Know

Your

Nutrients

Julie Gardner, MEd. Extension Program Specialist Healthy Lifestyles 4-H Youth Development Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Reviewed By: Danielle Krueger, MPH, RD, LD

Electrolytes

Chloride

Macro **Nutrients**

Protein Fat Fiber

Fat Soluble Vitamins

Vitamin A Vitamin D Vitamin E Vitamin K

Water Soluble Vitamins

TEXAS A&M GR/H EXTENSION

Calcium Chromium Copper Flouride Iodine Iron

Minerals

Magnesium **Phosphorus** Selenium Zinc

FR

MACRO NUTRIENTS

PROTEIN FAT CARBOHYDRATE FIBER



PROTEIN

AMINO ACIDS

Protein is found in plant and animal foods. Protein is made up of units called amino acids, which are linked to one another in long chains. The sequence of amino acids determines each protein's unique structure and function. There are 20 different amino acids in two categories:

ESSENTIAL AMINO ACIDS

are required for normal body functioning, but cannot be made by the body. They must be obtained from food. Nine are considered essential.

NONESSENTIAL AMINO ACIDS

can be made by the body from essential amino acids consumed in food or in the normal breakdown of body proteins. Eleven are considered nonessential.

<u>SOLUBLE</u> <u>FIBER</u>

LET'S TAKE A

CLOSER LOOK...

FIBER

DIETARY FIBER

Dietary fiber, or fiber, is a type of carbohydrate

found in plant foods. Dietary fiber is bound

together in such a way that it cannot be readily

digested in the small intestine.

There are two classifications of dietary fiber:

dissolves in water to form a thick gel-like substance in the stomach. It is broken down by bacteria in the large intestine and provides some calories.

INSOLUBLE FIBER

does not dissolve in water and passes through the gastrointestinal tract relatively intact and, therefore, is not a source of calories.



MACRO NUTRIENTS	FUNCTION: What does it do?	SOURCES: Where is it found?	DEFICIENCY: What happens if I don't get enough?
Protein	 Builds and repairs all body tissue Helps build blood Helps form antibodies to fight infection Supplies energy at 4 calories per gram 	 Animal Protein: meat, fish, poultry, eggs, milk, cheese, yogurt Nuts and nut butters Soy Vegetable Protein: legumes (peas, beans), whole grain breads and cereals 	 Fatigue Loss of appetite Edema Poor growth
Fat	 Transports fat-soluble vitamins (A,D,E,K) and essential fatty acids needed for body's proper use and storage of fat Supplies energy at 9 calories per gram 	 Butter or Margarine Egg yolk Meat with fat Shortening or oil Palm and coconut oil Salad dressing Whole milk dairy products 	 Eczema Stunted growth Diarrhea Loss of hair
Carbohydrate	 Supply glucose to spare protein Help the body use other nutrients Good source of energy Supplies energy at 4 calories per gram to all body cells 	 Bananas Breads and cereals Corn Dried fruits Flours and cornmeal Honey Pasta Potatoes and sweet potatoes Sugar, syrup, jam, and jellies Rice 	 Loss of energy Fatigue Ketosis
Fiber	 May help lower cholesterol Improves bowel motility (moves food through digestive tract) Gives feeling of fullness without extra calories, promoting satiety and weight loss 	 Beans Broccoli Carrots Enriched grain products such as: cereals, bread, noodles, tortillas, brown rice, oatmeal Peas Spinach Whole grains 	• Diarrhea

WATER SOLUBLE VITAMINS

VITAMIN C VITAMIN B1 (THIAMIN) VITAMIN B2 (RIBOFLAVIN) NIACIN VITAMIN B6 VITAMIN B12 FOLATE



LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK...

Vitamins

Vitamins are essential substances that the human body needs for proper growth, development, and function. Vitamins are organic substances which are made by plants and animals and then eaten by humans..

There are 13 known vitamins: A,C,D,E,K, and the B vitamins (thiamin (B1), riboflavin (B2), niacin (B3), pantothenic acid (B5), pyridoxal (B6), cobalamin (B12), biotin, and folate/folic acid. Vitamins are classified as water soluble and fat-soluble.

Water Soluble Vitamins

Water Soluble vitamins require water for absorption into the body. The body flushes out excess water soluble vitamins in the urine.



WATER SOLUBLE VITAMINS	FUNCTION: <i>What does it do?</i>	SOURCES: Where is it found?	DEFICIENCY: What happens if I don't get enough?
Vitamin C	 Antioxidant Collagen and connective tissue formation Immune function Wound healing Promotes iron absorption 	 Broccoli and brussels sprouts Citrus fruits and juices Green leafy vegetables Green or red peppers Kiwifruit or strawberries Tomatoes 	 Sore or bleeding gums Poor wound healing Pain in joints, bones, & muscles Bruising easily Hair and tooth loss
Vitamin B1 (Thiamin)	 Helps produce energy from carbohydrates in all cells Nervous system function 	 Beans, Peas and Lentils Nuts and seeds Pork Whole and enriched grain products 	Poor appetiteConstipationDepressionCardiac failure
Vitamin B2 (Riboflavin)	 Helps produce energy from carbohydrates in all cells Growth and development Red blood cell formation 	 Eggs Enriched grain products Meats, poultry, and seafood Milk and Yogurt Mushrooms 	Sore tongue and mouth, swelling alsoBurning and itching eyes
Niacin	 Cholesterol production Helps produce energy from carbohydrates in all cells Digestion Nervous system function Promotes normal appetite 	 Beans Beef Nuts Pork, poultry, and seafood Whole and enriched grain products 	 Loss of appetite Diarrhea Dermatitis (skin irritations) Confusion and Disorientation Anxiety
Vitamin B6	 Immune function Nervous system function Protein, carbohydrate, and fat metabolism Red blood cell formation Turns tryptophan into niacin 	 Chickpeas Fruits (other than citrus) Potatoes Salmon Tuna 	 Anemia Nervous irritability Dermatitis (skin irritations) Convulsions Weakness Abdominal pain
Vitamin B12	 Conversion of food into energy Nervous system function Red blood cell formation Regeneration of folate 	 Dairy Products Eggs Fortified cereals Meats, poultry, and seafood 	AnemiaNerve damage
Folate	 Prevents neural tube defects (birth defects) Red blood cell formation 	 Asparagus Avocado Beans and peas Green leafy vegetables Orange juice 	 Anemia Fatigue Brain and Spinal cord defects in infants due to mother's deficiency during pregnancyw

FAT SOLUBLE VITAMINS

VITAMIN A VITAMIN D VITAMIN E VITAMIN K



LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK...

Vitamins

Vitamins are essential substances that the human body needs for proper growth, development, and function. Vitamins are organic substances which are made by plants and animals; they are then eaten by humans.

There are 13 known vitamins: A,C,D,E,K, and the B vitamins (thiamin (B1), riboflavin (B2), niacin (B3), pantothenic acid (B5), pyridoxal (B6), cobalamin (B12), biotin, and folate/folic acid. Vitamins are classified as water soluble and fat-soluble.

Fat Soluble Vitamins

Fat soluble vitamins require fat for absorption and are stored in the liver and adipose (fatty tissue) of the body. By storing fat soluble vitamins in fatty tissues, the body can tap into these reserves when needed. Fat soluble vitamins are not excreted easily and when eating excess amounts levels can build up and become toxic.



FAT SOLUBLE VITAMINS	FUNCTION: What does it do?	SOURCES: Where is it found?	DEFICIENCY: What happens if I don't get enough?
Vitamin A	 Normal cell growth and development required for immune function supports reproduction Promotes vision Protects from infections Red blood cell formation Skin and bone formation Helps keep skin healthy 	 Cantaloupe Carrots Dairy products Eggs Fortified cereals Green leafy vegetables Pumpkin Red peppers Sweet potatoes 	 Faulty bone and tooth development in infants Poor growth Night blindness
Vitamin D	 Promotes absorption of calcium and phosphorus Helps keep bones and teeth strong Helps cell growth Immune function Nervous system function 	 Eggs Exposure to sunlight Fish Fish liver oil Fortified cereals and dairy products Fortified orange juice Fortified soy beverages 	 Rickets (soft, fragile bones, enlarged joints, bowed legs) Chest, spinal and pelvic bone deformities Convulsions
Vitamin E	 Formation of red clood cells Acts as an antioxidant to protect essential fatty acids and vitamin A 	 Fortified cereals and juices Green vegetables Nuts and seeds Peanuts and peanut butter Vegetable oils 	Anemia in premature infantsProblems of nervous system
Vitamin K	Assists in blood clottingRegulates calcium metabolism	 Butterfat (is synthesized in intestine by beneficial bacteria) Deep green leaves (alfalfa, spinach, cabbage) Egg yolk Liver 	Impairs blood clottingMay reduce bone strength

MINERALS

CALCIUM **CHROMIUM** COPPER FLOURIDE IODINE IRON MAGNESIUM **PHOSPHORUS SELENIUM** ZINC



LET'S TAKE A **CLOSER LOOK...**

MINERALS

Minerals are essential substances that the human body needs for proper growth, development, and function. Minerals are inorganic substances that are not made by living things, but rather are found naturally in soil and water. Minerals are absorbed by plants which are then eaten by humans or other animals. Humans can obtain minerals through plants or by eating animal products.

Only some minerals (listed below) are essential for body processes and functions. The other trace minerals not listed are not essential for the body and fuctions. Minerals can be broken down into two categories:

MAJOR MINERALS (needed in 100 milligrams per day or more)

phosphorus magnesium sulfur

TRACE MINERALS

(required in much smaller amounts by the body)

calcium

iron iodine zinc chromium maganese selenium fluoride copper



MINERALS	FUNCTION:	SOURCES:	DEFICIENCY:
	What does it do?	Where is it found?	What happens if I don't get enough?
Calcium	 Blood clotting Bone and teeth formation Muscle and heart contraction Nervous system function 	 Dried peas and beans Fortified juice and soy milk Greens (kale, broccoli, collards, etc.) Milk and dairy products 	Abnormal heart rhythmsFragile bonesOsteoporosis
Chromium	Insulin functionProtein, carbohydrate, and fat metabolism	 Broccoli Fruits and fruit juices Meats and turkey Whole grains 	• Inability of cells to use glucose for energy
Copper	 Collagen and connective tissue formation Aids in red blood cell formation from iron stores Nervous system function 	 Crustaceans and shellfish Nuts and Seeds Organ meats such as liver Whole grains and Lentils 	• Anemia
Flouride	• Makes teeth resistant to decay; most effective in young children	• Water (1 part per million is added to some municipal water supplies)	None known
Iodine	Growth and developmentMetabolismThyroid hormone production	Iodized table salt (76 ug/g of salt)Seafood	Stunted growthEndemic goiter
Iron	 Growth and development Immune function Red blood cell formation Helps change beta carotene to vitamin A Produces collagen 	 Beans and peas Dark green vegetables Meats, poultry, and seafood Raisins Whole grain, enriched, and fortified breads 	• Anemia
Magnesium	 Immune function Muscle contraction Normal heart rhythm Aids in making body proteins Structural component of bones and teeth Regulates blood glucose levels and blood pressure 	 Avocados and Potatoes Bananas Beans and peas Dairy products Green leafy vegetables Nuts and seeds Wheat bran and whole grains 	TremorsGrowth failure
Phosphorus	 Builds strong bones and teeth Energy production and storage 	 Beans and peas Dairy products Meats, poultry, and seafood Nuts and seeds Whole grain, enriched, and fortified breads 	Bone lossPain
Selenium	 Antioxidant Promotes immune function Promotes thyroid function 	 Eggs Enriched pasta and rice Meats, poultry, and seafood Nuts and seeds Whole grains 	Brittle hair and nailsHair loss
Zinc	 Promotes tissue growth and development Immune function Nervous system function Protein formation Wound healing 	 Beans and peas Beef, poultry, and seafood Dairy products and fortified cereals Nuts Whole grains 	Poor wound healingDecresed taste ability

ELECTROLYTES

SODIUM CHLORIDE POTASSIUM WATER



LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK...

Electrolytes

Electrolytes are minerals in body fluids such as blood, tissues, sweat and urine. Electrolytes help to transmit nerve impulses in your body. Electrolytes include sodium, potassium, and chloride. When dehydrated, the body does not have enough fluid and electrolytes to function properly.

Electrolytes help:

- Balance the amount of water in the body
- Balance the body's acid/base (pH) level
 - Move nutrients to cells
 - Move wastes out of cells
- Help nerves, muscles, the heart, and brain function properly



ELECTROLYTES	FUNCTION: What does it do?	SOURCES: Where is it found?	DEFICIENCY: What happens if I don't get enough?
Sodium	 Regulates fluid balance Influences blood pressure and blood volume Muscle contraction Nervous system function 	Breads and rolls	 Fatigue Profuse sweating Muscle cramps Dizziness Nausea Diarrhea
Chloride	Regulates fluid balanceHelps nerve transmission.	 Celery Green leafy vegetables Lettuce Olives Pineapple Rye Table salt and sea salt Tomatoes 	 Heat cramps Hair loss Tooth loss Muscle cramps
Potassium	 Normalizes blood pressure regulation Regulates fluid balance Muscle contraction Nervous system function 	 Bananas and most fruits Dairy products Dried peas Meats Orange juice Peanuts and other nuts Potatoes Spinach Yogurt 	 Weakness Poor muscle tone Heart abnormalities Muscle cramps Loss of appetite
Water	 Transports nutrients Transports waste Lubricates joints Regulates body temperature Cell hydration 	 High-moisture solid foods such as: soups, watermelon, and meats Juices Water 	DehydrationConstipation

REFERENCES

Adapted From: Bielamowicz, M.K. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (2011). Nutrient needs at a glance. Retrieved from http://counties.agrilife.org/hood/files/2015/11/Nutrient-Needs-at-a-Glance. pdf

National Institute of Health (2015, February). Definitions of health terms: vitamins. Retrieved from https://medlineplus.gov/definitions/vitaminsdefinitions.html

National Institute of Health (2018, February). Vitamins and minerals. Retrieved from https://nccih.nih.gov/health/vitamins

National Institute of Health (2015, February). Definitions of health terms: minerals. Retrieved from https://medlineplus.gov/definitions/mineralsdefinitions.html

National Institute of Health (2018). Fluid and electrolyte balance. Retrieved from https:// medlineplus.gov/fluidandelectrolytebalance.html

National Institute of Health (2016, December). Definitions of health terms: nutrition. Retrieved from https://medlineplus.gov/definitions/nutritiondefinitions.html

Runnels, C. (n.d.). Nutrition concepts. Retrieved from https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/ uploads/Nutritional-Concepts.pdf