Act requires officials to review how US dietary guidelines are formulated

In this News story (BMJ 2015;351:h6930, doi:10.1136/bmj.h6930), we said that the new US dietary guidelines, due to be published this month, would recommend that people should “reduce the total energy in their diet from saturated fat to 10%, down from 30% in previous guidelines.”

It was incorrect to say that the previous guidelines recommended that people should not consume more than 30% of their energy from saturated fat. The previous 2010 guidelines had recommended that total fat intake—not saturated fat intake—be kept between 20 to 35% of calories. In a shift, the new Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee scientific report recommended that the new guidelines “should put the emphasis on optimizing types of dietary fat and not reducing total fat.”

We apologise for this error.

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