Mayo Clinic Minute: Does intermittent fasting increase heart disease risk?

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<td>There are several ways to do intermittent fasting. The 16:8 method is popular. This involves eating during an eight-hour window daily. Many dieters do this by skipping breakfast.</td>
<td>&quot;It actually became popular because studies on fruit flies show that when you restrict the calories, the flies will actually live longer. But we are not flies.&quot;</td>
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Francisco Lopez-Jimenez, M.D.  
Cardiovascular Medicine  
Mayo Clinic  
"Time-restrictive dieting can promote weight loss, improve insulin sensitivity and reduce inflammation. However, some research shows this practice could possibly increase cardiovascular risk.

"This recent study actually showed that those people practicing intermittent fasting are twice as likely as dying from heart disease or dying in general than those who don't practice this."

The reasons behind the risk factors are unclear. Before trying intermittent fasting, it's a good idea to check with your healthcare team.

For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Sonya Goins."