ANALYSIS OF NUTRITIONAL STATUS AND FOOD CONSUMPTION IN CHINA

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The objectives of this study are to describe the current nutrition status and nutritional evaluation of China, to analyze the relationship between nutrition status and food consumption at household level of China. Descriptive nutritional analysis and multivariable regression analysis by different regions were used in this study. There are two parts of cross-sectional data sets to be adopted in this study, growth performance of preschool children data and household information, which were collected in 1998 by Chinese Food and Nutrition Surveillance System and State of Statistics Bureau of China.

The result of descriptive nutritional analysis showed that, since unconscionable diet pattern and over consumption of high fat food, over-nutrition and obesity had been becoming primary problem in urban areas. In rural areas, under-nutrition and the change of household food consumption should be paid more attention, especially to low-income group.

Constant elasticity models were employed in this study in order to measure the relationship between nutritional status and household information by different regions. The deviation score of DDP for major foods would be dependent variables in the models estimated. The explanatory variables consist of household income, household size, education level of both household head and the spouse, and some of major food prices. This study produced consistent and important result. It showed that there were important ways in which price changed could affect the consumption of various observations groups and that price change had a differential effect to different groups of people. At the same time, some of factors, such as educational level of household head and the spouse had no statistical significance.

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Abbreviation

BMI	Body Mass Indicator
CAPM	Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine
CFNSS	Chinese Food and Nutrition Surveillance System
DDP	Desirable Dietary Pattern
DSP	Disease Surveillance Point system
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
MOH	Ministry of Health
NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases
OLS	Ordinary Least Squares
RDA	Recommended Dietary Allowance
SSB	State of Statistics Bureau
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
WHO	World Health Organization
INC	Household income
H_SIZE	Household size in number of persons
H_EDU	Education level for the household head in number of years
S_EDU	Education level for the spouse in number of years
P_RIC	Price of rice
P_PORK	Price of pork
P_EGG	Price of eggs
P_VEG	Price of vegetables
P_OIL	Price of oil