

Caffeine, coffee, and appetite control: a review

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Caffeine, coffee, and appetite control: a review

Coffee and caffeine consumption has global popularity. However, evidence for the potential of these dietary constituents to influence energy intake, gut physiology, and appetite perceptions remains unclear. The purpose of this review was to examine the evidence regarding coffee and caffeine's influence on energy intake and appetite control. Literature was examined for studies that assessed the effects of caffeine and coffee on energy intake, gastric emptying, appetite-related hormones, and perceptual measures of appetite. The literature review indicated that coffee administered 3-4.5 h before a meal had minimal influence on food and macronutrient intake, while caffeine ingested 0.5-4 h before a meal may suppress acute energy intake. Evidence regarding the influence of caffeine and coffee on gastric emptying, appetite hormones, and appetite perceptions was equivocal. The influence of covariates such as genetics of caffeine metabolism and bitter taste phenotype remain unknown; longer controlled studies are needed.

Key words: coffee; caffeine; energy intake; appetite

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Introduction

Caffeine is the most widely consumed psychoactive substance in the world, with documented use dating back to the early Paleolithic period (Barone and Roberts 1996). For the majority of the population, coffee is the major vehicle for the delivery of caffeine, followed by tea and cola beverages (Mitchell et al. 2015; Mitchell et al. 2014). Given its popularity, there is interest in the effect of caffeine and caffeine-containing dietary products to influence population health.

Decreased physical activity and increased energy intake (largely exacerbated by the availability of inexpensive, nutrient-dense foods) has led to increasing weight gain with global obesity rates nearly doubling since 1980 (Ogden et al. 2014). Many weight-loss 'supplements' marketed to the general public include caffeine, often describing it as an 'appetite suppressant' and 'thermogenic aid'. There is some evidence to suggest these supplements can be effective for weight loss (Liu et al. 2013); however, these products often contain other ingredients, such as ephedrine, which makes an independent analysis on the effects of caffeine on weight loss difficult.

An additional concern is that caffeinated beverages can vary widely in both their caffeine (Desbrow et al. 2007; Ludwig et al. 2014) and energy content. For example, 250 ml of instant coffee has ~16 kJ of energy and ~80 mg of caffeine, while an equivalent serving of a cola beverage has ~440 kJ of energy and ~25 mg of caffeine (Foodworks; Xyris Software, Australia). High calorie caffeinated beverages (e.g. carbonated soda beverages and energy drinks) are unanimously discouraged by health authorities due to their refined sugar content (U.S. Department of HHS and U.S. Department of Agriculture 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, available at <http://health.gov/dietaryguidelines/2015/guidelines/>). The caloric density of these products means they are less likely to contribute positively to healthy weight

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3 management. Finally, coffee and caffeinated beverages are often consumed in social
4 environments and paired with meals or snacks, which can influence food choice and/or food
5 liking (Collins, Freeman and Palmer 2012; Freeman, Collins and Palmer 2012).
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10 It has been reported that dietary caffeine intake (Lopez-Garcia, van Dam, Rajpathak, et
11 al. 2006) and coffee and tea consumption (Pan et al. 2013) have been associated with lower
12 levels of long term weight gain in cohort studies. However, there are few studies that have
13 examined if caffeinated coffee consumption reduces appetite and energy intake, and even they
14 are contradictory in their results (Arciero et al. 1995; Astrup et al. 1990; Bracco et al. 1995;
15 Dulloo et al. 1989; Gavrieli et al. 2011; Greenberg and Geliebter 2012). Additionally, it has
16 been reported that caffeine and coffee may influence the rate of gastric emptying and secretion of
17 gut hormones (Greenberg and Geliebter 2012; Johnston, Clifford and Morgan 2003), which play
18 roles in appetite control (Horner et al. 2011; Horner et al. 2015).
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32 To date, little attention has been given to whether caffeine and caffeinated beverages
33 influence energy intake and appetite control. Therefore, the aim of this review was to provide an
34 overview of how caffeine and coffee may influence energy intake and its determinants
35 (perceptions of appetite, gastric emptying, and gut hormones). As long-term effects on these
36 variables have not been examined in the literature, the current review focuses on acute effects.
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44 This information will clarify understanding of the role caffeinated beverages can play in energy
45 regulation.
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50 **Methods**

51 *Objectives*

52 The primary objectives of this review were to address the following questions:
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- 1) Does de/caffeinated coffee consumption influence acute (≤ 24 h) *ad libitum* energy intake or macronutrient composition in humans?
- 2) Does caffeine (anhydrous; pure) consumption influence acute (≤ 24 h) *ad libitum* energy intake or macronutrient composition in humans?
- 3) Does caffeine or de/caffeinated coffee influence acute gut physiology via changes in gastric emptying and secretion of gut hormones?
- 4) Does caffeine or de/caffeinated coffee influence perceptual measures of appetite?

The secondary objective was to determine gaps in the literature and directions for future research.

Study eligibility

This systematic literature review was conducted in accordance with the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) guidelines (Liberati et al. 2009). Journal articles, abstracts, and published dissertations or theses were eligible for inclusion in this review if they reported data for energy and/or macronutrient intake when a bolus of caffeine or coffee was administered before participants were offered food or began a period of observation. As such, studies were limited to acute trials generally conducted in a laboratory. Treatments permitted included caffeinated coffee (referred to henceforth as coffee) and caffeine (anhydrous/tablets). Studies needed to utilize a placebo (decaffeinated coffee or placebo tablets) or controlled (decaffeinated coffee or water) design. Studies on cola and sugar-sweetened beverages were excluded, generally because these studies (though utilizing similar design and outcome measures) have neglected to report or account for the caffeine content of beverages. Iced coffee beverages or milk-based coffee beverages were also excluded for this reason,

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3 although the literature search revealed no studies on these products. It has also been reported that
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5 fortifying cola beverages with caffeine requires an increase in sucrose content to maintain
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7 sweetness and counteract the bitterness of caffeine (Keast et al. 2011), which would confound
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9 results. Studies were included if they had been conducted in apparently healthy adult humans.
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12 Studies were deemed eligible using the PICOS approach (Liberati et al. 2009), and data
13 on treatment and control conditions, participant characteristics, caffeine dose, beverage volume,
14 and other outcome measures were recorded in an Excel spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel, Microsoft
15 Corporation).
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24 *Sources of information and search strategy*

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27 Research databases (PubMed and Google Scholar) were initially searched independently
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29 by two authors in through September 2016 using an identical keyword search strategy.
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32 Keywords utilized included the following combinations and searched the title, abstract, and
33 keywords of each paper: coffee, caffeine, appetite, energy intake, gastric emptying, ghrelin,
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35 PYY, GLP-1. Titles and abstracts were examined initially and full papers were retrieved if
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37 studies met the inclusion criteria. A detailed search strategy is included as supplementary
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39 material.
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45 **Results**

46 *General characteristics of studies and participants*

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49 Initial search results yielded a total of 4,087 unique results that were pared on the basis of
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51 title and abstract down to 50. In sum, 12 studies met inclusion criteria. Five studies identified
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53 assessed energy intake in response to coffee and caffeine. Another five studies identified
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3 assessed gastric emptying responses to coffee and caffeine, 4 studies examined gut hormone
4 responses, and 5 reported measures of appetite perceptions. As studies were too few in each
5 domain for meta-analyses, studies are summarized and their results presented as median and
6 range. Table 1 summarizes all studies included in this review.
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17 Five studies assessed single meal *ad libitum* energy intake, a median of 3 h after
18 treatment ingestion (0.5-4 h). Three of these studies utilized a test meal of varying macronutrient
19 composition, thus providing data on macronutrient intake (Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. 2013;
20 Gavrieli et al. 2011; Tremblay et al. 1988) while the remaining two studies provided single-item
21 pasta meals (Belza, Toubro and Astrup 2009; Schubert et al. 2014). Two studies extended
22 recording of energy and macronutrient intake for 24 h outside the lab using self-reported food
23 records (Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. 2013; Gavrieli et al. 2011). Three studies provided a meal
24 concomitantly with treatment ingestion, with a median energy content of 594 kJ (594-1675 kJ);
25 the macronutrient composition of this meal was 62.5 % CHO (48-62.5 %), 31 % FAT (31-37 %),
26 and 6.5 % PRO (6.5-15 %) (Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. 2013; Gavrieli et al. 2011; Schubert et
27 al. 2014). One study provided treatments in two boluses (4.5 and 2.5 h before lunch) (Schubert
28 et al. 2014), while the other studies administered treatment in a single dose.
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46 Median dose of caffeine administered in the coffee conditions was 262 mg (192-526 mg).
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48 Median volume of coffee provided was 200 mL (200-450 mL).
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51 Results of single meal *ad libitum* energy and macronutrient intake are summarized in
52 Table 2. Median energy intake with coffee consumption was 3144 kJ compared to 3164 kJ for
53 the placebo or water control condition (three studies; 6 comparisons). For the two studies (5
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3 comparisons) (Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. 2013; Gavrieli et al. 2011) that evaluated energy
4 intake over the entire experimental day, median intake with coffee consumption was 9772 kJ
5 (8164-13500 kJ) compared to 10011 kJ (9198-13800 kJ) within the placebo or water control
6 condition.
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12 Single-meal macronutrient intake for carbohydrate was equivalent to a median of 85 g
13 (72-251 g) with coffee consumption, compared to 80 g (73-260 g) in the placebo/control
14 condition. Median protein intake was 37 g (34-73 g) in both conditions and median fat intake
15 was 32 g (31-55 g) with coffee compared to 34 g (33-55 g) with placebo/control.
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22 Daily macronutrient intake was equivalent to 250 g (198-399 g) carbohydrate, 84 g (71-
23 128 g) protein, and 99 g (78-115 g) fat with coffee consumption. For the placebo/control
24 condition, 255 g (234-426 g) of carbohydrate, 108 g (98-117 g) of fat, and 99 g (90-124 g) of
25 protein were consumed.
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32 33 34 *Question 2 – Caffeine and energy intake*

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36 The three studies (four comparisons) (Belza, Toubro and Astrup 2009; Schubert et al.
37 2014; Tremblay et al. 1988) reporting energy intake after caffeine consumption yielded a median
38 of 3017 kJ (2016-4708 kJ) compared to 3446 kJ (2118-4859 kJ) in the control condition. For
39 macronutrient intake (one study, two comparisons) (Tremblay et al. 1988), a median of 125 g
40 carbohydrate (103-146 g), 20 g (18-21 g) of protein, and 18 g (17-19 g) of fat were consumed in
41 the caffeine condition compared to 139 g (102-175 g) carbohydrate, 22 g (16-27 g) protein, and
42 23 g (17-28 g) fat in the placebo condition.
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52 The median caffeine dose administered in these conditions was 281 mg (50-300 mg).
53 Median volume of water provided with treatment in these studies was 313 mL (175-450 mL).
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6 *Question 3 – Caffeine, coffee, and gut physiology*
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8 Results of the 5 studies examining gastric emptying responses and 4 studies examining
9 gut hormone responses are displayed in Table 3 (Akimoto et al. 2009; Beaudoin, Robinson and
10 Graham 2011; Boekema et al. 2000; Franke et al. 2008; Gavrieli et al. 2011; Greenberg and
11 Geliebter 2012; Lien et al. 1995; Schubert et al. 2014). For gastric emptying half-time in
12 response to coffee ingestion, the median was 106 minutes for caffeine (36-179 minutes)
13 compared to 122 minutes (45-182 minutes) for control. The only study using caffeine in this
14 group reported that half-time for caffeine was 154 minutes compared to 182 minutes for the
15 control condition.
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27 Due to the various testing protocols, synthesis of the data for gut hormones was not
28 considered possible. Instead, these data are summed according to the authors' conclusions in
29 Table 3. Two studies (out of 3 measuring) reported increased GLP-1 concentrations in response
30 to caffeinated and/or decaffeinated coffee (Beaudoin, Robinson and Graham 2011; Johnston,
31 Clifford and Morgan 2003). Two studies that assess ghrelin responses reported no changes due
32 to coffee, caffeine, or decaffeinated coffee; this was also observed with leptin levels (Gavrieli et
33 al. 2011; Greenberg and Geliebter 2012). Finally, results for peptide YY were divergent, with
34 one study reporting no treatment effects and another reporting increased concentrations only
35 after decaffeinated coffee (Gavrieli et al. 2011; Greenberg and Geliebter 2012).
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51 *Question 4 – Caffeine, coffee, and appetite*
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53 Five studies reported results for appetite perceptions and these results are summed in
54 Table 4 (Belza, Toubro and Astrup 2009; Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. 2013; Gavrieli et al. 2011;
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3 Greenberg and Geliebter 2012; Schubert et al. 2014). As with gut hormones, synthesis was not
4 possible as only 2 studies reported data for area under the concentration-time curve. Trends
5 favoring caffeinated or decaffeinated coffee were observed in 3 studies (Gavrieli, Karfopoulou,
6 et al. 2013; Greenberg and Geliebter 2012; Schubert et al. 2014). The studies that reported
7 changes had larger volumes (200-500 mL) and caffeine doses (250-526 mg) than the studies that
8 did not observe alterations in appetite perceptions (Belza, Toubro and Astrup 2009; Gavrieli,
9 Karfopoulou, et al. 2013; Gavrieli et al. 2011; Greenberg and Geliebter 2012; Schubert et al.
10 2014).

Discussion

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27 Daily consumption of coffee is an extremely common behavior, yet its influence on
28 energy and macronutrient intake and appetite regulation remains largely unknown. The results
29 of this review indicate that coffee has no significant impact on single meal energy intake or
30 macronutrient selection. However, there appears to be a small decrease (-230 kJ) in daily energy
31 intake with coffee consumption. On the other hand, caffeine consumption may decrease single
32 meal energy intake (-430 kJ), but there is no evidence regarding its influence on free-living daily
33 energy intake. Additionally, there is no clear evidence to suggest caffeine alters gastric
34 emptying, gut hormone secretion, or appetite perceptions in a manner that could influence energy
35 intake.

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48 Most of the studies examined varied both in dose of caffeine and coffee as well as
49 volume of the treatment beverage. Caffeine doses varied considerably (50-500+ mg), with
50 volume also varying between studies (20-500 mL). Due to the small number of studies and large
51 discrepancies between them, no clear pattern of dose-response could be determined. It is worth
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3 noting that European coffees, particularly espresso, vary significantly in volume and caffeine
4 content compared to American coffee; Italian espresso typically is ~20 mL in volume with ~104
5 mg per serving of caffeine, while some of the beverages served at coffee shops in the United
6 States, such as a short Flat White, are ~240 mL in volume with 130 mg per serving of caffeine
7 (Ludwig et al. 2014). These authors and others also have noted considerable variation in caffeine
8 content of coffee purchased at coffee shops, suggesting that even when a standard protocol
9 exists, variations are likely to occur (Desbrow, Henry and Scheelings 2012; Desbrow et al. 2007;
10 Ludwig et al. 2014). It would be of interest in future studies to manipulate both the volume and
11 caffeine content of administered beverages to examine their independent and combined effects
12 on energy intake and appetite regulation. (Desbrow, Henry and Scheelings 2012; Desbrow et al.
13 2007; Ludwig et al. 2014)

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29 Coffee consumption has been linked with numerous health benefits, including decreased
30 mortality (Freedman et al. 2012; Lopez-Garcia et al. 2008), decreased risk of heart disease
31 (Lopez-Garcia, van Dam, Willett, et al. 2006), lower levels of inflammation and endothelial
32 dysfunction (Andersen et al. 2006; Lopez-Garcia, van Dam, Qi, et al. 2006), reduced incidence
33 of diabetes (Ding et al. 2014; Huxley et al. 2009; van Dam and Hu 2005), decreased risk of some
34 cancers (Floegel et al. 2012; Malerba et al. 2013; Wang et al. 2016), and improved mental health
35 and well-being (Arab et al. 2011; Arab, Khan and Lam 2013; Ruusunen et al. 2010; van Gelder
36 et al. 2007). However, the mechanisms needed to establish causation for many of these health
37 benefits remain unclear. Additionally, coffee and caffeine consumption have been linked with
38 less weight gain in data from cohort studies (Greenberg et al. 2005; Greenberg, Boozer and
39 Geliebter 2006; Lopez-Garcia, van Dam, Rajpathak, et al. 2006; Pan et al. 2013). The results of
40 the current review suggest the reasons for these associations remain to be elucidated.
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3 Despite the lack of evidence supporting (or refuting) coffee and caffeine's roles in body
4 weight regulation, there are some potential mechanisms by which they may influence body
5 weight. The thermic effect of caffeine is well-established (Hursel et al. 2011), and the increases
6 in energy expenditure with caffeinated coffee consumption (~430 kJ over 24 h) (Hursel et al.
7 2011) may be adequate in some individuals for weight maintenance. Furthermore, evidence
8 suggests coffee consumption may modify the gastrointestinal tract in such a way that lipid and
9 glucose absorption are attenuated (Cha et al. 2012; Jaquet et al. 2009; Johnston, Clifford and
10 Morgan 2003). It has recently been reported that consuming 4 cups of coffee per day before and
11 during a 5-d high-fructose diet attenuated a diet-induced increase in hepatic insulin resistance;
12 but this occurred without changes in body weight and despite the diet causing increased lipid
13 deposition (Lecoultre et al. 2014). However, as coffee is a bioactive compound containing over
14 1000 ingredients, the precise mechanisms remain unknown. Caffeine, chlorogenic acids, and
15 other biologically active compounds may all contribute to coffee's effect(s) on energy intake and
16 eating behavior.
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36 Most long-term research on caffeine and weight control has focused on combined
37 supplements or use of caffeine in conjunction with a low calorie diet, and not caffeine alone.
38 Thus, the data on controlled caffeine supplementation for weight control is minimal. Two short-
39 term studies evaluated the effect of controlled caffeine supplementation (2 x 2.5 mg/kg per day)
40 over 4 days (Judice, Magalhaes, et al. 2013; Judice, Matias, et al. 2013) on energy expenditure
41 and voluntary activity. Neither study reported changes in body weight over the observation
42 period; however, both reported a non-significant decrease in energy intake of 460-880 kJ during
43 the caffeine trials, which could have implications for body weight over the long term (Judice,
44 Magalhaes, et al. 2013; Judice, Matias, et al. 2013).
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This review found insufficient evidence to determine coffee or caffeine's role in influencing appetite perceptions. However, caffeine has been implicated in appetite and feeding control in specific brain regions. Caffeine has been shown to decrease whole-brain cerebral blood flow and oxygen metabolism (Perthen et al. 2008; Vidyasagar et al. 2013; Wu et al. 2014), although this is dependent upon habituation to caffeine (Addicott et al. 2009; Kennedy and Haskell 2011). Caffeine has also been shown to influence neurotransmitter release via its inhibition of adenosine receptors, particularly the increased release of dopamine and serotonin (Fredholm et al. 1999). Increased dopamine and serotonin transmission could theoretically explain caffeine's influence on mood, which itself has been shown to influence energy intake and feeding behavior (Macht 2008; Mela 2006). The influence of caffeine or coffee on the neural responses to food cues therefore require further investigation to determine if central effects of these substances may influence feeding behavior and food choice, and how neurotransmitters such as dopamine and serotonin may contribute.

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The relationship(s) between genetics and coffee and caffeine consumption also warrant further attention. To date, no study examining coffee/caffeine and appetite has accounted for genetic variation such as CYP1A2 genotype (the liver enzyme that metabolizes the majority of caffeine) or the PROP-6 taste receptor phenotype. For example, 'super-tasters' have a lower threshold for bitter taste, and may be more likely to avoid non-sweetened coffee (Ly and Drewnowski 2001).

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The influence of additives in coffee (milk, sugar, non-nutritive sweetener, etc.) also deserves attention, but evidence is again lacking in the current literature. Since instant/black coffee is a beverage of minimal caloric value, adding milk or sugar increases the calorie content; the effect (if any) this would have on subsequent energy intake is unknown. Analysis of cohort

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3 data reported that additive use may explain some of the variation in body composition results
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5 among coffee consumers (Bouchard, Ross and Janssen 2010), but this area still requires further
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7 study. In addition, some observational evidence from Australian coffee shops highlighted the
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9 divergence of coffee products available to consumers, with those selecting a blended coffee (i.e.
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11 Frappuccino), requesting full cream milk, and purchasing the largest drink size were associated
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13 with increased energy consumption (Collins, Freeman and Palmer 2012; Freeman, Collins and
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15 Palmer 2012).
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20 It has been reported that body composition can influence caffeine concentrations
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22 (Gavrieli, Fragopoulou, et al. 2013; Skinner et al. 2013), as well as modify glycemic and
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24 insulinaemic responses postprandially when a meal is co-ingested with caffeine (Gavrieli,
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26 Karfopoulou, et al. 2013). Only one of the studies in this review examined differences between
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28 lean and overweight/obese individuals (Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. 2013). This study reported
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30 that appetite and energy intake were suppressed in obese individuals when they consumed 6
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32 mg/kg of caffeinated coffee, but not 3 mg/kg or at either dose in lean individuals (Gavrieli,
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34 Karfopoulou, et al. 2013). It is possible that this dose, and these individuals' larger fat mass, led
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36 to elevated caffeine concentrations (Skinner et al. 2013). Whether a threshold dose of caffeine
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38 and/or other coffee compounds is necessary to elicit changes in energy intake and appetite
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40 requires more study. An additional concern is that only one of the reviewed studies was
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42 conducted in obese individuals, with the remaining studies recruiting individuals with healthy
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44 BMI's; thus, future research needs to incorporate a participant group with a wider range of body
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46 compositions. This is important as it is well-known that obese individuals have different energy
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48 intake and appetite hormone responses compared to healthy controls, which suggests they may
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3 respond to coffee and caffeine intake differently than their lean counterparts (Brennan et al.
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6 2012; Clamp et al. 2015).

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8 Given the sparsity of research investigating the impact of coffee on appetite, it is
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10 pertinent to discuss recommendations for future studies. Controlled laboratory trials provide one
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12 option. Ideally, these studies should incorporate a pre-trial standardization and screening
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14 protocol, including phenotype and genotype screening, rigorous dietary and physical activity
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16 control procedures, and a supervised environment. Previous researchers have indicated that water
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18 with quinine can serve as an effective placebo (Hodgson, Randell and Jeukendrup 2013) to
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20 mimic coffee without complicating the design by using decaffeinated coffee, since decaf still
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22 contains active ingredients. It is paramount volume be standardized between conditions, unless
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24 this is the dependent variable of interest – in this case, care must be taken to match other
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26 variables and confounders such as caffeine intake and chlorogenic acid concentrations. If the
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28 research team seeks to investigate coffee additives or other coffee-based beverages, again, care
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30 should be taken to match volume and caffeine levels so any “true” effects can be identified.
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32 Studies conducted in the lab are useful for examining the mechanisms related to coffee, caffeine,
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34 and appetite regulation, but results are not always applicable to real world settings.

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36 As an alternative to laboratory studies, researchers could consider a pragmatic
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38 investigation. Participants should still be screened for phenotype and genotype, as these
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40 variables would be included in analyses as covariates or subgroups. The pragmatic approach
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42 would allow researchers to enhance ecological validity. A protocol similar to recent work
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44 examining the influence of coffee on hydration status (Killer, Blannin and Jeukendrup 2014)
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46 could be employed. In this study, participants were provided enough coffee to consume 4 mg·kg⁻¹
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48 per day over 3 days and consumed their coffee as four 200 mL boluses each day. A study of
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this nature would provide more information on overall energy balance, physical activity, and eating behavior instead of mechanisms. Ideally, the study would last several months and utilize cutting edge technology to monitor energy balance, such as doubly-labeled water, multisensory activity monitors (i.e. ActiHeart or Sensewear Pro), food diaries, and calculation of energy intake from changes in body composition and total energy expenditure (Hall 2012). However, the logistics of such a study present challenges, such as should coffee and caffeine consumption outside of what is provided to participants be standardized, should the design be a parallel group or cross-over study, and how many participants would be appropriate.

A limitation of the present review is that all included studies utilized instant coffee or anhydrous caffeine compared to other forms of coffee or vehicles for caffeine consumption (i.e. colas, energy drinks, etc.). It is also likely that many individuals consume coffee with other components (i.e. milk, sugar). Additionally, we were only able to find one study assessing tea (green, oolong, or black) consumed as a beverage (Reinbach et al. 2009). Other studies examining tea extracts in capsule form or as part of a different beverage have been conducted but did not have tea-only beverage conditions and therefore were not eligible for this review (Belza, Toubro and Astrup 2009; Carter and Drewnowski 2012; Diepvens et al. 2007; Diepvens, Westerterp and Westerterp-Plantenga 2007; Gregersen et al. 2009; Hsu et al. 2008; Kovacs et al. 2004). Studies examining other forms of coffee (i.e. espresso, latte, etc.) were also lacking. The influence of these commonly consumed caffeinated beverages and beverage additives on energy and macronutrient intake deserves further attention. Finally, the characteristics of study designs (i.e. beverage volume, energy content of the beverages or test meals) complicated the ability to conduct more formal statistical analyses.

Conclusion

The literature to date examining the effect of caffeine and coffee consumption on energy intake is limited, and therefore mostly equivocal. Thus, evidence is relatively scarce at present for how these dietary constituents influence appetite, gut physiology, and food intake. Based on this review, coffee appears to some promise as a means of altering appetite and energy intake, but whether this is due to the volume ingested or coffee's ingredients specifically needs to be elucidated. However, their influence(s) on energy and macronutrient intake over longer periods of time remains unknown. Further controlled, well-designed, and adequately powered cross-over trials are needed to determine the efficacy of caffeine and coffee to manipulate food intake, feeding behavior, and appetite. In addition, covariates such as genetics related to taste perception and caffeine metabolism provide novel areas of study to determine patterns of caffeine and coffee consumption and susceptibility to their potential effects. Neuro-imaging studies investigating the influence of caffeine and coffee consumption on appetite-regulating brain regions may also provide a novel means for examining the potential mechanisms of these compounds.

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Table 1: Description of included studies

Study	Participants	Caffeine Dose (mg)	Administration method	Assessments	Notes
Tremblay et al. (1988) (caffeine)	10 M BMI: 22.8	300	Capsule	EI	Dose administered 30 min before meal; habitual caffeine consumption and abstinence not reported.
Tremblay et al. (1988) (caffeine)	10 F BMI: 19.9	300	Capsule	EI	As above
Lien et al. (1995)	93 (56 M 37 F) BMI NR	~100 mg (4 g instant coffee)	Coffee	GE	GE assessed via scintigraphy. 500 mL bolus + 420 kJ glucose.
Boekema et al. (2000)	12 M BMI NR	180 mg	Coffee	GE	GE assessed via applied potential tomography. 280 mL bolus + 1675 kJ test meal.
Johnston, Clifford and Morgan (2003)	9 (4 M, 5 F) BMI NR	NR	Coffee	H	Glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) measured. 400 mL bolus + 420 kJ glucose.
Franke et al. (2008)	10 M BMI: 23.8	~300 mg (12 g Espresso)	Coffee	GE, A	GE assessed via ultrasound. 2419 kJ meal + 40 mL bolus.
Akimoto et al. (2009)	6 M BMI: 21.5	NR	Coffee	GE	GE assessed via ¹³ C breath testing. 19 mL bolus + 200 mL/820 kJ test meal.
Belza, Toubro and Astrup (2009) (caffeine)	12 M BMI: 22.4	50	Capsule	EI, A	Dose administered 4 h before meal w/ 175 mL H ₂ O; habitual caffeine consumption and abstinence not reported.
Beudoin, Robinson and Graham (2011)	11 M BMI: 24.7	5 mg/kg: 395	Coffee	H	Given oral fat tolerance test (1 g/kg lipid, ~2940 kJ); GIP, GLP-1 measured. 5 h later,

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						received coffee. At 6 h, oral glucose tolerance test (1260 kJ).
Gavrieli et al. (2011)	16 M BMI: 25.5	3 mg/kg: 247	Coffee	EI, H, A		200 mL coffee with 594 kJ breakfast; test meal 3 h later Ghrelin, PYY, GLP-1 measured.
Greenberg and Geliebter (2012) (coffee)	11 M BMI: 23.6	6 mg/kg: 423	Coffee	H, A		~500 ml bolus, 60 min rest, oral glucose tolerance test with 1260 kJ glucose.
Greenberg and Geliebter (2012) (caffeine)	As above	As above	In water	As above		As above
Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. (2013) (lean)	16 (9 F) BMI: 21.3	3 mg/kg: 192 6 mg/kg: 383	Coffee	EI, A		200 mL coffee with 594 kJ breakfast; test meal 3 h later
Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. (2013) (overweight/obese)	17 (8 F) BMI: 30	3 mg/kg: 263 6 mg/kg: 526	Coffee	As above		As above
Schubert et al. (2014) (coffee)	12 (9 F) BMI: 22.7	4 mg/kg + 15 mg in 450 ml coffee: 277	Capsules with decaf coffee	EI, A, GE		225 mL coffee with 1675 kJ breakfast; 225 mL coffee 2 h later; test meal 2.5 h after 2 nd coffee (4.5 h post-breakfast). GE assessed via ¹³ C breath testing
Schubert et al. (2014) (caffeine)	As above	4 mg/kg: 262	Capsules	EI, A, GE		As above, but with H ₂ O instead of coffee

M, male F, female NR, not reported EI, energy intake A, appetite GE, gastric emptying H, appetite hormones

Table 2: Results of included studies for single meal energy and macronutrient intake

Study	Treatment EI	Control/Placebo EI	CHO Intake	Fat Intake	Protein Intake
Tremblay et al. (1988) (caffeine - men)	3416±925 kJ*	4367±875 kJ	Treatment: 146±39 g (72±19 %) Control: 175±38 g (67±15 %)	Treatment: 19±9 g* (21±10 %) Control: 28±10 g (24±9 %)	Treatment: 21±7 g (10±3 %) Control: 27±7 g (10±3 %)
Tremblay et al. (1988) (caffeine – women)	2617±871 kJ	2525±858 kJ	Treatment: 103±29 g (66±19 %) Control: 102±42 g (68±28 %)	Treatment: 17±11 g (25±16 %) Control: 17±8 g (25±12 %)	Treatment: 18±11 g (12±7 %) Control: 16±8 g (11±5 %)
Belza, Toubro and Astrup (2009) (caffeine)	4708 ±1306 kJ	4859±1493 kJ	NM	NM	NM
Gavrieli et al. (2011)(coffee)	7300±1700 kJ	7300±1900 kJ	Treatment: 251±14 g (58±3 %) Control: 260±15 g (60±3 %)	Treatment: 55±4 g (28±2 %) Control: 55±5 g (28±3 %)	Treatment: 73±4 g (17±1 %) Control: 73±5 g (17±1 %)
Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. (2013) (lean) (3 mg/kg coffee)	3031±1595 kJ	3199±1072 kJ	Treatment: 73±44 g (40±24 %) Control: 80±36 g (42±19 %)	Treatment: 32±20 g (40±25 %) Control: 33±10 g (39±12 %)	Treatment: 34±17 g (19±9 %) Control: 37±11 g (19±6 %)
Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. (2013)(lean) (6 mg/kg coffee)	3257±1063 kJ	3199±1072 kJ	Treatment: 85±39 g (44±16 %) Control: 80±36 g (42±19 %)	Treatment: 32±10 g (37±12 %) Control: 33±10 g (39±12 %)	Treatment: 37±10 g (19±5 %) Control: 37±11 g (19±6 %)
Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. (2013) (overweight/obese) (3 mg/kg coffee)	4103±1532 kJ*	3128±1629 kJ	Treatment: 108±40 g (44±16 %) Control: 73±40 g (39±21 %)	Treatment: 41±16 g (38±15 %) Control: 34±21 g (41±25 %)	Treatment: 44±14 g (18±6 %) Control: 37±19 g (20±10 %)
Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. (2013)(overweight/obese) (6 mg/kg coffee)	2927±1428 kJ	3128±1629 kJ	Treatment: 72±48 g (41±28 %) Control: 73±40 g (39±21 %)	Treatment: 31±17 g (40±22 %) Control: 34±21 g (41±25 %)	Treatment: 34±17 g (20±10 %) Control: 37±19 g (20±10 %)
Schubert et al. (2014)	2016±750 kJ	2118±663 kJ	NM	NM	NM

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(coffee)					
Schubert et al. (2014) (caffeine)	2287 ± 648 kJ	2118 ± 663 kJ	NM	NM	NM

Data are means ± SDs (converted where applicable). NM = not measured NA = not applicable EE = energy expenditure

EI = Energy intake * = significant difference reported

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Table 3 Results of included studies for gastric emptying and gut hormones

Study	Gastric emptying Half time	Gut Hormones
Lien et al. (1995)	Control condition: 45.0±23.1 min Coffee condition: 35.7±10.5 min*	NA
Boekema et al. (2000)	Control condition: 83.4 min (median) Coffee condition: 75.7 min (median)	NA
Johnston, Clifford and Morgan (2003)	NA	GIP AUC lower after caffeinated and decaffeinated coffee GLP AUC higher after decaffeinated coffee
Franke et al. (2008)	Control condition: 123±5 min Coffee condition: 125±9 min	NA
Akimoto et al. (2009)	Control condition: 121.5 min (median) Coffee condition: 105.7 min (median)*	NA
Beaudoin, Robinson and Graham (2011)	NA	Increased GLP-1 in caffeinated coffee and decaffeinated coffee trials over OFTT and OGTT control trials Increase GIP only in OFTT/Caf trial
Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. (2013)	NA	Ghrelin, PYY, and GLP-1 revealed no effect of treatment during testing or for AUC
Greenberg and Geliebter (2012)	NA	Ghrelin and leptin revealed no effect of treatment during testing or for AUC PYY significantly elevated 60-90 after decaf coffee; AUC higher than caffeine or control
Schubert et al. (2014)	Control condition: 182±34 min Caffeine condition: 154±18 min Decaf condition: 177±25 min Coffee condition: 179±61 min	NA

Data are means ± SDs unless noted. Half time represents the length of time for half of the test meal/beverage to empty from the stomach.

NA = not applicable *= significant difference reported AUC = Area under the concentration-time curve

OFTT = oral fat tolerance test OGTT = oral glucose tolerance test

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Table 4 Results for included studies assessing appetite perceptions

Study	Appetite results
Belza, Toubro and Astrup (2009)	No differences for hunger, fullness, prospective food consumption, or satiety between caffeine and placebo
Gavrieli et al. (2011)	Hunger, desire to eat, satiety did not differ over time; hunger at 3 hours was lower in caffeinated coffee than decaf or control; incremental AUC trended towards reduced desire to eat compared to control
Gavrieli, Karfopoulou, et al. (2013)	Only in overweight/obese participants, satiety was higher 15 and 60 minutes post low dose (3 mg/kg) coffee and 15 min post high dose coffee (6 mg/kg) compared to water. No other appetite differences.
Greenberg and Geliebter (2012)	Hunger AUC lowest in decaffeinated coffee, followed by caffeinated coffee. Decaf was significantly different from placebo; caffeinated coffee and caffeine were not.
Schubert et al. (2014)	No effects on hunger. Main effects of trial observed for satiety, prospective food consumption, and fullness; effects were in favor increased satiety and fullness and decreased prospective food consumption such that coffee > decaf > placebo > caffeine. Post-hoc comparisons were non-significant.

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Supplemental material

Search Strategy – PubMed (MEDLINE)

Filter: humans

1. Coffee
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3. Appetite
4. Ghrelin
5. Peptide YY
6. PYY
7. Glucagon-like peptide 1
8. GLP-1
9. Energy intake
10. Gastric emptying
11. 1 and 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12
12. 2 and 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12