

Eating pistachios lowers cholesterol, boosts antioxidants, more

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(PhysOrg.com) -- Pistachio nuts, eaten as part of a healthy diet, can increase the levels of antioxidants in the blood of adults with high cholesterol, according to an international team of nutritional scientists including Penny Kris-Etherton, distinguished professor of nutrition at Penn State.

"Our previous study showed the benefits of pistachios in lowering lipids and lipoproteins, which are a risk factor for heart disease," said Kris-Etherton. "This new study shows an additional effect of pistachios so now there are multiple health benefits of eating <u>pistachios</u>."

Other researchers in the study include Sheila West, associate professor of biobehavioral health, Penn State; Sarah Gebauer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Md. and Colin D. Kay, lecturer, University of East Anglia. The researchers' work is published in the May 20 issue of the *Journal of Nutrition*.

Provided by Pennsylvania State University

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