

# Factors Associated With Choice of Web or Print Intervention Materials in the Healthy Directions 2 Study

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#### **Abstract**

Background. Many U.S. adults have multiple behavioral risk factors, and effective, scalable interventions are needed to promote population-level health. In the health care setting, interventions are often provided in print, although accessible to nearly everyone, are brief (e.g., pamphlets), are not interactive, and can require some logistics around distribution. Web-based interventions offer more interactivity but may not be accessible to all. Healthy Directions 2 was a primary care—based cluster randomized controlled trial designed to improve five behavioral cancer risk factors among a diverse sample of adults (n = 2,440) in metropolitan Boston. Intervention materials were available via print or the web. *Purpose*. To (a) describe the Healthy Directions 2 study design and (b) identify baseline factors associated with whether participants opted for print or web-based materials. *Methods*. Hierarchical regression models corrected for clustering by physician were built to examine factors associated with choice of intervention modality. *Results*. At baseline, just 4.0% of participants met all behavioral recommendations. Nearly equivalent numbers of intervention participants opted for print and web-based materials (44.6% vs. 55.4%). Participants choosing web-based materials were younger, and reported having a better financial status, better perceived health, greater computer comfort, and more frequent Internet use (p < .05) than those opting for print. In addition, Whites were more likely to pick web-based material than Black participants. *Conclusions*. Interventions addressing multiple behaviors are needed in the primary care setting, but they should be available in web and print formats as nearly equal number of participants choose each option, and there are significant differences in the population groups using each modality.

#### **Keywords**

computer-based health education, health promotion, multiple risk behaviors, multiple risk factor interventions, print intervention

Leading causes of morbidity and mortality among adults living in the United States adults are influenced by multiple behavioral risk factors, such as physical inactivity, unhealthful diet, and smoking, which often occur together (Berrigan, Dodd, Troiano, Krebs-Smith, & Barbash, 2003; Fine, Philogene, Gramling, Coups, & Sinha, 2004; Reeves & Rafferty, 2005). As a result, there is increasing emphasis on addressing multiple behavioral risk factors. There has recently been work to develop effective multiple behavioral risk interventions, although largely conducted in or through workplaces (Emmons, 1997; Emmons et al., 2003; Emmons, Linnan, Shadel, Marcus, & Abrams, 1999; Harley et al., 2010; Prochaska et al., 2008; Sorensen, Emmons, et al., 2003; Sorensen, Stoddard, et al., 2003; Sorensen et al., 2010) or with specific chronic disease populations (Eakin et al., 2007; Toobert et al., 2007; Toobert et al., 2011; Toobert, Strycker, Barrera, & Glasgow, 2010). However, the health

care setting provides an important venue to intervene on multiple risk behaviors at the population level, and feasible strategies are needed to help providers address all of a patient's risk behaviors simultaneously (Hyman, Pavlik, Taylor, Goodrick, & Moye, 2007; Orleans, 2004; Pronk,

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Peek, & Goldstein, 2004). Although some studies have been undertaken in Australia (Parekh, Vandelanotte, King, & Boyle, 2012a, 2012b), there is a need to understand the extent to which patients in the United States present to the primary care setting with multiple risk behaviors.

Furthermore, it is important to develop interventions for multiple risk behaviors that are scalable and sustainable in the primary care setting. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act calls for engaging patients in their health care (Honoré et al., 2011; Koh & Sebelius, 2010) and behavior change interventions must be well used if they are to lead to population-level health improvement. That means that developed interventions and intervention strategies need to be responsive to the needs of recipients. Yet, in the health care setting, interventions are often developed for the least interactive strategy (e.g., print) that is available to everyone, although it is likely that intervention recipients will include individuals with computer and Internet access as well as those without access. Print interventions are often brief (e.g., pamphlets), not interactive, and require planning around the logistics of distribution. Web-based interventions offer more interactivity but may not be accessible to all patients. Designing and implementing interventions that allow individuals to use their preferred or best resources available to them, and not be limited by what is available to the entire population, may promote greater intervention engagement and ultimately greater population change. Research is needed to determine what factors are associated with preferred intervention modality (web vs. print) as this may maximize participants' engagement with the intervention as well as intervention reach.

Healthy Directions 1 (HD1) was a multiple risk behavior change intervention implemented in a primary care setting that was developed for adults living in low-income, multiethnic neighborhoods. HD1 led to significant improvement across multiple cancer risk behaviors (Emmons et al., 2003; Emmons, Stoddard, et al., 2005; Sorensen et al., 2005), but the intervention included an in-person counseling session plus four follow-up telephone sessions, which are difficult to sustain in the primary care setting. Healthy Directions 2 (HD2) evaluates an adaptation of HD1 designed to promote health at the population level by maximizing reach, while maintaining intervention effectiveness. HD2 was developed in two modalities, web or print, and participants selected their preferred intervention modality when enrolling in the study. The purpose of this article is to describe the HD2 study design and to use cross-sectional analyses to examine factors associated with participants' choice of intervention modality.

# Method

# Study Design

HD2 is a cluster randomized control trial conducted in two health centers in metropolitan Boston of a community-based

managed care practice organization. Randomization occurred at the primary care provider level with providers (n=33) being randomized to (a) usual care, (b) HD2 intervention delivered in web or print format, or (c) HD2 intervention materials plus two coaching calls (see Figure 1). HD2 addressed multiple behaviors simultaneously (physical activity, fruit and vegetable intake, red meat consumption, multivitamin use, smoking). All participating providers, regardless of randomization, were given a brief training on study protocols and messages.

# Study Participants and Recruitment

Eligibility requirements included (a) being aged 18+; (b) being able to read English; (c) not having a diagnosis of dementia, blindness, neurodegenerative, or psychiatric illness (previous 5 years); and (d) not undergoing cancer treatment (previous 12 months).

HD2 research staff sent potentially eligible patients a study introduction letter with "opt out" information. When checking in for a well visit or chronic disease management appointment, clinic reception staff provided patients with study-related information. HD2 staff then approached patients and confirmed eligibility and interest, obtained informed consent, and distributed the self-administered baseline survey. To assist in behavior change efforts, participants in the two intervention arms received a pedometer to track steps and a bottle of multivitamins. About half (52%, n = 2,440) of the patients approached consented to enrolled in the study; enrollees received a \$5 gift card. The study was approved by the Institutional Review Board at Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare.

# Intervention Conditions

*Usual care.* Usual care participants received the current standard of care offered by their providers, and publicly available pamphlets from health agencies (e.g., American Cancer Society), addressing the targeted behaviors.

HD2 intervention. The intervention was guided by the social contextual framework (Sorensen, Emmons, et al., 2003), and focused on influences at multiple levels (individual, interpersonal, and community; McLeroy, Bibeau, Steckler, & Glanz, 1988). Intervention components were selected for their ability to motivate and maintain behavior change, and for potential sustainability, and included (a) provider endorsement, (b) intervention materials (web or print), (c) two tailored feedback reports, (d) materials for one's social network, and (e) links to key community-based resources.

Providers verbally endorsed study participation and intervention targets using a brief script (<30 seconds) at the appointment when the participant enrolled in the study. Immediately on enrolling in the study, participants selected their preferred modality for the intervention materials. The

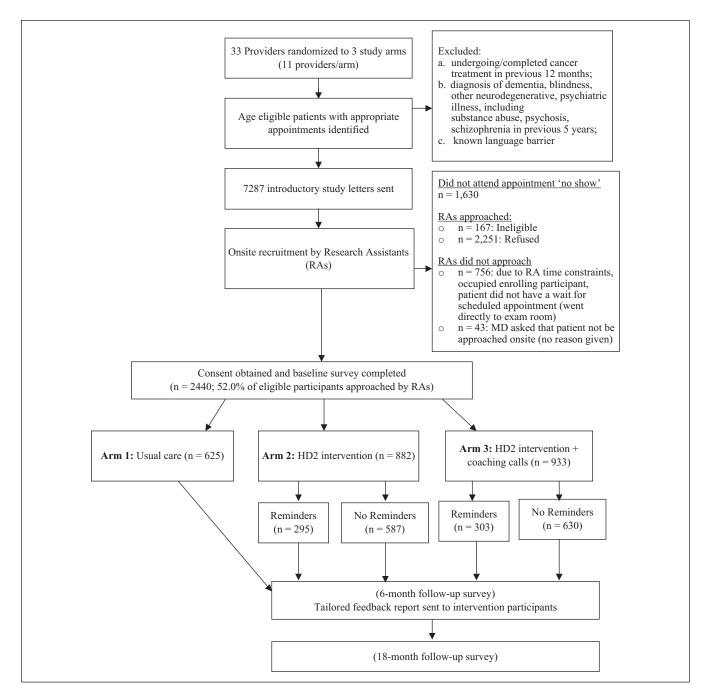


Figure 1. Health Directions 2 (HD2) study design.

content of the web and print intervention materials were similar, and emphasized changing multiple behaviors simultaneously. Participants were encouraged to work on changing all needed behaviors, and measurable behavioral goals for the targeted behaviors were provided: take a multivitamin daily, walk 10,000 steps/day, eat 5+ servings of fruits and vegetable/day, eat  $\le 3$  servings of red meat/week, and quit smoking.

Intervention participants received two tailored feedback reports (after enrollment and the 6-month survey). All reports were tailored, which is associated with greater behavior change (Broekhuizen, Kroeze, van Poppel, Oenema, & Brug, 2012; Krebs, Prochaska, & Rossi, 2010; Noar, Benac, & Harris, 2007). Reports were signed electronically by participant's provider, and used survey data to provide feedback on the targeted health behaviors by comparing participants'

behaviors with current behavioral recommendations. The second report also reported and provided feedback on the participants' changes in behavior from baseline to 6-month follow-up.

As interpersonal and community-level factors support behavior change (McLeroy et al., 1988), participants received a print booklet that included the web address for the HD2 social support website for family and members of their social network, and a community resource guide. The social network materials provided information about supporting the participant's behavior change efforts, whereas the community resource guide provided information about community resources to facilitate physical activity, healthful eating, and smoking cessation.

HD2 intervention plus coaching. Participants in this arm received all of the previously described intervention components plus two coaching calls from graduate-level health coaches trained in motivational interviewing (Miller & Rollnick, 2002). Calls took place shortly after enrollment and again 4 weeks later. The brief calls, designed to last between 5 and 10 minutes, were meant to increase use of and engagement with the intervention.

The HD2 study design makes it possible to determine the comparative effectiveness of the self-guided intervention versus the coached intervention on reducing multiple risk factors simultaneously compared with usual care. This study was not designed to examine the intervention components separately, but rather its impact as a whole.

# **Data Collection**

Participants completed a brief (~5 minutes), self-administered baseline survey that provided data for intervention tailoring. Follow-up survey data were collected at 6 months and 18 months post-baseline. This article examines baseline data only (collected in 2009).

## Measures

Outcome measure. The outcome measure for this article is participants' selected intervention modality (web or print), among participants in the two intervention arms.

Sociodemographic characteristics. We assessed race/ethnicity, education, marital/partner status, and participants' perceived financial status of their household (range: comfortable with some extra to cannot make ends meet). Age, sex, and primary care provider were obtained from the electronic medical record.

Health status. We assessed self-perceived health status using the one-item assessment from the Medical Outcomes Study Short-Form (Ware & Sherbourne, 1992). We used self-reported height and weight to calculate body mass index (BMI; kg/m²) and weight status.

Health behaviors. Physical activity was assessed using four questions from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC, n.d.) Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey that assessed moderate (brisk walking, biking, or anything that causes small increases in breathing or heart rate) and vigorous activity (running, aerobics, or anything else that causes large increases in breathing or heart rate; Estabrooks, Bradshaw, Dzewaltowski, & Smith-Ray, 2008; Macera et al., 2001). We summed reported minutes of moderate and vigorous physical activity into a total number of weekly minutes, and then dichotomized the variable as to whether a person met the current recommendation of 150+ minutes of moderate activity or 60+ minutes of vigorous activity or the equivalent per week (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2008).

Fruit and vegetable intake was assessed using the "5 A Day for Better Health" tool, a seven-item instrument covering different types of fruit and vegetable items with predetermined frequencies of intake (Serdula et al., 1993). We calculated total daily servings of fruits and vegetables (excluding fried potatoes and French fries), with 5+ servings/day being the daily recommended intake (U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2005).

Red meat intake was assessed with an abbreviated form of a semiquantitative Food Frequency Questionnaire (Willett et al., 1985). Responses were recoded to equivalent servings per week and summed to obtain total servings per week. Results were then dichotomized, with <3 serving/week being the recommendation (U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2005).

Multivitamin intake was assessed by asking respondents how many days per week, on average, they took a multivitamin (Emmons, McBride, et al., 2005). Participants were classified as meeting the recommendation if they reported taking a multivitamin at least 6 days per week.

*Smoking* was assessed using the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey Tobacco use module, which assesses lifetime and current smoking (CDC, n.d.). Nonsmokers were classified as meeting smoking guidelines.

Multiple risk behavior score. A multiple risk behavior score (MRB score) was calculated with participants given 1 point for each behavioral recommendation they did not meet (range:  $0 = no \ risk$  to  $5 = all \ risk \ behaviors$ ). The MRB score detects improvement in any or all behaviors, and recognizes that everyone may not need to improve all behaviors. When calculating the MRB score, participants with incomplete data for a measured behavior were classified as not meeting the recommendation for that behavior (n = 61).

Psychosocial and contextual factors. We assessed participants' self-efficacy to do 3+ of the targeted behaviors over the next 6 months (range: not at all confident to extremely confident) using a measure developed from our previous work (Emmons, McBride, et al., 2005). We also assessed

level of social resources for chronic illnesses management and healthful behaviors at the interpersonal (friends and family), neighborhood, and organizational levels using subscales from the Chronic Illness Resources Survey. Subscales were measured by three items on a 5-point scale (range: not at all to very often), which we used to calculate an average score (range: 0-4) with higher scores being indicative of greater support (Glasgow, Strycker, Toobert, & Eakin, 2000; Glasgow, Toobert, Barrera, & Strycker, 2005). We determined how comfortable participants were using computers (range: very uncomfortable to very comfortable) and frequency of Internet use (The Health Information National Trends Survey [HINTS]: http://hints.cancer.gov/).

# Data Analysis

Data were analyzed using a cluster design with provider being the primary sampling unit (cluster) and study subject as the secondary sampling unit. Due to the cluster design, data were weighted to the provider's panel size. We first calculated descriptive statistics for key variables to describe the entire study sample (weighted sample size = 49,415).

To examine factors associated with participants' choice of intervention modality, we limited analyses to intervention participants (weighted sample size = 32,691). We examined the correlation between age, education, and perceived health status and computer comfort and frequency of Internet. We then conducted bivariate analyses to examine the associations between participants' sociodemographic characteristics, health status and health behaviors, psychosocial and contextual factors and chosen modality. Variables significant at p < .05 in these analyses were included in building regression models that examined selected intervention modality. We built models sequentially with the first model including only the sociodemographic variables. After this we added to the model each of the computer-related variables, comfort with computers, and frequency of Internet use both individually and together. Last, we added the other predictor variables that were significant in the initial bivariate analyses. All analyses were conducted using SUDAAN 9.01 and SAS 9.3 statistical software accounting for the cluster design.

## Results

# **Participants**

Sociodemographic characteristics. Of the 2,440 participants (weighted sample = 49,415) who completed the baseline survey, 53.9% were White, 27.0% were Black, and 8.8% were Hispanic/Latino; the majority were female (65.8%). The mean age was 49.4 years (SD = 15), and when assessing household financial situation, 24.5% reported being unable to make ends meet or having to cut back (see Table 1).

**Table 1.** Description of the Healthy Directions 2 Sample (Weighted Sample = 49,415), Boston, Massachusetts.<sup>a</sup>

(Weighted Sample = 49,415), Boston, Massachusetts.				
Sociodemographic characteristics	Mean (SD) or percentage			
Age (years)	49.4 (15)			
Female	65.8			
(male = ref)				
Race/ethnicity				
White	53.9			
Black	27.0			
Hispanic/Latino	8.8			
Other (includes multiracial, Asian)	8.3			
Education				
<high school<="" td=""><td>3.7</td></high>	3.7			
High school graduate/GED	12.1			
Some college/2-year degree	23.6			
≥College degree	59.1			
Married/partnered	62.0			
Household's financial status				
Comfortable with some extras	44.1			
Enough, no extras	28.4			
Have to cut back	19.4			
Cannot make ends meet	5.1			
Health status				
Perceived health				
Excellent/very good	51.0			
Good	35.3			
Fair/poor	12.3			
Weight status (body mass index)				
Healthy weight/underweight (25.0 kg/m²)	33.3			
Overweight (25.0-29.9 kg/m²)	32.2			
Obese (≥30 kg/m²)	31.1			
Behaviors				
Physical activity <sup>b</sup>	68.4			
Fruits and vegetables <sup>c</sup>	20.2			
Red meat <sup>d</sup>	53.4			
Multivitamin <sup>e</sup>	29.7			
Not smoking	87.5			
Multiple risk behavior score <sup>f</sup>				
0 (met all 5 recommendations)	4.0			
I (met 4 recommendations)	17.3			
2 (met 3 recommendations)	31.4			
3 (met 2 recommendations)	32.6			
4 (met I recommendation)	13.0			
5 (met none of the	1.8			
recommendations)	1.5			
Contextual and psychosocial factors				
Self-efficacy to do 3+ targeted behavi				
Not at all confident	3.1			
A little confident	7.2			
Somewhat confident	18.0			
Very confident	25.2			
Extremely confident	31.0			
Not trying/thinking of doing in next 6 months	1.7			

(continued)

Table I. (continued)

Sociodemographic characteristics	Mean (SD) or percentage
Comfort level with computers	
Very uncomfortable	11.8
Uncomfortable	6.1
Comfortable	26.0
Very comfortable	54.0
Frequency of Internet use	
Never	7.5
I-3 times a month	4.3
Once a week	3.0
2-4 times/week	11.0
Social resources <sup>g</sup>	
Interpersonal supports	1.2 (0.02)
Neighborhood supports	1.4 (0.02)
Organizational supports	0.7 (0.02)

aPercent totals may not add up to 100 because of missing values and/ or rounding.  $^b$ 150+ minutes of moderate physical activity or equivalent of vigorous activity (or combination of the two).  $^c$ 5+ servings/day.  $^d$ ≤3 servings/week.  $^e$ Taking multivitamin 6 or 7 days/week.  $^f$ Participants with incomplete data for a behavior were classified as not meeting the recommendation for that behavior (n = 61).  $^g$ Range 0-4.  $^g$ 05.  $^g$ 101.

Health status. About half of participants rated their health as being excellent/very good (51.0%). Using self-reported data, two thirds of the sample had a BMI  $\geq$  25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

Health behaviors. Most participants did not meet the recommendations for all behaviors; only 4.0% had an MRB score of 0, indicating that they met all the behavioral recommendations. Nearly half (47.4%) met two or fewer recommendations, and 14.8% met one or none of the recommendations.

Psychosocial and contextual factors. Many participants (56.1%) were extremely confident or very confident that they could meet the recommendations for 3+ of the targeted behaviors within the next 6 months. Participants reported fewer social resources at the organizational level than at the interpersonal level (family and friends) or neighborhood level. Most participants (81.6%) reported being comfortable/very uncomfortable using computers.

Choice of intervention modality. Among intervention participants, slightly more than half (55.4%) elected to receive the intervention materials via the web, whereas 44.6% selected print.

# Factors Associated With Selection of Intervention Modality

Correlations. Age, education, and perceived health status were correlated (p < .01) with both computer-related

variables (computer comfort, frequency of Internet use); older adults and those who perceived their health status as being poorer reported being less comfortable with computers and using the Internet less often, whereas those with greater educational attainment reported being more comfortable with computers and using the Internet more frequently.

Bivariate analyses. With the exception of marital/partner status, the MRB score, and meeting the recommendations for the individual health behaviors, all the examined variables were associated with selection of intervention modality (p < .05, see Table 2).

Hierarchal multivariable analyses. In the initial model with only the sociodemographic variables, age, race/ethnicity, education, perceived health status, weight status, and perceived household financial status, were associated with selected intervention modality (p < .05). When the frequency of Internet use measure was added to the model, all variables remained significant (see Table 2). However, when the model included the sociodemographics and the computer comfort variable, weight status was no longer significant. When both computer-related variables (frequency of Internet use, computer comfort) were added to the model, age, race/ethnicity, perceived health status, perceived household financial status, frequency of Internet use, and computer comfort were associated with selected intervention modality (p < .05). In this model, compared to those who selected print materials, participants who elected to receive web-based materials were more likely to be younger, White, and perceive the financial status of their household as being better. In addition, participants who were most comfortable using computers and accessed the Internet more frequently selected web-based materials. The other predictor variables that were significant in the initial bivariates (the Chronic Illness Resources Survey subscales, self-efficacy to do 3+ behaviors) were added to the model, and the association remained between age, perceived financial status of household, computer comfort, frequency of Internet use, and selection of intervention modality (p < .05), although neither the Chronic Illness Resources Survey subscales nor the self-efficacy measure were significant (data not shown). After building all models, we examined the model fit statistics of each model and determined that the model that included just the sociodemographics variables and both computer-related variables had the best fit. Thus, this became our final model.

## **Discussion**

The health care setting provides an important venue to address multiple risk behaviors simultaneously among a wide range of patients. Results of this study clearly indicate that there is a need for multiple health behavior interventions that can be easily implemented in the health care setting. Nearly half of participants met two or fewer behavioral recommendations,

**Table 2.** Bivariate Associations and the Hierarchal Regression Models Predicting Preference for Web-Based (vs. Print) Materials as the Intervention Modality in the Healthy Directions 2 Study, Boston, Massachusetts (Weighted Sample = 32,691).

	Bivariate analyses OR [95% CI]	Sociodemographics + computer comfort	Sociodemographics + Internet use OR [95% CI]	Final model OR [95% CI]
		OR [95% CI]		
Age (years)	0.96 [0.95, 0.97]**	0.96 [0.95, 0.97]**	0.96 [0.95, 0.97]**	0.96 [0.95, 0.97]**
Female (male = Ref)	0.74 [0.57, 0.96]*	0.80 [0.60, 1.08]	0.81 [0.61, 1.08]	0.81 [0.60, 1.10]*
Race/ethnicity (White = Ref)			[,]	[,]
Black	0.42 [0.33, 0.53]**	0.61 [0.43, 0.88]	0.67 [0.49, 0.92]	0.68 [0.48, 0.96]
Hispanic/Latino	0.70 [0.53, 0.93]	0.76 [0.48, 1.22]	0.74 [0.46. 1.19]	0.77 [0.46, 1.26]
Other <sup>a</sup>	0.81 [0.59, 1.11]	0.62 [0.40, 0.96]	0.63 [0.41, 0.96]	0.65 [0.42, 1.01]
Education		5102 [51.10, 51.70]	5.55 [5.11, 5.15]	0.00 [02,]
<high (hs)<="" school="" td=""><td>0.25 [0.13, 0.48]**</td><td>0.55 [0.28, 1.07]</td><td>1.30 [1.02, 1.65]</td><td>0.98 [0.48, 1.98]</td></high>	0.25 [0.13, 0.48]**	0.55 [0.28, 1.07]	1.30 [1.02, 1.65]	0.98 [0.48, 1.98]
HS graduate/GED	0.49 [0.37, 0.65]**	0.64 [0.44, 0.93]	0.86 [0.43, 1.70]	0.76 [0.50, 1.16]
Some college/2-year degree	I.0 (Ref)	I.0 (Ref)	0.70 [0.47, 1.08]	I.0 (Ref)
≥College degree	2.06 [1.69, 2.50]**	1.41 [1.14, 1.76]**	1.30 [1.02, 1.65]**	1.24 [1.01, 1.52]*
Married/partnered (yes = Ref)	0.83 [0.68, 1.02]	1.41 [1.14, 1.70]	1.30 [1.02, 1.03]	1.24 [1.01, 1.32]
Household's financial status	0.03 [0.00, 1.02]			
Comfortable, some extras	1.65 [1.31, 2.07]**	1.38 [1.08. 1.76]**	1.31 [1.00, 1.71]**	1.31 [1.02, 1.69]**
Enough, no extras	1.24 [0.95, 1.63]*	1.15 [0.81, 1.63]	1.19 [0.85. 1.66]	1.19 [0.84, 1.69]
Have to cut back	1.24 [0.75, 1.65]	1.13 [0.81, 1.83] 1.0 (Ref)	1.17 [0.83. 1.86] 1.0 (Ref)	1.17 [0.84, 1.87] 1.0 (Ref)
Cannot make ends meet	0.52 [0.32, 0.83]**	0.67 [0.36, 1.24]*	0.70 [0.39. 1.26]	0.68 [0.35, 1.33]
Health status	0.32 [0.32, 0.63]	0.07 [0.36, 1.24]	0.70 [0.37. 1.26]	0.66 [0.55, 1.55]
Perceived health				
	1 74 F1 47 2 041%	1 41 51 07 1 053	1 F7 F1 21 2 047**	1.42 [1.07   0.13*
Excellent/very good	1.74 [1.47. 2.06]**	1.41 [1.07, 1.85]	1.57 [1.21, 2.04]**	1.43 [1.07. 1.91]*
Good	1.0 (Ref)	I.0 (Ref)	I.0 (Ref)	I.0 (Ref)
Fair/poor	0.82 [0.60, 1.11]**	0.94 [0.67, 1.33]	1.0 [0.76, 1.58]	1.02 [0.70, 1.49]
Weight status	1 50 51 20 1 7/144	0.01.10.41.10.07	0.70.50.52.0.031**	0.77 [0.57   0.51
Healthy weight /underweight <sup>b</sup>	1.52 [1.30, 1.76]**	0.81 [0.61, 1.09]	0.70 [0.53, 0.93]**	0.77 [0.57, 1.05]
Overweight <sup>c</sup>	1.42 [1.11, 1.82]	0.96 [0.64, 1.42]	0.86 [0.60. 1.22]	0.90 [0.61, 1.34]
Obese <sup>d</sup>	1.0 (Ref)	1.0 (Ref)	1.0 (Ref)	1.0 (Ref)
Behaviors (met recommendations =	•			
Physical activity <sup>e</sup>	0.97 [0.81, 1.16]			
Fruits and vegetables <sup>f</sup>	0.98 [0.80, 1.21]			
Red meat <sup>g</sup>	0.88 [0.69, 1.12]			
Multivitamin <sup>h</sup>	1.16 [0.96, 1.40]			
Not smoking	1.07 [0.91, 1.26]			
Multiple risk behavior score				
0 (met 5 recommendations)	0.99 [057, 1.73]			
I (met 4 recommendations)	1.06 [0.60, 1.88]			
2 (met 3 recommendations)	1/17 [0.64. 2.13]			
3 (met 2 recommendations)	0.99 [0.55, 1.79]			
4 (met 1 recommendation)	1.06 [0.58, 1.94]			
5 (met 0 recommendations)	1.0 (Ref)			
Contextual and psychosocial factors				
Self-efficacy for 3+ behaviors				
Not at all confident	0.51 [0.22, 1.20]			
A little confident	0.71 [0.43, 1.17]			
Somewhat confident	1.11 [0.78, 1.57]			
Very confident	1.0 (Ref)			
Extremely confident	1.12 [0.83, 1.49]			
Not trying/thinking of doing in next 6 months	0.30 [0.13, 0.66]*			

(continued)

Table 2. (continued)

	Bivariate analyses OR [95% CI]	Sociodemographics + computer comfort	Sociodemographics + Internet use OR [95% CI]	Final model OR [95% CI]
		OR [95% CI]		
Comfort with computers				
Very uncomfortable	1.0 (Ref)	1.0 (Ref)		1.0 (Ref)
Uncomfortable	0.13 [0.06, 0.28]**	0.17 [0.07, 0.41]**		0.28 [0.11, 0.75]**
Comfortable	0.91 [0.67, 1.24]	0.80 [0.55, 1.16]		0.69 [0.45, 1.05]
Very comfortable	4.55 [3.40, 6.09]**	2.63 [1.83, 3.77]**		1.89 [1.22, 2.92]**
Frequency of Internet use	-	-		-
Never	0.11 [0,04, 0.29]**			10.27 [0.10, 0.70]**
I-3 times a month	0.43 [0.22, 0.83]*		0.25 [0.10, 0.68]**	0.52 [0.22, 1.20]*
Once a week	I.0 (Ref)		0.45 [0.22, 0.93]**	1.0 (Ref)
2-4 times/week	1.9 3 [1.09, 3.41]**		I.0 (Ref)	1.67 [0.89. 3.16]**
5+ times/week	6.89 [4.48. 10.60]**		1.80 [1.01, 3.20]**	2.73 [1.61, 4.63]**
Social resources <sup>j</sup>	-		4.55 [3.00, 7.00]**	
Interpersonal supports	1.20 [1.09, 1.33]**			
Neighborhood supports	1.24 [1.10, 1.40]**			
Organizational supports	1.25 [1.11, 1.42]**			

Note. OR = odds ratio; CI = confidence interval; Ref = reference.

<sup>a</sup>Other includes Asian and multiracial. <sup>b</sup>Healthy weight/underweight ≤ 25.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. <sup>c</sup>Overweight: Body mass index = 25.0-29.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. <sup>d</sup>Obese: Body mass index ≥30.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. <sup>e</sup>150+ minutes/week of moderate physical activity or equivalent of vigorous activity (or combination of the two). <sup>f</sup>5+ servings/day. <sup>g</sup>≤3 servings/week. <sup>h</sup>Taking multivitamin 6 or 7 days/week. <sup>l</sup>Participants with incomplete data were classified as not meeting the behavioral recommendation (n = 61). <sup>l</sup>Range = 0-4.

and only 4.0% of participants met all behavioral recommendations. This is a significant issue for primary care, as these behaviors likely drive the multimorbidities that are increasingly seen in this setting (Anderson, 2010; Weiss, Boyd, Yu, Wolff, & Leff, 2007). Although not conducted in the primary care setting, other studies examining multiple behavioral risk factors have found comparable rates of multiple risk behaviors (Emmons et al., 2003; Emmons, McBride, et al., 2005; Emmons, Stoddard, et al., 2005; Ford, Bergmann, Boeing, Li, & Capewell, 2012; Keller, Maddock, Hannover, Thyrian, & Basler, 2008; Reeves & Rafferty, 2005; Troost, Rafferty, Luo, & Reeves, 2012). Allowing patients to self-select their preferred intervention modality may promote intervention engagement (Greaney et al., 2009) and increase the impact of interventions. To our knowledge, HD2 is one of the first studies that provided participants with the opportunity to select their preferred intervention modality. Other intervention studies have used both print and interactive interventions (web, CD-ROM), but participants were randomized to intervention modality (Kroeze, Oenema, Campbell, & Brug, 2008; Marcus et al., 2007; Marshall, Leslie, Bauman, Marcus, & Owen, 2003; Pekmezi et al., 2010). The use of web-based interventions for behavior change is increasing, as these interventions have the potential for a wide reach (Bennett & Glasgow, 2009), and, once a critical threshold of users has been reached, web-based interventions can be more cost-effective

than print interventions (Lewis, Williams, Neighbors, Jakicic, & Marcus, 2010). Nonetheless, despite increasing web access, results of this study indicate that interventions implemented in the primary care setting should make health promotion materials available via print and web, as almost half of the participants elected to receive print materials.

Few of the variables that were significantly associated with intervention choice in the bivariate analyses were significant in the final model. It is interesting that participants' behavioral profiles did not predict preferred modality, as we had hypothesized that those with the most risk behaviors may prefer the interactivity available in web-based materials. Our final model determined that individuals who elected to receive print materials were older, less educated, and in poorer health status and more likely to be Black than those who chose web-based materials. Results of this study indicate that interventions implemented in the health care setting should be available in print- and web-based formats, as limiting interventions to web-based formats could exclude populations with heavy disease burdens (e.g., less educated, older, poorer health status) whereas limiting interventions to print may reduce intervention engagement among younger participants.

The health care setting is an important venue to address behavior change, yet the gap between research and practice is large (Lenfant, 2003). Intervention studies conducted in this setting under ideal circumstances are likely contributing to this gap, as they may be too costly or labor intensive

<sup>\*</sup>p < .05. \*\*p < .01.

to be implemented in the "real world." An important step for dissemination is for intervention studies to include realistic alternative treatment comparisons (Tunis, Stryer, & Clancy, 2003). HD2 does this, as it was designed to compare different intervention approaches that are both sustainable and scalable, and to address key implementation challenges.

This study has limitations that should be noted; enrollment was limited to patients with the ability to read and write English and the majority of them were well educated and financially comfortable. These factors may limit generalizability. However, participants were from a large urban primary care practice, and were quite diverse.

# **Implications for Practice**

In this diverse sample of adults from an urban health center, we found that only 4.0% met the recommendations for all five health behaviors, highlighting the need for multiple behavior change interventions. Nearly half of the participants opted for print materials, both print- and web-based intervention materials should be available in the health care setting. Our finding that older participants preferred print materials and that younger people wanted web-based materials is not surprising but does confirm that behavior change materials should be made available in both print and electronic formats, such as interactive websites. Using only webbased format may exclude more vulnerable, needy, and higher risk subsets of the population, individuals often in most need of such interventions whereas using print-based materials may limit intervention engagement among younger participants.

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