data. We used nutritional intake patterns (3x 24h recall per visit) of 1754 older Quebeckers from the NuAge cohort to predict multi-system homeostatic dysregulation scores calculated from 30 biomarkers. Intermediate intake of both macro- and micronutrients was generally associated with lower dysregulation scores (i.e., better health). Furthermore, there were often nutrient-nutrient interactions, such that the optimal level of one nutrient depends on the intake level of others. However, higher protein intake was generally associated with better health, and results varied substantially across different dysregulation systems. Accordingly, even though nutrition does have important effects on health trajectories during aging, it will be challenging to arrive at population-level recommendations to fine-tune nutrient intake patterns to optimize health beyond “everything in moderation.” Part of a symposium sponsored by the Nutrition Interest Group.

NUTRITIONAL ECOLOGY, NUTRITIONAL GEOMETRY, AND AGING RESEARCH

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Substantial advances have been made in understanding both evolutionary and mechanistic aspects of biological ageing, but the two areas remain poorly integrated. I suggest that a greater emphasis on ecology can help to integrate evolutionary and mechanistic research on ageing, by providing insight into the interface between biological mechanisms and the environments in which they evolved. Among the most salient aspects of the environment relevant to ageing is nutrition. And yet in the bulk of ageing research nutrition is coarsely represented as dietary restriction or caloric restriction, without consideration for which components of the diet or which energetic substrates are driving the observed effects. I show how a method developed in nutritional ecology, called the nutritional geometry framework, can help to understand the nutritional interactions of animals with their environments, by explicitly distinguishing the roles of calories, individual nutrients and nutrient balance. Part of a symposium sponsored by the Nutrition Interest Group.

COMPARING THE EFFECTS OF LOW-PROTEIN AND HIGH-CARBOHYDRATE DIETS AND CALORIC RESTRICTION ON BRAIN AGING IN MICE

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The Geometric Framework for Nutrition (GFN) has revealed that ad-libitum low-protein, high-carbohydrate (LPHC) diets improve cardiometabolic health and extend lifespan in rodents, but it is not known whether these diets are also beneficial for brain health. Here, we utilized previous results from GFN studies and compared hippocampus biology and memory in mice subjected to 20% calorie restriction (CR) or provided ad-libitum access to several LPHC diets. RNA expression in the hippocampus of 15-month-old mice were similar between mice fed CR and LPHC diets. Nutrient-sensing proteins, including SIRT1, MTOR, and PGC1-alpha, were also influenced by diet; however, the effects varied by sex. CR and LPHC diets were associated with increased dendritic spines in dentate gyrus neurons. Mice fed CR and LPHC diets had modest improvements in the Barnes maze spatial recognition memory paradigm and novel object recognition test. LPHC diets recapitulate some of the benefits of CR on brain aging. Part of a symposium sponsored by the Nutrition Interest Group.

DIET COMPOSITION, ADHERENCE TO CALORIE RESTRICTION, AND CARDIOMETABOLIC DISEASE RISK MODIFICATION

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Calorie restriction (CR) is a promising strategy to attenuate age-related disease risk. Higher protein diets enhance satiety but may also impair metabolic health and accelerate aging. The effect of higher protein intake on adherence to CR and cardiometabolic markers of healthspan remains unknown. We used the Geometric Framework for Nutrition to examine the association between diet composition and 1) CR adherence; and 2) cardiometabolic risk factors during a 2-year intervention. The CR group consumed higher percentage energy from protein and lower fat at 12 months compared to baseline (logit % protein=0.1; 95% CI=0.05, 0.15; logit % fat= -0.12; CI=-0.29, -0.18). Higher protein intake over the 2-year intervention was associated with higher adherence to CR. No effect of diet composition on cardiometabolic risk factors was observed. These findings suggest that dietary protein plays a critical role in adherence to CR with no adverse effects on cardiometabolic markers of healthspan. Part of a symposium sponsored by the Nutrition Interest Group.

SESSION 7670 (SYMPOSIUM)

THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF AGEISM

Chair: Paul Nash
Co-Chair: Tonya Taylor
Discussant: Becca Levy

Ageism is unlike any other form of prejudice in that, all things being equal, we are all at risk of experiencing it as we age. Whilst this stands true, many communities experience discrimination in other domains such as gender, race,
sexuality and disability. As these communities age they are likely to experience cumulative or intersectional disadvantage due to multiple stigmatized group memberships. Where it is understood that there are negative health (cognition, gait speed, longevity, cardiovascular) and psychological (depression, stress, anxiety) outcomes associated with each form of discrimination, the often focused research is less than conclusive regarding the consequences of intersectional discrimination. Using both qualitative and quantitative methodologies from across the US, this symposium explores the impacts of ageism with regard to HIV status, disability status, race/ethnicity and LGBT identification. Exploring the intersections of ageism, each paper will highlight the challenges faced by the respective communities as well as some of the ways to address this using policy, practice and highlighting where additional research would be needed to fully understand the phenomena. Finally the discussant will summarise and collate ideas for a concluding panel discussion.

AGEISM IN HIV RESEARCH
Tonya Taylor, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, New York, United States

Sex and sexuality are important determinants of health and wellbeing across the life course. The desire and capacity for sexual intimacy and pleasure among older adults are neglected areas of research due to ageist assumptions that they no longer engage in sexual activity. These assumptions are most pronounced in HIV research, where we aggressively studied intimate details of sexual behaviors of people living with HIV until they became “old.” Interest in the sexual behaviors among older adults with HIV has waned in HIV prevention, suggesting an inherent ageism within the field. We will discuss emerging new HIV and STI risks for older adults, declining trends in gerosexuality funding, HIV media campaigns targeted for older adults, and new evidence that suggest that interventions that engage older adults with HIV in conversations about sexual health, menopause, and erectile dysfunction may be an effective strategy for promoting overall successful aging.

AGEISM AND PEOPLE WITH EARLY-ONSET DISABILITY
Patricia Heyn, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado, United States

People with disabilities are underrepresented in health research and usually they are explicitly excluded from research participation. There are no longitudinal studies that follows cohorts with disabilities to learn about their healthspan and aging processes. Thus, we know very little about how people with early onset disability age, and the medical conditions and health risk factors contributing to the “accelerated aging” phenomena commonly observed in this population. Our research group has been following a cohort group of individuals with pediatric onset disability since 2013. We collected pediatric and adult data from 70 persons with cerebral palsy and we evaluated key health outcomes as well as their access to care. In this session, we will present some of the key findings from our longitudinal study. We will discuss future research and key areas that needs to be addressed for us to properly move forward this urgent unmet area of aging research.

CRITICAL INTERSECTIONALITY, AGEISM, AND INTERGENERATIONAL SUPPORTS FOREGROUNDING BLACK SGL AND GAY OLDER MEN
Angela Perone, Beth Glover Reed, and Danae Ross, 1. University of Michigan, Ypsilanti, Michigan, United States, 2. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States

Using critical intersectionality frameworks, this project foregrounds how Black same-gender-loving (SGL), gay, and bisexual older men navigate complexities of interacting positionality (e.g. race, gender, sexual orientation, HIV-status, and class). This study employs and further develops intracategorical and intercategorical analytic methods with data from eight focus groups, conducted as part of a larger collaborative project in Detroit. Data from two intragroup focus groups with Black same-gender-loving older men and six subsequent intergroup focus groups with Black and white lesbian, gay, bisexual, SGL, and queer participants of various ages revealed concerns and responses to barriers and facilitators for intergenerational support and intergenerational transfer of knowledge. Building on intersectionality frameworks of power, this research provides new insights from a vastly underrepresented and understudied community about how shifting contexts shape how experiences of oppression like racism, ageism, and homophobia interact and reveal potential opportunities for intergenerational supports moving forward.

RELATION ORIENTATION AND AGEISM: A CROSS-CULTURAL COMPARISON BETWEEN CHINESE AND AMERICANS
Xin Zhang, Peking University, Beijing, China

Attitudes toward older adults were negatively associated with ageism. However, whether this association is universal or cultural specific remained unknown. On the basis of well-documented cultural difference in relation orientation between westerners and easterners, this study aimed to investigate whether participants of different cultural background would show different association between ageism and attitudes toward close vs. non-close older adults in a sample of 211 Chinese (Mean age = 33.27) and 241 American (Mean age = 34.56) younger adults. Multiple regressions were conducted, and as expected, attitudes toward older adults (of different relation orientation) were found to be associated with ageism differently in two cultures. For American participants, attitudes toward both close and non-close older adults significantly correlated with ageism, while only attitudes toward close older adults were significant predictors of ageism in Chinese sample. This result had important implications for understanding and intervening ageism with people of different culture background.

SESSION 7675 (SYMPOSIUM)

HIV AND AGING: TRACKING THE EPIDEMIC VIA THE 30-YEAR HISTORY OF GSA'S HIV INTEREST GROUP
Chair: Charles Emlet