenience, Engagement, Effectiveness
- Testing Platforms and Rigorous Studies Needed

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## Grocery/Supermarket Industry

Problem:

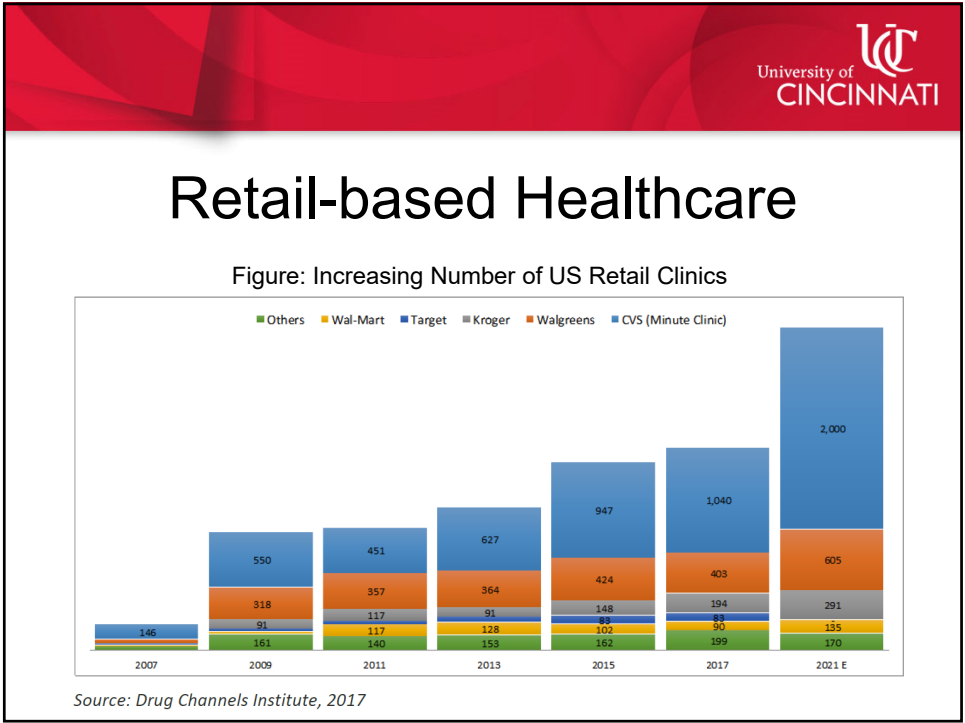
- Supermarkets and grocery stores represent a highly competitive, low-margin, and slow growth market.

Goals:

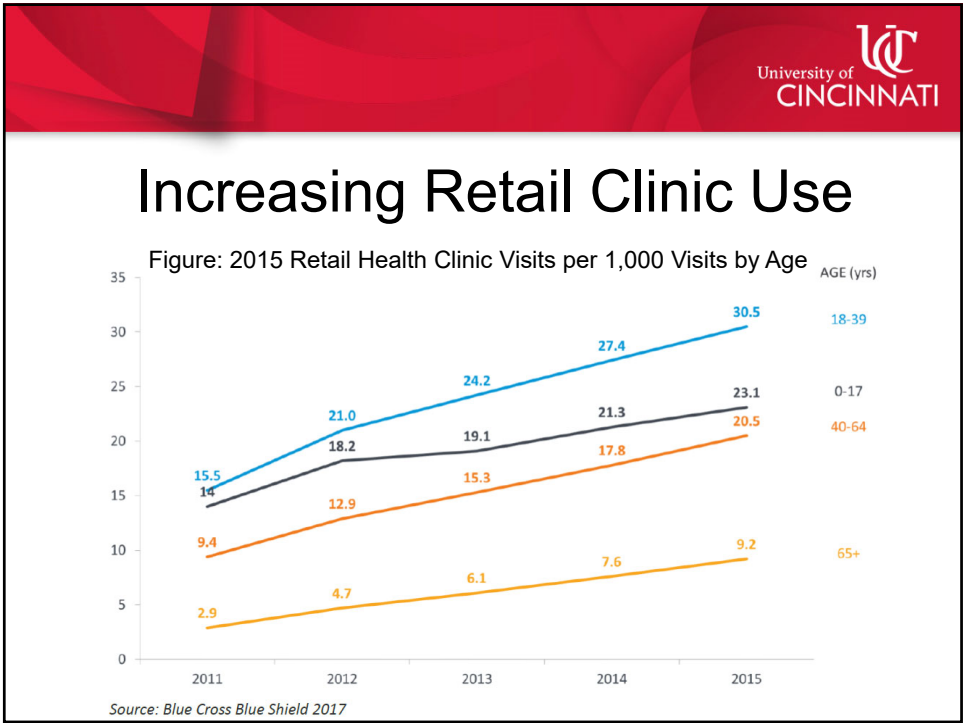
- Increase store traffic, cross- and up-sell products, improve customer experience, and improve brand.

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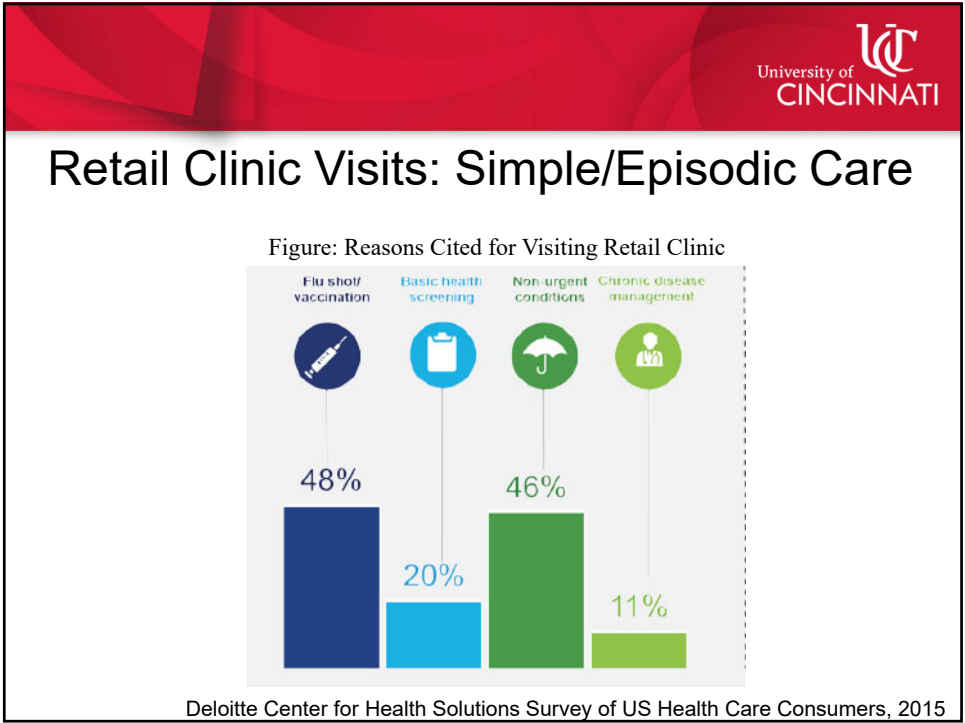
4 of 27



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# Disruption in the Retail Industry

Opportunity to Engage Retail Industry in Research

*Amazon Deal for Whole Foods Starts a Supermarket War*

By RACHEL ABRAMS and JULIE CHERPILLÉ - JUNE 16, 2017

RELATED BY

**Macy's to Close 100 Stores Beginning Next Year to Refocus on Online**

By JEANETTE TORRES and PAUL BLAKE - Aug 19, 2016, 11:27 AM ET

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NEWS

Amazon To Buy One Medical for \$  
Investigates

RETAIL

CVS says it plans to launch  
care by year-end

HEALTHCARE • EDITORS' PICK

Walmart May Soon Become  
The Largest Primary Care  
Provider In The Country

Kroger Health Reduces  
to COVID-19 Treatment  
Nationwide

CVS Health to launch new  
virtual primary care solution  
single digital platform

RETAIL HEALTH, HEALTH SERVICES, PHARMACY

Walgreens bets all its chips on a new  
healthcare strategy. Will patients buy in?

The company launched a new health division, and has doubled down on its plans to open primary care clinics with VillageMD. It faces big competitors in CVS and Walmart, and it'll take time to see if its new strategy pays off.

By ELISE REUTER  
Post a comment / Nov 21, 2022

Inside Kroger Health's food-as-medicine playbook

As it expands its nutrition scoring, food prescriptions and dietitian-focused approach, the health solutions arm of the grocery company aims to tie healthy eating to disease prevention.

AUG 3 2022-6:11  
Published Oct. 3, 2022

Walgreens gets serious about its move into healthcare

Last Updated: Oct. 15, 2022 at 10:34 a.m. ET  
First Published: Oct. 13, 2022 at 2:31 p.m. ET

HEALTHCARE

Walmart Launches  
Healthcare Research  
Institute As Provider  
Footprint Grows

Amazon's Growth In  
Healthcare Is Unparalleled

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Opportunity for Research Studies

Example: CVS Health – BWH/UPenn

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Randomized Trial of Four Financial-Incentive Programs for Smoking Cessation

Scott D. Halpern, M.D., Ph.D., Benjamin French, Ph.D., Dylan S. Small, Ph.D., Kathryn Saulsgriver, Ph.D., Michael O. Harhay, M.P.H., Janet Audrain-McGovern, Ph.D., George Loewenstein, Ph.D., Troyen A. Brennan, M.D., J.D., David A. Asch, M.D., M.B.A., and Kevin G. Volpp, M.D., Ph.D.

JAMA Internal Medicine | Original Investigation

Effect of Reminder Devices on Medication Adherence  
The REMIND Randomized Clinical Trial

Nitesh K. Choudhry, MD, PhD; Alexis A. Krumme, MS; Patrick M. Ercole, PhD, MPH; Charmaine Girdish, MPH; Angela Y. Tong, MS; Nazdeen F. Khan, BS; Troyen A. Brennan, MD, JD, MPH; Olga S. Matlin, PhD; William H. Shrank, MD, MSHS; Jessica M. Franklin, PhD


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Topics

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Kroger Company: Ideal Partner

Largest U.S. Supermarket Chain

Infrastructure for More Complex Interventions:

- Accessible and convenient physical store footprint
- Full grocery inventory and pharmacy
- In-store health professionals (e.g. dietitians, nurses)
- Growing customer-centric model (e.g. mobile)
- Big data and analytics expertise

Partnership Research Foci:

- Chronic disease management
- Randomized, clinical trials
- Establishing new standards of conduct (e.g. retention)

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## Building Multicomponent Interventions

Trial 1

Diet

Trial 2

Diet

Trial 3

Diet

Medications

Medications

Monitoring

+

+

+

+

+

Each trial add a new component, while incorporating the findings from the previous trial

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## Vision for Integrated Healthcare


Research Partner: UC Primary Care Network

Key Attributes:


- Goal is value (i.e. outcomes/cost): CPC+
- Alignment with potential benefits of retailers
- Parallel ambulatory innovation efforts
- Provides access to comprehensive payer database
- Provider study recruitment/retention support



Dr. Bernard Lenchitz



Kristen Wevers



Dr. Nita Walker

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# ***SuperWIN Trial***

**(Supermarket and Web-Based Intervention Targeting Nutrition)**

## **ACC 2022: Late-breaking Clinical Trial**

**Dylan L. Steen M.D., M.S.**, Robert N. Helsley, Ph.D., Deepak L. Bhatt, M.D., M.P.H.,  
Eileen C. King, Ph.D., Suzanne S. Summer, Ph.D., R.D.N., Matthew Fenchel, M.S.,  
Brian E. Saelens, Ph.D., Mark H. Eckman, M.D., M.S., Sarah C. Couch, Ph.D., R.D.N.



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# Background

Despite guideline recommendations, 75% of Americans have poor dietary quality.

*In 2019, an AHA Scientific Advisory requested “immediate action” to address this gap. Specifically:*

- *Sponsored research with retailers (e.g. supermarkets)*
- *Studies of online shopping to promote healthier purchases*
- *Studies of nutrition applications*



versus



Bundy JD, et al. JAHA. 2021

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Super

# Training Research Coordinators








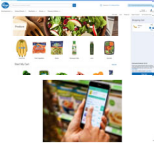
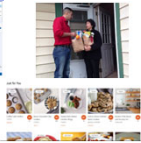
(Kroger Dietitians)










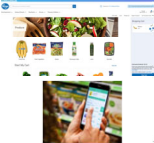
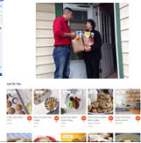
Training Session: March 2019

Couch SB, Hensley RM, Siegel FJ, et al, Green DL, AMJ, 2022

22

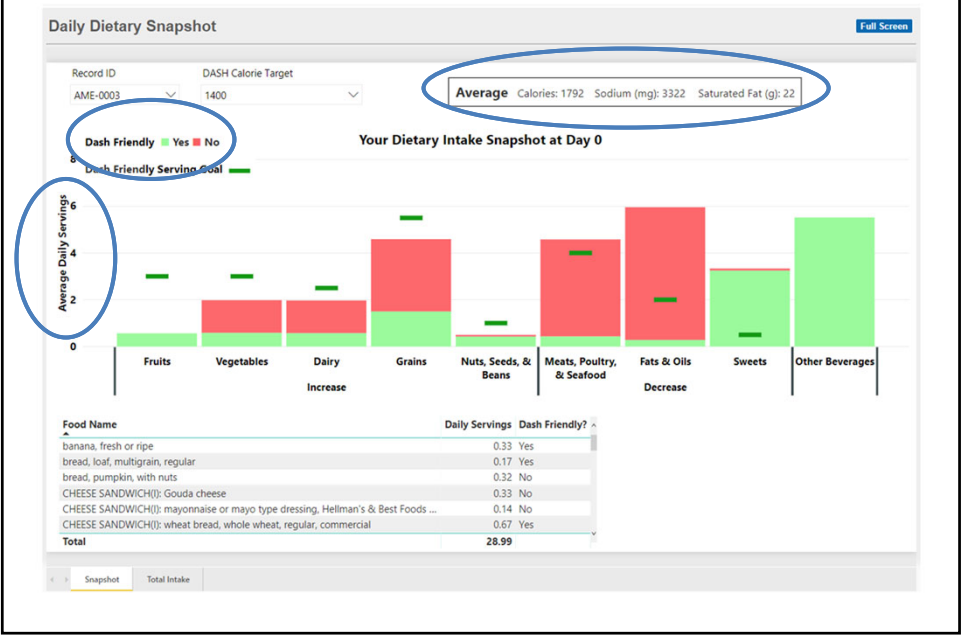
Dietary Education		
Control	Strategy 1	Strategy 2
Medical Nutrition Therapy (30min)	Medical Nutrition Therapy (30min)	Medical Nutrition Therapy (30min)
		
Randomized 1:2:2		
	Purchasing data-guided, "in the aisles" education (6 sessions- 60min each)	Purchasing data-guided, "in the aisles" education (6 sessions- 60min each)
	 	 
		Stepwise introduction and training on technologies (e.g., online shopping)
		 

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# Individualized Dietary Review












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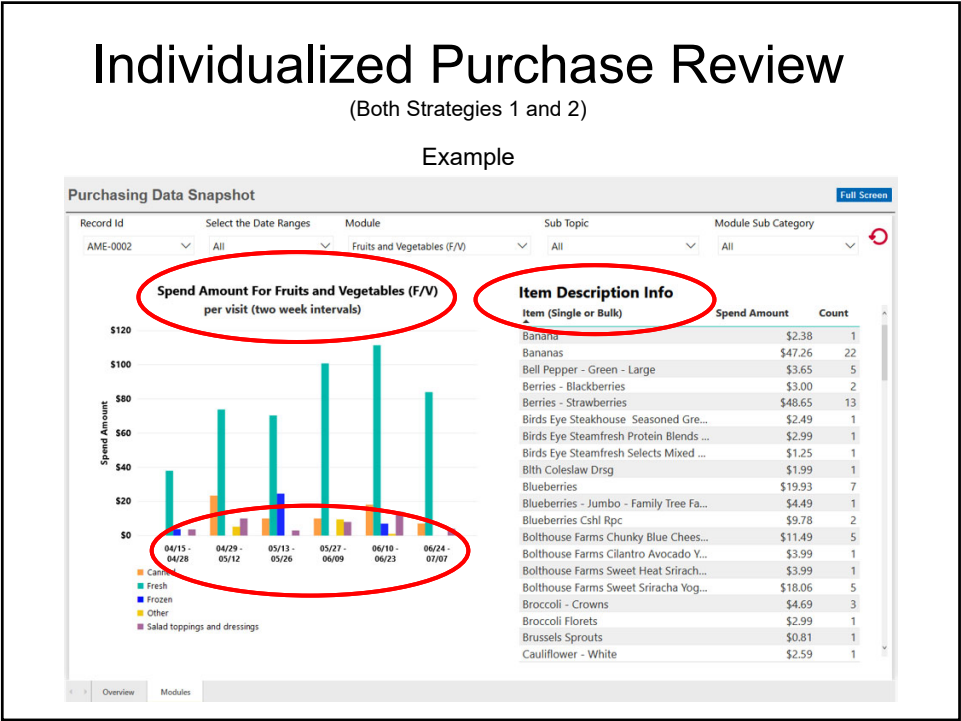
# Dietary Education

Control	Strategy 1	Strategy 2
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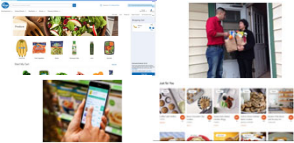
26

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Control	Strategy 1	Strategy 2
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	Purchasing data-guided, "in the aisles" education (6 sessions- 60min each)	Purchasing data-guided, "in the aisles" education (6 sessions- 60min each)
	 	 
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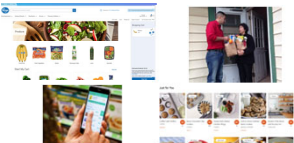
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# “In the Aisles” Education


(Both Strategies 1 and 2)

## Performed each visit




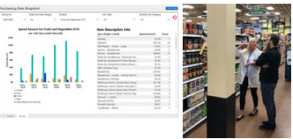
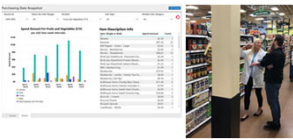
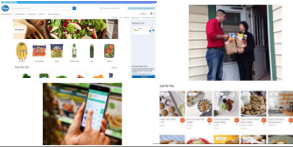
- Provides education (e.g. label reading)
- Sets goals and action plans (e.g. trying new foods)

## Harnesses dietitians’ expertise

- Knowledge of the store layout and its inventory
- Guided by customer preferences/purchases




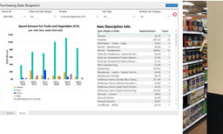
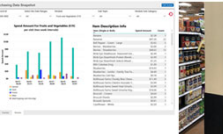
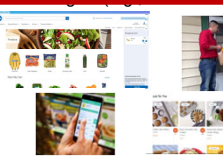


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Dietary Education		
Control	Strategy 1	Strategy 2
Medical Nutrition Therapy (30min) 	Medical Nutrition Therapy (30min) 	Medical Nutrition Therapy (30min) 
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Stepwise Online/Digital Intervention		
1) Online shopping with store pick-up or home delivery.		
 Kroger.com	 Kroger App	 Grocery Runners
2) Supporting better food choices		
• Kroger's OptUP App		
		
3) Meal planning/recipe-building		
• Yummly Website/App		
		

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# Hypothesis Testing

**Two tests for DASH score change (baseline to 3 months):**

**1. What is the efficacy of data-guided, in-store teaching?**

Strategies 1 and 2 versus Control (“S1/S2 vs. Control”)

*if  $p < 0.05$ , then*

**2. What is the efficacy of online shopping and nutrition apps?**

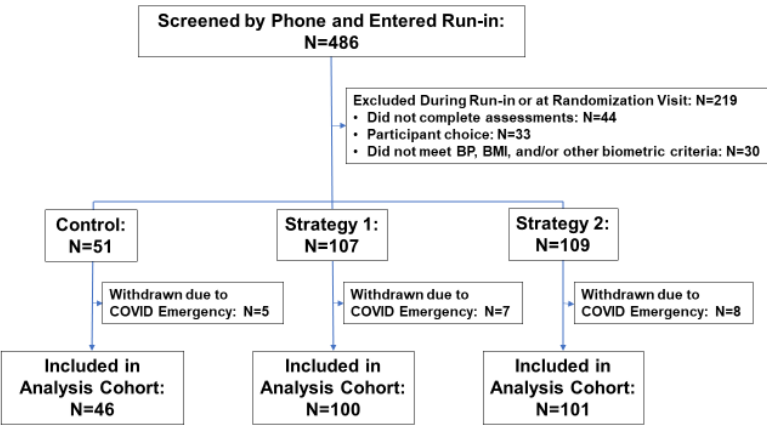
Strategy 2 versus Strategy 1 (“S2 vs. S1”)

**DASH score:**

- Measure of DASH diet adherence
- Range 0-90
- Increased score = increased adherence

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# SuperWIN Trial Profile



**OVERALL COHORT: N=247**

COVID-19 stopped the trial on 3/13/2020 (participants withdrawn due to immediate safety concerns). Trial resumed in 6/2020. COVID-19 Impact Analyses Prespecified Prior to Database Lock.

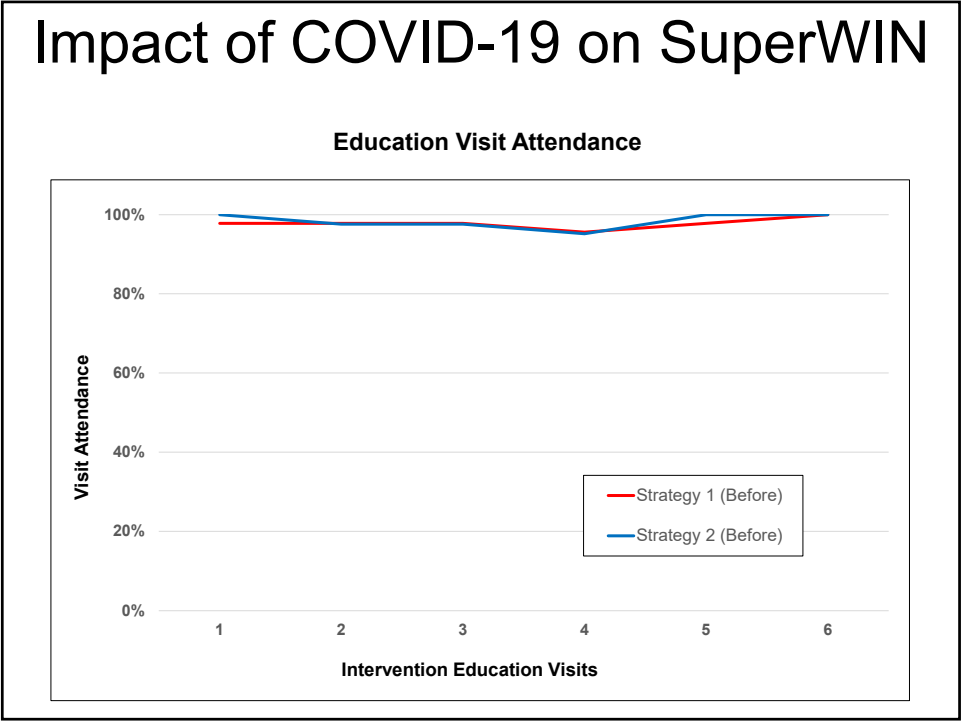
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Baseline Characteristics			
Variable	Control (n=46)	Strategy 1 (n=100)	Strategy 2 (n=101)
Age - mean - yr	56.2 (11.4)	57.0 (10.7)	55.8 (11.0)
Female - %	69.6%	68.0%	70.3%
Race - %			
Black or African American	13.0%	23.0%	21.8%
White	78.3%	73.0%	71.3%
Household annual income ≥\$125,000 - %	28.3%	37.0%	39.6%
Children in the household – mean (SD)	0.33 (0.67)	0.43 (0.89)	0.42 (0.89)
Prior myocardial infarction or stroke - %	10.9%	7.0%	5.0%
Hypertension medications - %	67.4%	77.0%	72.3%
Blood pressure- mean (SD) - mm Hg			
Systolic	130.0 (16.4)	129.8 (18.6)	128.4 (14.9)
Diastolic	85.7 (11.1)	82.1 (11.6)	83.4 (10.4)
Body mass index- mean (SD) - kg/m²	33.8 (7.2)	34.0 (7.9)	32.9 (8.1)
Hypercholesterolemia medications - %	43.5%	47.0%	36.6%
Non-HDL cholesterol - mean (SD) - mg/dl	107.0 (32.5)	115.2 (37.0)	112.5 (35.3)

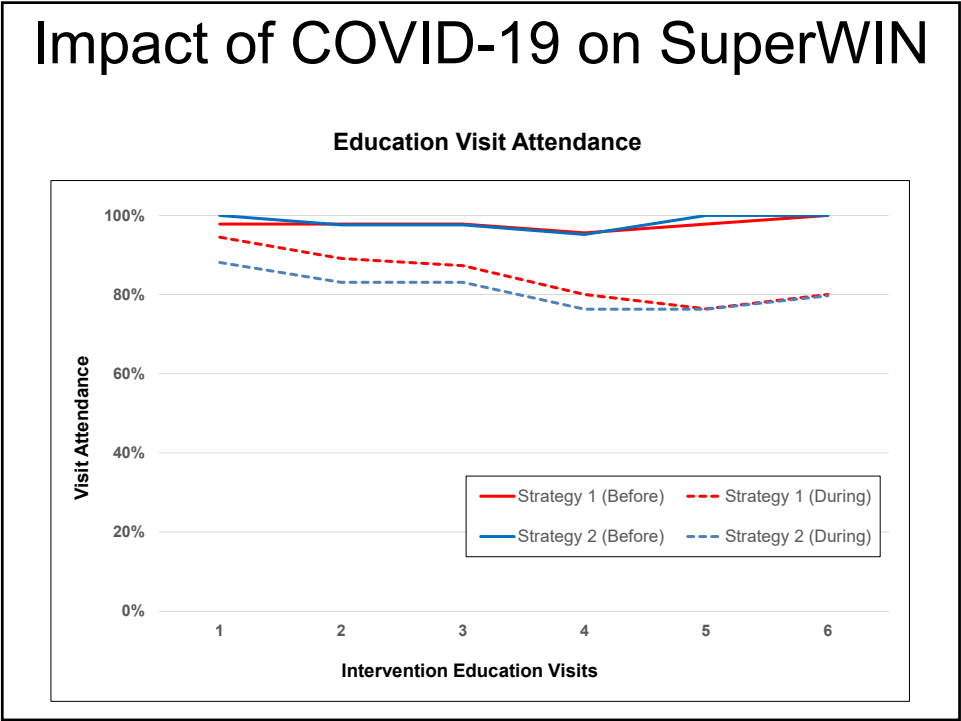
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## DASH Changes at 3 months

Overall Cohort	Control (N=46)	Strategy 1 (N=100)	Strategy 2 (N=101)
At baseline	45.2 (42.0, 48.4)	44.4 (42.0, 46.8)	43.2 (40.8, 45.5)
At 3 months	51.0 (47.6, 54.4)	53.1 (50.6, 55.5)	55.6 (53.2, 58.1)
DASH Change	5.8 (2.5, 9.2)	8.6 (6.4, 10.8)	12.4 (10.3, 14.6)

Endpoints are reported as least-squares means (95%CI).

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## DASH Changes at 3 months

Overall Cohort	Control (N=46)	Strategy 1 (N=100)	Strategy 2 (N=101)	S1/S2 vs. Control	P-value
At baseline	45.2 (42.0, 48.4)	44.4 (42.0, 46.8)	43.2 (40.8, 45.5)		
At 3 months	51.0 (47.6, 54.4)	53.1 (50.6, 55.5)	55.6 (53.2, 58.1)		
DASH Change	5.8 (2.5, 9.2)	8.6 (6.4, 10.8)	12.4 (10.3, 14.6)	4.7 (0.9, 8.5)	0.02

Endpoints are reported as least-squares means (95%CI).

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## DASH Changes at 3 months

Overall Cohort	Control (N=46)	Strategy 1 (N=100)	Strategy 2 (N=101)	S1/S2 vs. Control	P-value	S2 vs. S1	P-value
At baseline	45.2 (42.0, 48.4)	44.4 (42.0, 46.8)	43.2 (40.8, 45.5)				
At 3 months	51.0 (47.6, 54.4)	53.1 (50.6, 55.5)	55.6 (53.2, 58.1)				
DASH Change	5.8 (2.5, 9.2)	8.6 (6.4, 10.8)	12.4 (10.3, 14.6)	4.7 (0.9, 8.5)	0.02	3.8 (0.8, 6.9)	0.01

Endpoints are reported as least-squares means (95%CI).

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## DASH Changes at 6 months

Overall Cohort	Control (n=46)	Strategy 1 (n=100)	Strategy 2 (n=101)
At baseline	45.2 (42.0, 48.4)	44.4 (42.0, 46.8)	43.2 (40.8, 45.5)
At 6 months	49.6 (46.3, 52.8)	51.0 (48.6, 53.5)	51.6 (49.2, 54.0)
DASH Change	4.4 (0.6, 8.1)	6.6 (4.0, 9.2)	8.4 (5.9, 11.0)

Endpoints are reported as least-squares means (95%CI).

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At baseline	45.2 (42.0, 48.4)	44.4 (42.0, 46.8)	43.2 (40.8, 45.5)		
At 6 months	49.6 (46.3, 52.8)	51.0 (48.6, 53.5)	51.6 (49.2, 54.0)		
DASH Change	4.4 (0.6, 8.1)	6.6 (4.0, 9.2)	8.4 (5.9, 11.0)	3.1 (-1.0, 7.3)	0.14

Endpoints are reported as least-squares means (95%CI).

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## DASH Changes at 6 months

Overall Cohort	Control (n=46)	Strategy 1 (n=100)	Strategy 2 (n=101)	S1/S2 vs. Control	P-value	S2 vs. S1	P-value
At baseline	45.2 (42.0, 48.4)	44.4 (42.0, 46.8)	43.2 (40.8, 45.5)				
At 6 months	49.6 (46.3, 52.8)	51.0 (48.6, 53.5)	51.6 (49.2, 54.0)				
DASH Change	4.4 (0.6, 8.1)	6.6 (4.0, 9.2)	8.4 (5.9, 11.0)	3.1 (-1.0, 7.3)	0.14	1.8 (-1.9, 5.5)	0.34

Endpoints are reported as least-squares means (95%CI).

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## Summary

- DASH adherence increased in every group at 3 and 6 months.
- Both interventions were efficacious:
  - Visits using store's physical environment, dietitians, and purchasing data.
  - Addition of education on new online shopping and nutrition apps.
- Near-perfect visit attendance suggesting:
  - Excellent participant experience.
  - Ability to run studies with retail stores and employees.
- Academic/Retail research collaborations can be strong enough to design and execute high-quality clinical trials.

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## Topics

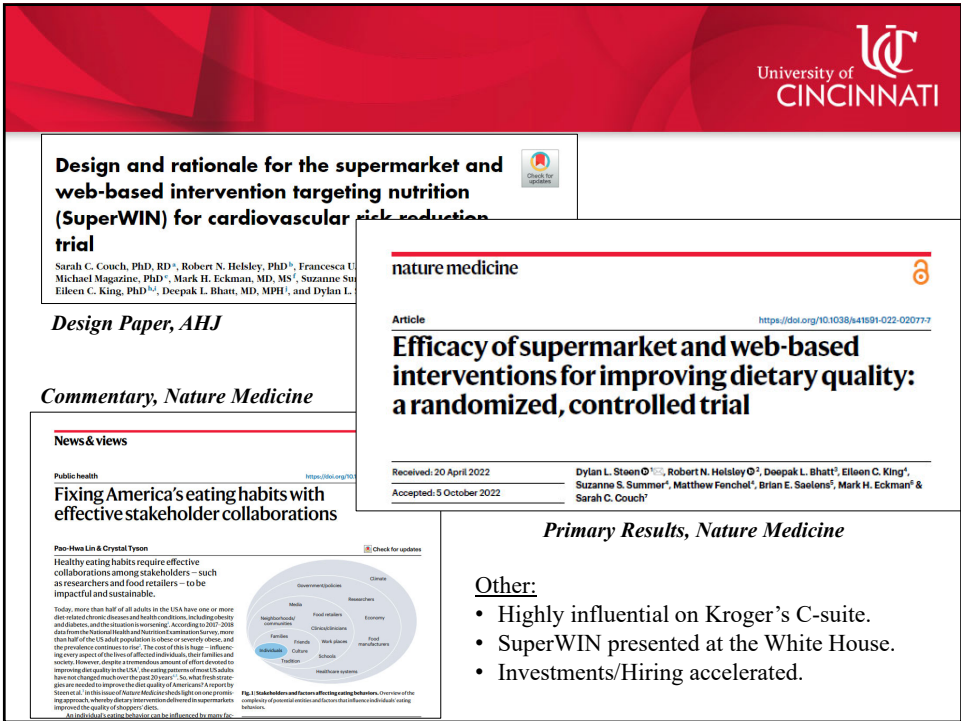
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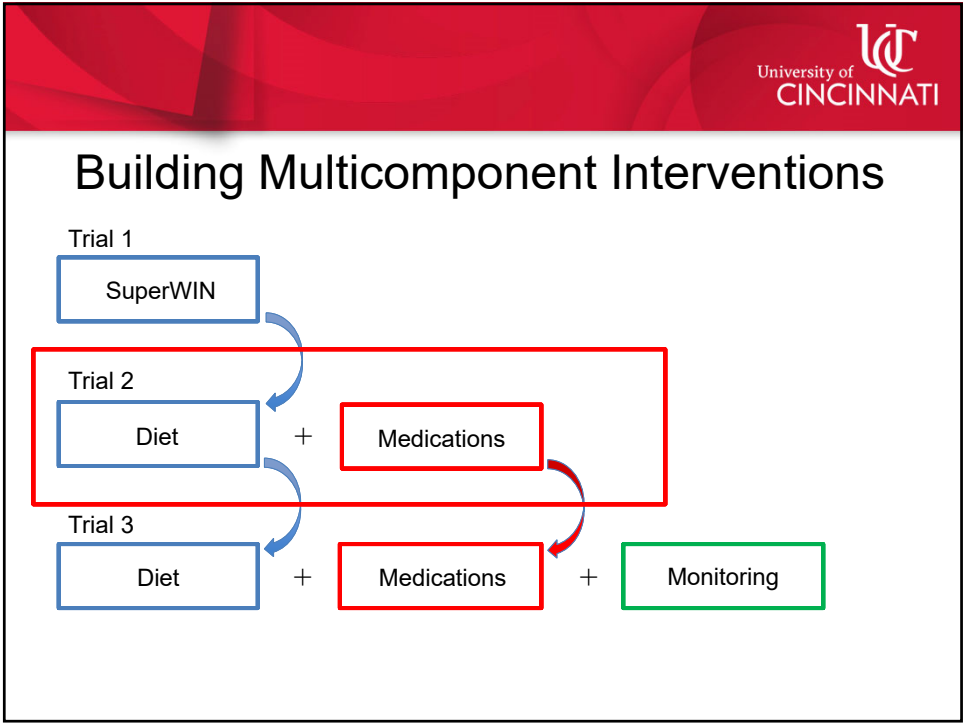




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## Topics


- Industry observations and opportunity
- Choosing a retailer and strategy
- SuperWIN Trial
- Post-SuperWIN activity
- **Final thoughts**


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More Doors Need to be Opened

Opportunities

  
Physicians + Equipment

  
Transportation

  
Fitness/Rehab

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Exploring a New Cardiac Rehab Model


Cardiac Patients  
(Healthcare System)

Rehab Program  
(Anytime Fitness)

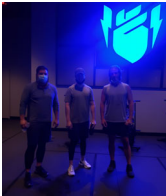
Post-Rehab Program  
Anytime Fitness

Anytime Fitness:

- 24/7 access
- ~4,700 locations
- Physical therapists
- All equipment



Dave Mortenson  
President and Co-founder  
SE Brands (Minn)



With Ryan Eder  
CEO and Founder,  
IncludeHealth

Benefits might include convenience, access, effectiveness, persistence, fun!

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