

**Table S1.** Dietary intake per day expressed as Q1, median and Q3, for absolute energy intake, daily energy contribution by every nutrient, absolute nutrients intake and protein intake adjusted by body weight. Data is segregated by diet groups.

|                                        |                   | Animal protein |         |         | Balanced |         |         | Plant-based protein |         |         |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------|
|                                        |                   | Q1             | Median  | Q3      | Q1       | Median  | Q3      | Q1                  | Median  | Q3      |
| Total energy (kcal/day)                | Energy intake     | 1357.63        | 1536.23 | 1874.86 | 1657.57  | 1981.37 | 2139.23 | 1904.35             | 2212.23 | 2558.95 |
|                                        | Lipids            | 39.91          | 46.28   | 48.85   | 39.39    | 41.43   | 47.42   | 35.32               | 40.49   | 42.61   |
| Energy contribution (%)                | SFA               | 10.06          | 13.83   | 15.14   | 9.56     | 11.73   | 13.75   | 8.93                | 9.83    | 10.82   |
|                                        | MUFA              | 18.75          | 21.58   | 26.95   | 17.19    | 19.37   | 23.49   | 14.63               | 19.02   | 25.88   |
|                                        | PUFA              | 5.60           | 7.21    | 8.27    | 6.33     | 8.07    | 10.61   | 6.83                | 7.79    | 10.29   |
|                                        | Total protein     | 19.79          | 20.57   | 21.72   | 15.79    | 17.76   | 20.07   | 13.26               | 14.71   | 16.26   |
|                                        | Vegetable protein | 4.38           | 4.91    | 5.88    | 5.82     | 6.65    | 7.39    | 6.54                | 7.69    | 7.88    |
|                                        | Animal protein    | 14.23          | 15.42   | 16.24   | 9.59     | 10.97   | 12.56   | 6.15                | 6.74    | 8.11    |
|                                        | Carbohydrates     | 28.10          | 31.85   | 35.54   | 29.68    | 37.82   | 41.26   | 37.30               | 42.51   | 48.97   |
|                                        | Sugar             | 10.14          | 14.52   | 20.66   | 12.73    | 15.41   | 18.69   | 10.78               | 13.15   | 18.34   |
|                                        | Polysaccharides   | 8.96           | 14.09   | 22.39   | 14.02    | 19.78   | 24.40   | 23.32               | 25.73   | 31.40   |
|                                        | Lipids            | 59.60          | 82.34   | 101.59  | 81.36    | 88.20   | 109.29  | 87.78               | 104.96  | 116.99  |
| Nutrients intake (g/day)               | SFA               | 21.93          | 24.13   | 28.86   | 19.09    | 24.73   | 31.82   | 20.25               | 23.73   | 26.46   |
|                                        | MUFA              | 28.82          | 40.48   | 59.57   | 35.93    | 40.08   | 45.71   | 35.31               | 46.66   | 64.45   |
|                                        | PUFA              | 7.57           | 12.25   | 16.16   | 11.59    | 17.57   | 20.22   | 14.52               | 19.88   | 31.55   |
|                                        | Total protein     | 73.69          | 79.80   | 98.40   | 72.30    | 84.90   | 100.30  | 67.64               | 85.26   | 95.18   |
|                                        | Vegetable protein | 15.69          | 19.85   | 24.81   | 25.26    | 30.93   | 37.53   | 33.69               | 41.35   | 49.89   |
|                                        | Animal protein    | 52.86          | 63.90   | 76.44   | 44.79    | 53.67   | 64.35   | 31.76               | 41.06   | 46.02   |
|                                        | Carbohydrates     | 111.52         | 126.24  | 148.34  | 136.02   | 174.58  | 193.36  | 174.00              | 231.66  | 279.06  |
|                                        | Sugar             | 46.29          | 59.90   | 91.87   | 59.15    | 75.99   | 87.82   | 57.38               | 75.53   | 97.37   |
|                                        | Polysaccharides   | 29.83          | 57.63   | 99.22   | 54.29    | 92.28   | 124.02  | 109.69              | 148.59  | 200.63  |
|                                        | Fibre             | 18.58          | 22.38   | 27.46   | 23.24    | 28.53   | 35.57   | 26.84               | 32.19   | 37.51   |
| Adjusted protein intake (g/(day · kg)) | Total protein     | 0.99           | 1.11    | 1.22    | 1.00     | 1.22    | 1.46    | 1.14                | 1.31    | 1.56    |

**Table S2.** Significant Pearson correlations between different dietary variables. Columns show correlation coefficient (*r*) and p-value (*p*).

| Nutrition fact                | Nutrient                             | r    | p                     |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| Plant-based protein           | Carbohydrates                        | 0.79 | 6.8*10 <sup>-13</sup> |
| Plant-based protein           | Polysaccharides                      | 0.73 | 2.5*10 <sup>-10</sup> |
| Plant-based protein           | Fiber                                | 0.76 | 1.6*10 <sup>-11</sup> |
| Energy contribution of lipids | Energy contribution of carbohydrates | 0.83 | 3.9*10 <sup>-15</sup> |

**Table S3.** Complete output of 1 repetition of PERMANOVA analysis per type of measure. R<sup>2</sup> and p-values slightly differ from those mentioned in the main text because only one analysis is shown here, whereas for the final result, the mean of the values of 10 repetitions has been taken for greater robustness.

| Bray-Curtis    | Df | SumOfSqs   | R2       | F        | Pr(>F) |
|----------------|----|------------|----------|----------|--------|
| Diet           | 2  | 0.32144914 | 0.035145 | 0.955278 | 0.5102 |
| Sex            | 1  | 0.22420573 | 0.024513 | 1.332582 | 0.1584 |
| Age            | 1  | 0.13625243 | 0.014897 | 0.809826 | 0.6441 |
| Alcohol.intake | 1  | 0.16973289 | 0.018557 | 1.008819 | 0.4137 |
| Medication     | 1  | 0.20474776 | 0.022386 | 1.216933 | 0.2275 |
| Residual       | 48 | 8.07595471 | 0.882964 |          |        |
| Total          | 54 | 9.1464188  | 1        |          |        |

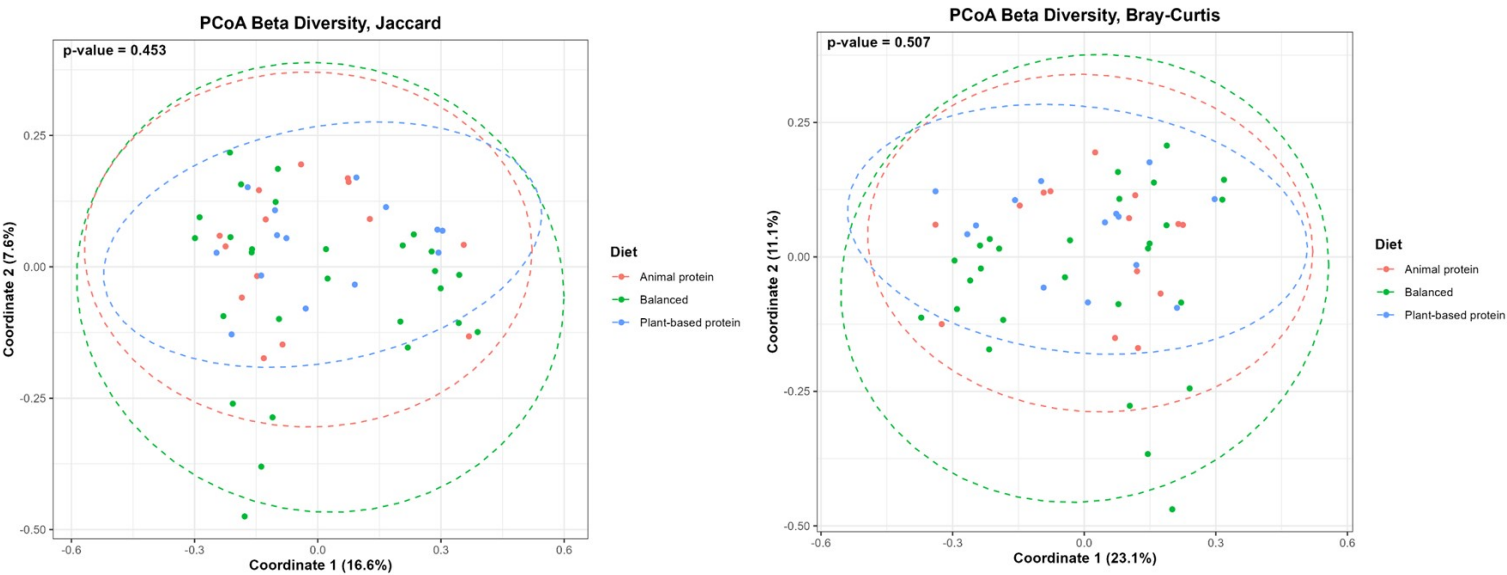
| Jaccard        | Df | SumOfSqs   | R2       | F        | Pr(>F) |
|----------------|----|------------|----------|----------|--------|
| Diet           | 2  | 0.52040717 | 0.036609 | 0.993498 | 0.4501 |
| Sex            | 1  | 0.29976382 | 0.021088 | 1.144545 | 0.2361 |
| Age            | 1  | 0.23362508 | 0.016435 | 0.892017 | 0.6049 |
| Alcohol.intake | 1  | 0.26825928 | 0.018871 | 1.024256 | 0.3790 |
| Medication     | 1  | 0.30555008 | 0.021495 | 1.166638 | 0.2113 |
| Residual       | 48 | 12.5715101 | 0.884371 |          |        |
| Total          | 54 | 14.2151979 | 1        |          |        |

**Table S4.** Mean abundances of 50 first most abundant genera in samples, accompanied by its standard deviation, both given in percentage of relative abundance. The rest of the genera, less abundant, are gathered inside “Other” category.

| Genus                                     | Mean   | SD     |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| <i>Bacteroides</i>                        | 20.442 | 15.914 |
| <i>Faecalibacterium</i>                   | 7.979  | 8.836  |
| Oscillospiraceae UCG-002                  | 4.650  | 4.996  |
| <i>Alistipes</i>                          | 4.519  | 3.607  |
| <i>Eubacterium</i>                        | 3.804  | 3.030  |
| <i>Ruminococcus</i>                       | 2.957  | 3.685  |
| <i>Agathobacter</i>                       | 2.855  | 4.651  |
| Christensenellaceae R-7 group             | 2.631  | 3.994  |
| Lachnospiraceae NK4A136 group             | 2.625  | 4.285  |
| <i>Subdoligranulum</i>                    | 2.569  | 2.663  |
| <i>Blautia</i>                            | 2.202  | 2.047  |
| <i>Akkermansia</i>                        | 2.090  | 3.212  |
| <i>Prevotella</i>                         | 2.079  | 4.930  |
| <i>Parabacteroides</i>                    | 1.808  | 1.815  |
| <i>Phascolarctobacterium</i>              | 1.672  | 1.973  |
| <i>Coprococcus</i>                        | 1.608  | 1.862  |
| <i>Roseburia</i>                          | 1.449  | 1.189  |
| Prevotellaceae NK3B31 group               | 1.352  | 3.311  |
| <i>Barnesiella</i>                        | 1.015  | 1.162  |
| <i>Dialister</i>                          | 0.897  | 1.719  |
| <i>Dorea</i>                              | 0.889  | 1.492  |
| Oscillospiraceae NK4A214 group            | 0.864  | 0.990  |
| Ruminococcaceae CAG-352                   | 0.814  | 1.918  |
| Oscillospiraceae UCG-005                  | 0.667  | 0.839  |
| <i>Escherichia-Shigella</i>               | 0.612  | 1.821  |
| <i>Romboutsia</i>                         | 0.557  | 1.196  |
| <i>Monoglobus</i>                         | 0.509  | 0.512  |
| <i>Paraprevotella</i>                     | 0.491  | 1.148  |
| <i>Butyrivibrio</i>                       | 0.464  | 1.931  |
| <i>Fusicatenibacter</i>                   | 0.455  | 0.639  |
| <i>Anaerostipes</i>                       | 0.434  | 0.463  |
| <i>Bifidobacterium</i>                    | 0.361  | 0.609  |
| Muribaculaceae CAG-873                    | 0.354  | 1.804  |
| <i>Lachnoclostridium</i>                  | 0.346  | 0.350  |
| <i>Collinsella</i>                        | 0.340  | 0.482  |
| <i>Streptococcus</i>                      | 0.334  | 0.494  |
| <i>Butyricoccus</i>                       | 0.318  | 0.330  |
| Erysipelotrichaceae UCG-003               | 0.298  | 0.381  |
| <i>Odoribacter</i>                        | 0.280  | 0.266  |
| <i>Clostridium</i>                        | 0.279  | 0.649  |
| Prevotellaceae UCG-001                    | 0.272  | 1.665  |
| <i>Lachnospira</i>                        | 0.266  | 0.348  |
| <i>Oscillibacter</i>                      | 0.263  | 0.643  |
| <i>Parasutterella</i>                     | 0.260  | 0.479  |
| Lachnospiraceae UCG-001                   | 0.250  | 0.352  |
| Oscillospiraceae UCG-003                  | 0.233  | 0.310  |
| Lachnospiraceae UCG-010                   | 0.227  | 0.333  |
| <i>Alloprevotella</i>                     | 0.216  | 1.120  |
| Anaerovoracaceae Family XIII AD3011 group | 0.203  | 0.270  |
| Ruminococcaceae UBA1819                   | 0.159  | 0.266  |
| <i>Other</i>                              | 0.168  | 0.117  |

**Table S5.** Significant Pearson correlations of short-chain fatty acids (SCFA) with microbiota composition and faecal pH. Columns show correlation coefficient (*r*) and p-value (*p*).

| Bacteria                            | SCFA            | r     | p                    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------|
| <i>Prevotella/Bacteroides</i> ratio | Propionic acid  | 0.48  | 1.9*10 <sup>-4</sup> |
| <i>Prevotella/Bacteroides</i> ratio | Valeric acid    | 0.63  | 3.0*10 <sup>-7</sup> |
| <i>Prevotella/Bacteroides</i> ratio | Isovaleric acid | 0.45  | 6.7*10 <sup>-4</sup> |
| SCFA                                |                 | r     | p                    |
| Propionic acid                      | Faecal pH       | -0.52 | 4.7*10 <sup>-5</sup> |
| Butyric acid                        | Faecal pH       | -0.70 | 2.5*10 <sup>-9</sup> |
| Acetic acid                         | Faecal pH       | -0.67 | 2.0*10 <sup>-8</sup> |



**Figure S1.** Beta diversity analysis among three different diet groups. Represented p-value is the mean of repeating the analysis 10 times, with 9999 permutations each one.