# AC 1.1 Functions of nutrients in the body

# Nutrients







# Nutrients

Nutrients are divided into ...... and ..... nutrients.

..... are needed by the body in..... amounts, the

GDA (Guideline Daily Amounts) is in Grams.

..... are needed by the body in ..... amounts such as

micrograms

...... And ...... are not actually nutrients but are essential to health.

#### water nutrients macro small maco large micro fibre micro nutrients

## What is the function of protein?

- Protein provides the amino acids for the body to grow especially in children and pregnancy
- Protein is used to repair body tissues after illness, injury or surgery
- Produces enzymes for digesting foods
- A secondary source of **energy** for the body
- Protein contains a variety of amino acids with different forms of protein containing all or some of the amino acids needed by the body

## Proteins : HBV

Proteins that contain all the amino acids needed by the body are called High Biological Value HBV – all animal sources except soya



## Proteins : LBV

Plant proteins that contain some of the amino acids needed are called Low Biological Value LBV – all plant sources. By eating a variety of LBV you can get all the amino acids needed



# Protein supplements

The only people who might need to use protein supplements are serious athletes who push their body very hard. Eating a balanced diet can provide all the protein needed by the body. GDA protein = 50g



<u>Soya Beans</u>

Whole soybeans are an <u>excellent source</u> of protein and dietary fibre. Soy protein is the only vegetable with a complete protein. Raw soybeans are toxic to humans so must be cooked! Soya beans can be made into many products including soy flour and soymilk! **Textured soya** is a protein made from wheat and soya beans. It can be made into different shapes and sizes and even made into products which look like ham, beef and poultry.







Quorn is the name of the brand! Mycoprotein is the main ingredient in all Quorn products. It's made from a member of the fungi family. It is low in fat and can be made into many shapes and sizes. (HBV source of protein) <u>Tofu</u> is soya bean curd and can be used in stir fries and other dishes. It is high in protein and also calcium!



#### What is the function of fat?

- Fat provides the body with essential fatty acids and **energy**.
- •One gram of fat provides 37 kJ.
- Fat provides a store of energy for the body.
- •Fat also provides a layer of **protection** for the major organs in the body **insulates**
- Fat carries important fat soluble vitamins (A, D, E and K) and is important for their absorption.
- Contains essential fatty acids such as omega3
- Eating food with fat in helps you feel full.

#### Saturated fats

Saturated fat can be found in meat, cakes, biscuits, and lard. Mostly animal sources except coconut oil

#### **Unsaturated fats**

Monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fat can be found in rapeseed oil, olive oil, oily fish, avocado



# Fats and oils

#### <u>Fats</u> (solid at room temperature)





#### Saturated fat





Examples of fats; butter, margarine, lard and dripping.



Examples of oils; corn oil, sunflower oil, peanut oil, sesame seed oil

#### What is the function of carbohydrate?

- Carbohydrate provides an important source of energy for the body.
- Carbohydrate provides 16kj per gram which is used both for energy to move and be active as well as energy for body processes such as breathing, heart beating
- Vitamin B (thiamine and riboflavin) help release the energy to the body
- All carbohydrates are converted to **glucose** when digested and this is converted to energy
- If the energy is not used up then it is stored as body fat

## **Carbohydrates: Starches**

Starchy foods provide a **slow release** of **energy** and help our blood sugar levels stay the same so we don't feel tired. (Also known as complex carbohydrates)











# Carbohydrates: Sugars

- Sugar gives a fast release of energy that means your blood sugar levels go up
- Some foods contain natural sugars such as milk, fruit & honey.



Many foods such as fizzy drinks, cakes, biscuits & jam contain added table sugars. This is the sugar that can be bad for our health and our teeth!









# Watch out for hidden Sugars

- Food manufacturers add sugar to many foods and drinks to improve the taste & flavour.
- It is sometimes called hidden sugar because we may not realise it is there.
- Foods such as pasta sauce, soups, cereals, baked beans contain added sugar.
- Manufactures often try to disguise sugar by referring to it as glucose, dextrose, fructose.







#### Vitamins and Minerals

Research Task

Use the resources available to complete the next page in your booklet.

#### <u>Vitamin A</u>

- Keep the skin healthy
- Helps with vision in dim light and colour vision
- Enable children to grow
- Keep mucus membranes that line the mouth, throat, lungs and digestive system moist and healthy.
- Antioxidant, which helps prevent heart disease and cancers.
- Fat soluble.





# Where is vitamin A found?

liver, whole milk, cheese, butter, margarine,
carrots, dark green leafy vegetables
orange coloured fruits, e.g. mangoes and apricots.



# <u>B Vitamins</u>

- B vitamins are **water soluble** vitamins needed for the release of energy from food.
- •.B1 Thiamin for the transfer of energy from carbohydrates
- B2 Riboflavin for the transfer of energy from carbohydrates, fats and protein
- B3 Niacin for energy release, skin and membranes.
- B9 Folate helps make red blood cells and prevent spinal cord defects in unborn babies
- B12 Colbalbumin for red blood cells and nerve cells





#### Where are B vitamins found?



## Vitamin C

Vitamin C is a water soluble



Helps to **maintain connective tissue**, which binds body cells



Vitamin C helps the body to **absorb iron** during digestion

Antioxidant, so aids in the prevention of heart disease and cancers.

Aids our immune system



# Where is vitamin C found?

- •Fresh fruits, especially citrus fruits and berries
- Green vegetables, peppers and tomatoes.
- •Vitamin C is also found in potatoes



Vitamin D is needed for the **absorption of calcium** and phosphorus from foods, to keep bones healthy.

Prevents disease suches as Rickets in children and osteoporosis in adults.

#### Fat soluble vitamin







#### Where is vitamin D found?

UK.

The sources of vitamin D include oily fish, eggs, fortified cereals and margarine.

The body can make vitamin D when the skin is exposed to sunlight, i.e. in summer in the

# <u>Vitamin E</u>

- Vitamin E helps maintain healthy skin and eyes, and strengthen the body's natural defence against illness and infection
- Fat Soluble

Soya beans, corn oil, olive nuts, nuts, seeds, whole wheat, vegetable fat spreads.

# Vitamin K

- Vitamin K is needed for clotting of blood and is also required for normal bone structure.
- Infants are given vitamin K at birth.
- found in green leafy veg e.g.
   broccoli, lettuce, cabbage, spinach, liver and cheese

# **Calcium**

- Calcium is very important when the bones are growing.
- Calcium is an important mineral needed by the body to form, strengthen and maintain bones and teeth;
- Make nerves and muscles work.
- for **blood clotting** after an injury.
- The skeleton contains about 99% of the body's calcium





#### Where is calcium found?

The sources of calcium are milk, cheese and other dairy products, some leafy green vegetables such as broccoli, fortified soya bean products and bread.

Vitamin D helps the body to absorb calcium.



#### Iron



- Makes haemoglobin in red blood cells.
- Haemoglobin picks up and carries oxygen to our cells, where it is used for energy.
- Prevents iron deficiency anaemia.
- There are two types of iron; one from animals sources and the other from plant sources



#### Where is iron found?

- Animal and plant sources.
- Liver , red meat, eggs, poultry, fish,
- Pulses, nuts, dried fruits, whole grains and dark green leafy vegetables.
- Iron from meat sources is easier for the body to absorb. Plant source iron needs vitamin C to be absorbed

#### <u>Sodium</u>

- Sodium is found in all cells and body fluids.
- It helps to regulate body water content and balance electrolytes.
- Makes nerves and muscles work properly.
- Sodium is also needed for the absorption of some nutrients and water from the gut
- Sodium is a component of table salt, known as sodium chloride (NaCI).



**`**0%

#### Where is sodium found?



- •found in very small amounts in raw foods.
- added during processing, preparation, preservation and serving.
- •Adding salt is the biggest source of sodium



#### **Phosphorus**

- Helps make strong bones and teeth.
  Helps release energy from food in the body.
  Makes cell membranes, especially in the brain.
- Phosphorus is present in all foods, but found richly in fruit (dried fruits, bananas, berry fruits), leafy green vegetables (e.g. broccoli and spinach) meat, nuts, seeds and pulses.





### <u>Fluoride</u>

- Fluoride strengthens tooth enamel and bones.
- Protects against dental decay, only a small amount is required for good health
- Fluoride can be found in drinking water and in small amounts in tea and saltwater fish.



#### <u>Fibre</u>

- Fibre is sometimes classified as a carbohydrate although it is not actually a nutrient. This is because it is not absorbed by the body.
- As fibre passes through the body it absorbs water and adds bulk to the waste making it soft, so avoids constipation.
- Fibre is also thought to slow down digestion which helps to control blood sugar levels.
- Soluble fibre dissolves in the body's water and acts to reduce cholesterol.
- Fibre can make you feel fuller for longer so helps in weight loss and appetite

# Where is fibre found?

- oats, barley rye and bran
- fruit, such as bananas and apples
- root vegetables, such as carrots and potatoes
- wholemeal bread
- cereals
- nuts and seeds



## Water in the diet

Water is the major component of body fluid and has many functions in the body:

H<sub>2</sub>O

- it acts as a **lubricant** for joints and eyes;
- it is the main component of saliva;
- it helps **removes waste products** from the body;
- it helps regulate body temperature 37(o)c

The body loses water all the time, when we go to the toilet, from sweat and also evaporation from skin. If we do not consume enough water, we become dehydrated.

#### Water in the diet

- Water is provided by food and drinks.
- 20% of water consumed is from food
- 80% is from drinks
- Some fluids are less beneficial, coffee and tea can increase water loss, sweetened drinks contain a lot of sugar and fizzy drinks are acidic on the teeth





H<sub>2</sub>O

#### Put it into practise

Plan and make a two course lunch for two people in their early twenties.



One of them has iron deficiency anaemia and has been advised by their doctor to try and eat an iron rich diet.

Explain how you will ensure that the meal is nutritionally balanced, and how you have catered for the person with anaemia.