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1. Goel V, Cheema SK, Agellon LB, Oraikul B & Basu TK (1999) Dietary rhubarb (*Rheum rhaponticum*) stalk fibre stimulates cholesterol 7 $\alpha$ -hydroxylase gene expression and bile acid excretion in cholesterol-fed C57BL/6J mice. *Br J Nutr* **81**, 65–71.
2. Jenkins DJ, Kendall CW, Marchie A *et al.* (2003) The effect of combining plant sterols, soy protein, viscous fibres, and almonds in treating hypercholesterolemia. *Metabolism* **52**, 1478–1483.
3. Brandtzaeg P (2003) Role of local immunity and breast-feeding in mucosal homeostasis and defence against infections. In *Nutrition and Immune Function*, pp. 273–320 [PC Calder, CJ Field and HS Gill, editors]. Wallingford, Oxon: CAB International.
4. Stock M & Rothwell NJ (1982) *Obesity and Leanness: Basic Aspects*. London: John Libbey.

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**Monica Nelson**  
**2 Leicester Road, Wanstead**  
**London**  
**E11 2DP**  
**UK**  
**email [nelsononline@btinternet.com](mailto:nelsononline@btinternet.com)**

**The Royal College of Physicians,  
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**Conference on 'Phytochemicals and health:  
new perspectives on plant-based nutrition'**

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