# LIVING WELL: NUTRITION ESSENTIALS FOR A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

**HEALTH\*MATTERS** 

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# OVERVIEW

- Diet & Health
- Building a Healthy Plate
  - Vegetables
  - Grains & Starches
  - Proteins
  - Fats & Oils
  - Seasonings & Spices
- Healthy Eating Top 10
- Resources

# DIET & HEALTH: WHY CARE?

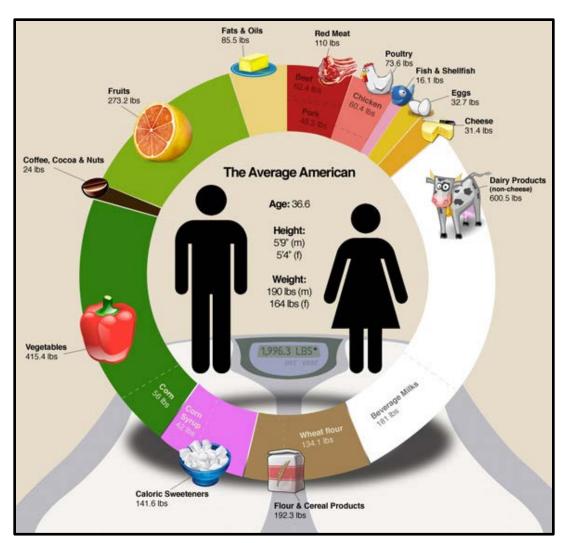
- Poor diet and physical inactivity are risk factors for the top three leading causes of death
- Unhealthy habits affect quality of life
  - Physical Function
  - Social Activities
  - Mental Health
  - Chronic Disease
- It's a factor that YOU CONTROL

# DIET & HEALTH: WHAT WE EAT







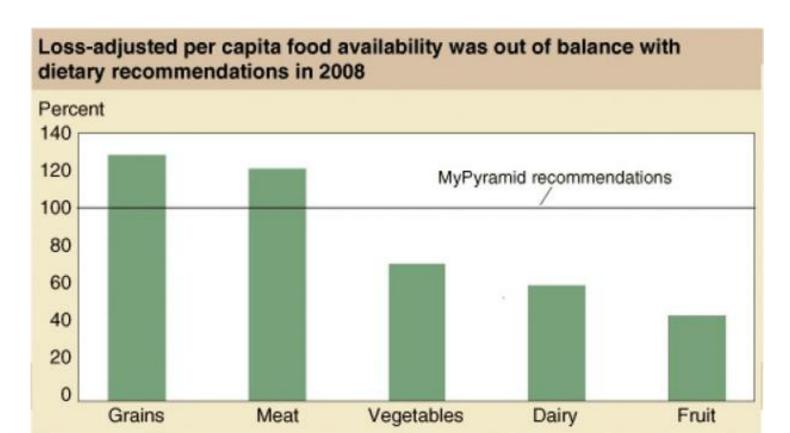








# DIET & HEALTH: WHAT'S MISSING



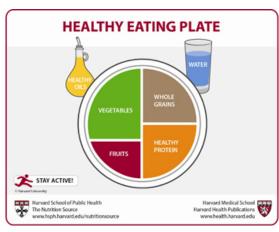
Based on a 2,000-calorie diet. Loss-adjusted food availability data are a proxy for consumption.

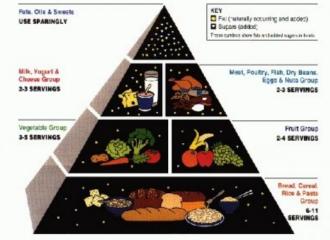
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, Food Availability (Per Capita) Data System.

#### DIET & HEALTH: RECOMMENDATIONS



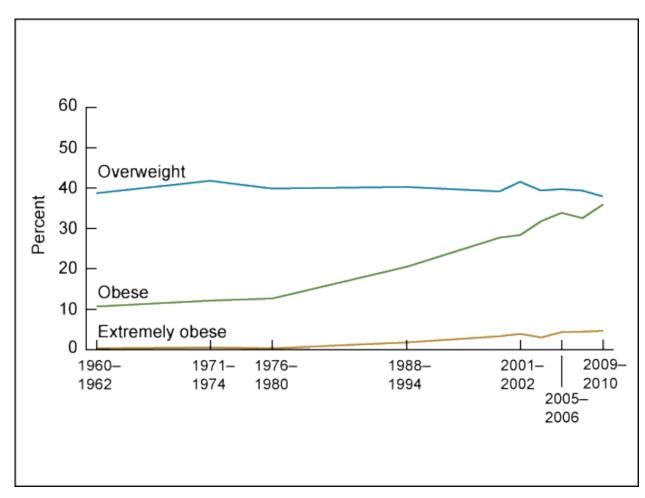








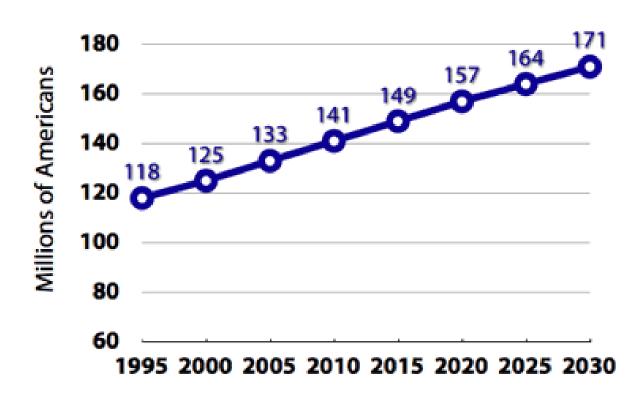
# DIET & HEALTH: CONSEQUENCES



Source: Centers for Disease Control

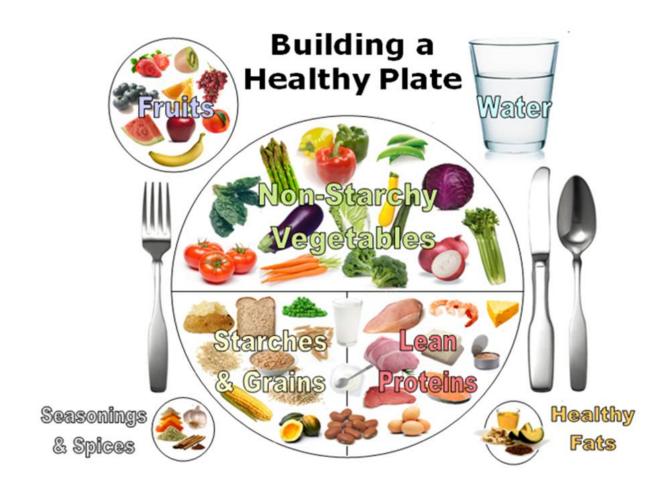
# DIET & HEALTH: CONSEQUENCES

#### Prevalence of Chronic Disease in the U.S.



Source: Wu, Shin-Yi et al. 2000. Projection of Chronic Illness Prevalence and Cost Inflation. RAND Corporation.

# BUILDING A HEALTHY PLATE



# VEGETABLES

#### Functions

- Provide fiber (bulk) and water
- Low in calories
- Essential source of nutrients
  - Vitamins & Minerals
  - Antioxidants
  - Phytochemicals

#### Good Choices

 Eat a variety of vegetables in many different colors

# VEGETABLES

#### • What's a Serving?



2 cups leafy greens



½ cup cooked or raw veggies

Chopped veggies in an omelet = 1 serving





Salad for lunch with greens & assorted veggies = 3 servings

Veggies & hummus for a snack = 1 serving





Tossing vegetables into your favorite stir-fry = 2 servings

# STARCHES & GRAINS



#### Functions

- Contain Carbohydrate: the body's primary energy source
  - Protein sparing effect
- Helps metabolize fat
- Cell function
- Nourish beneficial bacteria in the gut

#### Good Choices

- Whole grains, starchy vegetables
- Beans/lentils and low-fat dairy products also contain good carbohydrate

#### Poor Choices

 Products made with white flour, white rice, processed foods (i.e. chips), sweets, candy, baked goods

# STARCHES & GRAINS

#### • What's a Serving?



1 slice of bread or 6-inch tortilla



1 cup dry cereal or cooked oatmeal



½ cup cooked pasta or rice



1 small potato or sweet potato

# TYPES OF CARBOHYDRATE

- Refined Carbohydrate (Simple Sugar/Carb)
  - Broken down and digested very easily
  - Most have few essential vitamins and minerals
  - Can increase triglycerides and contribute to elevated blood sugar levels
  - Examples: Any sugar, fruit juice, chips, white flour
- Complex Carbohydrate
  - Take longer to digest
  - Packed with fiber, vitamins, minerals
  - Examples: Whole grains, legumes, vegetables
- Make the majority of your carbohydrates complex

# TYPES OF CARBOHYDRATE

#### • What about Fruits?

 Provide essential nutrients, antioxidants and fiber



- High in sugar consume in moderation if you have issues with blood sugar, diabetes, weight management or high triglycerides
- 2-3 servings daily appropriate for most people

#### Good choices

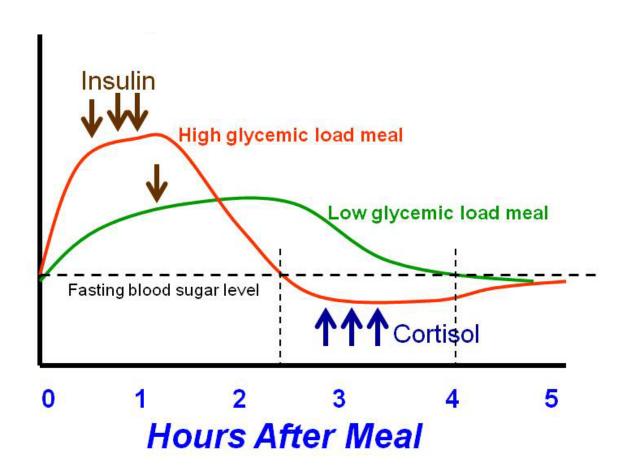
Whole fruits with skin on

#### Poor choices

Fruit juices, fruit-flavored beverages, dried fruit

# BLOOD GLUCOSE METABOLISM

Blood Sugar Levels



# NORMAL BLOOD GLUCOSE METABOLISM

Carbohydrate Consumed

Insulin Released - Blood sugar used by cells

Blood glucose levels ↓ to a healthy level

#### BLOOD GLUCOSE & TYPE II DIABETES

Carbohydrate Consumed Insulin released, but cells are resistant to effects

Blood glucose remains ↑

- Pancreas overworked
  - Insulin effect impaired

# PROTEINS



#### Functions

- Not a primary source of energy
- Building/repairing tissue
- Enzymes, hormones, immune molecules
- Essential body processes
  - Water balance, nutrient transport
- Hair, nails, skin

#### Aim for a balance of lean proteins

- Animal Sources: Lean meat, fish, poultry, dairy products, eggs
- Plant Sources: beans, legumes, nuts, seeds, whole grains

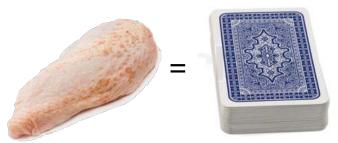
#### PROTEIN- AM I GETTING ENOUGH?

- General Recommendation: 0.37g/lb/day
  - Average: About 65g/day
    - 4oz meat contains 28g protein
    - 2 Tbs peanut butter contains 8g protein
- Most Americans are obtaining much more protein than needed
- Excess protein will not help build muscle



# PROTEINS

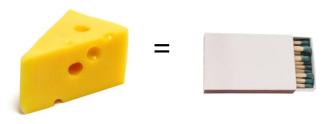
#### • What's a Serving?



3 ounces cooked meat, poultry or fish



½ cup beans, lentils or tofu



1 ounce cheese



8 ounces milk or yogurt

# FATS & OILS

#### Functions

- Concentrated source of energy
- Cell membrane structure
- Hormone development
- Absorption of fat soluble vitamins
- Protective cushion

#### Good Choices

 Lean meats, fish, vegetable or nut oils, nuts, seeds, avocado

#### Poor Choices

 Fatty meats, whole-milk dairy, fried foods, processed foods



# FATS & OILS

#### • What's a Serving?



1 teaspoon butter, margarine or mayo



1 tablespoon peanut or other nut butter



1 teaspoon oil



1/4 cup nuts



2 tablespoons of light dressing

# SATURATED AND TRANS FATS

# Unhealthy Fats: Increase LDL (bad) cholesterol and triglyceride levels in the blood

A Risk of heart attack and stroke

#### Saturated Fat- MODERATION

 Naturally occurring animal fats (meat/dairy), coconut, and palm oils

#### Trans Fat (partially hydrogenated oil)- ELIMINATE

- Primarily man-made and found in processed foods such as margarine and cookies, cakes, chips, crackers, etc.
- AB97: Good start to eliminating TF from restaurants

# CHOLESTEROL

- We make all of the cholesterol we need
- Dietary cholesterol is found in animal products (meat, dairy, eggs)
- Although it is important to pay attention to your dietary cholesterol intake, research indicates only some people are sensitive to dietary cholesterol
  - One egg per day is fine for most



# UNSATURATED FATS

Healthy Fats: Have a negligible effect on LDL (bad) cholesterol or triglycerides and can help increase HDL (good) cholesterol levels

Prevent heart disease and provide other benefits

#### Monounsaturated

 Sources: Olive, canola, & peanut oils; avocados, nut butters and many nuts & seeds

#### Polyunsaturated

 Sources: Soybean, corn, & safflower oils, fatty fish, walnuts, sunflower seeds

# UNSATURATED FATS

Essential Fatty Acids: Fats the body cannot make and therefore must be obtained from the diet.

Play a critical role in inflammatory processes

#### Omega-6s

- Pro-inflammatory
- Sources: vegetable oils (primary source), grainfed meat & poultry, grains & cereals, nuts/seeds

#### Omega-3s

- Anti-inflammatory
- Sources: fatty fish (salmon, sardines, halibut, herring, tuna), flaxseed, walnuts

# SEASONINGS & SPICES

#### Functions

- Contain disease-fighting antioxidants
- Have been used for centuries as treatments for common ailments

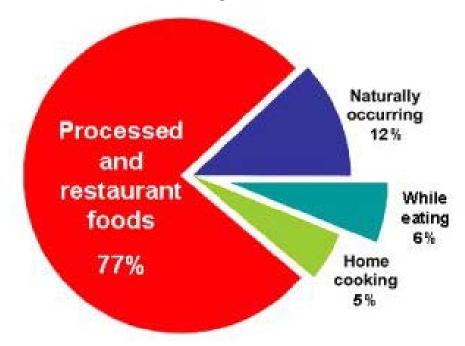


- Cinnamon (heart health, blood sugar)
- Turmeric (cancer prevention, anti-inflammatory)
- Rosemary (heart health)
- Garlic (cancer prevention, anti-bacterial/viral)
- Ginger (digestive health, cancer prevention)
- Oregano (highest antioxidant activity of all herbs)



# SODIUM

#### Sources of Dietary Sodium in the US



Source: Mattes, RD, Donnelly, D. Relative contributions of dietary sodium sources. *Journal of the American College of Nutrition*. 1991 Aug;10(4):383-393.

# SODIUM

- Body needs a very small amount of sodium to function; most Americans are consuming salt far in excess of what is good for them
- Recommended consumption of salt: 6 grams
  - Men = 10.4 grams
  - Women = 7.3 grams
- In susceptible individuals, excess sodium can lead to high blood pressure and kidney issues
- Cut your intake:
  - Flavor foods with herbs & spices
  - Limit processed and restaurant foods
  - Choose low-sodium versions of your favorite foods
  - Rinse canned vegetables and beans before eating

# BEVERAGES

- Water is your healthiest bet when it comes to beverages!
  - Aim for 64+ ounces of water a day
- Avoid drinking your calories
  - Limit/Avoid:
    - Soda
    - Sports drinks
    - Juices & other fruit-flavored beverages
    - Smoothies
    - Sweetened coffee beverages



# EATING WELL TOP 10

#### 1. Eat more vegetables

- Add more veggies to dishes you already love
- Embellish your favorite soups with added veggies
- Create a colorful salad
- Incorporate veggies into snacks
- Keep a stash of frozen mixed vegetables in your freezer for easy meal prep
- Cut up and package your vegetables as soon as you get them home from the store
- Visit your local farmer's market
- Sign up for a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) box to get fresh vegetables delivered



# EATING WELL TOP 10



#### 2. Choose whole grains

- Watch out for deceptive packaging: if a product is made from whole grain, it will say so explicitly in the ingredients list (ex: 100% whole wheat flour)
  - Common imposters: "multi-grain", "made with whole grain" and "wheat" products
- Cook whole grains in bulk (brown rice, quinoa, buckwheat, etc.) and incorporate into meals throughout the week
  - Most whole grains can be cooked similar to rice using a 3 or 4:1 ratio with boiling water for 30-40 minutes
- Start your day off with a whole grain breakfast like oatmeal with fresh fruit and milk

#### 3. Prepare your own food

- Dedicate time to plan, shop, prepare
  - Spend 1-2 hours on the weekend preparing large batches of healthy foods to eat throughout the week:
    - Salads
    - Soups
    - Whole-Grains (quinoa, brown rice, oatmeal)
    - Chopped fruits & veggies
- Know what goes into your food
- Have fun!





#### 4. Snack smart

- More likely to eat what is readily available
- Include protein and fiber to keep you satisfied
- Pre-portion your snacks, try not to eat right out of the original package
- Be prepared with your own healthy "grab-n-go"
  - Fruits and vegetables ready to eat
  - Nuts
  - Yogurt
  - Hard boiled eggs
  - Whole grain crackers & low-fat cheese



#### 5. Be strategic when eating out

- Portion control
  - Put half of your meal in a to-go box before you even start to eat!
- Healthy choices
  - Add a salad or vegetable soup to your meal
  - Order foods that are steamed, broiled, grilled, stir-fried, or roasted
- Be your own advocate
  - Don't be afraid to ask to have something prepared in a healthier manner - the worst they can say is no!



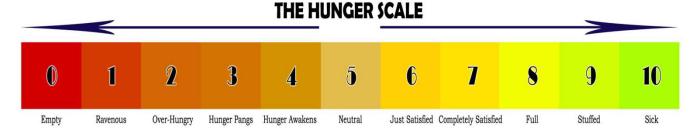


#### Drink more water

- Weaning yourself off of sugar-based beverages is a healthy, quick, and easy way to decrease caloric intake
- Refilling a reusable water bottle with tap water throughout the day is a cheap, eco-friendly and convenient option



#### 7. Stay in the neutral zone



- Ideally, you should never be too hungry or too full
  - Using the scale above, stay between 3 and 7
  - Typically, this can be achieved by eating a small meal every 3-4 hours
- Ask yourself before you eat how hungry you are.
  - Avoid the hunger red zone as it can lead to overeating
- Eat until you are satisfied but not full
  - Remember that it takes 20 minutes for the brain to register that you are full so eat slowly

#### 8. Practice mindful eating

- Eat sitting down, at a table
- Avoid distractions (TV, newspaper, computer) while eating
- Chew your food thoroughly before swallowing
- Set your fork/spoon on the table between bites
- Savor all the sensations of your food smells, texture, sight and taste
- Go for quality not quantity enjoy smaller amounts of the best food you can afford

#### 9. Tame cravings

- Most common food cravings are sugar, fat, and salt
- Cravings are part of our biology
  - For most of human history sugar, fat and salt were rare in nature - cravings were an evolutionary necessity
  - Due to evolutions in our food system these foods are plentiful, available constantly and heavily marketed biology is now working against us
- Outsmart your biology
  - Avoid your triggers
  - Remove temptation
  - Distract yourself
  - Indulge with limits
  - Explore motivations for eating beyond hunger

#### 10. Make healthy eating a lifestyle

- Diets don't work long term
  - There are no quick fixes!
- Start small
  - Don't expect to revamp your entire diet overnight
  - Take small steps (like adding a salad at dinner) as your changes become habit, take another healthy step
  - Healthy eating takes planning and dedication
- Recruit support
  - Support is essential to carrying out successful lifestyle change - get those around you on board with your efforts to live healthier
- Plan ahead
  - Don't let setbacks discourage you, plan ahead for how you will address barriers to carrying out your new lifestyle

#### **BONUS - Lead an ACTIVE LIFESTYLE!**

- Exercise is ESSENTIAL to health
- Incorporate activity wherever you can
  - Take the stairs
  - Park farther away
  - Walk to work/at lunch/break

Stretch at your desk, while watching TV

Plan activity into your day

Hiking, biking, running, walking

Gym: Classes, machines



# HEALTH MATTERS PROGRAMS

#### Nutrition to Kitchen Workshops

- Try new foods and recipes prepared in quick, healthy & delicious ways
  - Spring Veggies Made Easy (3/20)
  - Strategies for Eating "Carb-Smart" (4/10)

#### Programs

- I CAN! Commitment to Activity & Nutrition
  - Begins tomorrow, register by the end of today!
- The Amazing Walk 2 (Coming Fall 2013)
- Maintain Don't Gain (Coming Fall 2013)

#### Other Healthy Living Webinars

- Strategies for Successful Lifestyle Change
- Fitness to Fit Your Lifestyle
- Digital Tools to Support Your Wellness Goals

#### New for 2013!

- Ask the Dietitian
  - uhs.berkeley.edu/facstaff/healthmatters/nutrition.shtml
- Eat Well @ Work
  - Uhs.berkeley.edu/facstaff/healthmatters/eatwellatwork.shtml

Sign up today!
Tinyurl.com/ucblms