

# **HEALTHY FORKS**

Fighting Cancer One Fork at a Time

# NUTRITION SURVIVORSHIP GUIDELINES



gerenme via Getty Images

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# **Importance of Nutrition Research**

According to the National Institute of Health, nutrition plays a major role in disease prevention and treatment, and it is widely recognized by health professionals and patients as an important foundation for healthcare. Extensive research has led to the development of many specific guidelines for cancer prevention and survivorship.

Following these guidelines may help to prevent a cancer from returning or developing a second type of cancer. There are several reasons why these guidelines are important:

- Cancer survivors who have finished treatment may still have undetected cancer cells in their bodies.
  - Cancer survivors have a higher risk of developing:
    - a second type of cancer
    - osteoporosis
    - obesity
    - heart disease
    - diabetes
    - difficulties preforming daily activities

# **American Institute of Cancer Recommendations**

AICR experts estimate that overall, about 1/3 of cancers in the 1.5 million cancers that occur every year in the US could be prevented by following these guidelines. For several specific types of cancer, following them could prevent even more cases.

- 1. Maintain your weight within the healthy range, and prevent gaining weight
- 2. Be physically active for at least 30 minutes, 5 days each week
- 3. Make whole grains, vegetables, fruits, and beans the focus of your diet
- 4. Limit consumption of fast food and processed food
- 5. Consume at most 12-18 oz of red meat (beef, pork, lamb) each week
- 6. **Drink mostly water or other unsweetened beverages**, avoid sugary beverages
- 7. If consumed at all, **limit alcoholic beverages** to 2 for men and 1 for women per day
- 8. **Do not use supplements** to protect against cancer
- 9. It is best for mothers to **breastfeed exclusively for up to 6 months**, if able, and then add other liquids and foods.
- 10. After treatment, cancer survivors should **follow the recommendations for cancer prevention.** 
  - Visit the AICR website for further info at www.aicr.org

# **Adopt a Physically Active Lifestyle**

Physical activity includes all types of movement, from simple daily tasks to structured activity. Being physically active should not feel like a chore, but rather enjoyable movement. Benefits from being physically active even come from small movements throughout the day, such as taking the stairs instead of the elevator. Keep it simple by aiming to move more and sit less.



Making physical activity a way of life is more cost-effective than an expensive gym membership. You may be more likely to stick with it, and over the long term you'll be healthier, more mobile and just feel better all around! Having an "active lifestyle" includes walking around while talking on the phone, taking the stairs instead of the elevator, and walking or riding a bicycle to run errands. Not only does this eliminate the issue of time constrains we face when trying to schedule trips to the gym, those who report an active lifestyle generally tend to meet the physical activity guidelines for Americans recommended by the US department of health.

## Keep activity simple: Move more and sit less!

- 1. Make a Plan- Create your goals based on your current level and are realistic
- 2. Be Consistent- The best way to keep being active everyday is to make it fun and not a chore, do what excites you



# **Healthy Forks Guidelines**

Fighting Cancer One Fork at a Time

# The New American Plate



#### Follow the 2/3 + 1/3 New American Plate Guide

Fill 2/3 of your plate with a variety of plant foods- whole grains, vegetables, fruit, beans

Fill 1/3 of your plate with plant-based protein or animal protein

Choose mostly seafood or poultry for your animal protein, keep red meat occasional

Eat smaller portions

Switch to low fat dairy products

**Make your grains WHOLE GRAINS:** A product that contains at least 8 grams (half a serving) of whole grain per serving, but may also contain some refined grain.

Cut back on foods with added sodium, sugar, and fat.

Choose water or unsweetened beverages over sugary drinks like soda and juice

# Try to pick a food from each color group!





**EAT SMART** 

MOVE MORE BE WELL

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# **Understanding "Label Language"**

# "100% Organic" All of the ingredients are organic



# "Organic"

A minimum of 95% of the ingredients are organic The package can still include the USDA Organic label



# "Made with Organic Ingredients"

70% to 94% of the product is organic. The USDA logo cannot be used on this package.

#### "Natural"

The USDA says meat, poultry and eggs labeled with this word must have no artificial ingredients and be minimally processed. It is safe to assume that "natural" means non-organic.



#### "Fair Trade"

Nongovernment organizations certify that growers received minimum prices and community support from buyers as well as followed specific environmental practices. Standards aren't as strict as for Organic.



#### "Free- Range"

Birds such as chickens are sheltered and have continuous access to the outdoors, along with unlimited access to food and water. However, these claims are not certified.

## "Cage-Free"

Birds can freely roam inside a building or room with unlimited access to fresh food and water.

They're without cages but can still be packed very tightly, even when organic.



#### "Grass-Fed"

Animals receive most of their nutrition from grass throughout their lives but may also eat hay or grain indoors during the winter. Animals may still receive antibiotics and hormones, according to the USDA.

## "No Added Hormones"

Already true of organic, but there is no certification for these claims.

#### "Whole Grain"

A product with this stamp contains at least 8 grams (half a serving) of whole grain per serving, but may also contain some refined grain.



# **Antioxidants**

Antioxidants have been shown to reduce damage caused by free radicals. Free radicals are unstable molecules that can cause damage to healthy cells, including DNA. If the DNA of a healthy cell is damaged, it may develop into cancer.

## Sources of free radicals:

- pollution
- radiation
- sunlight
- cigarette smoke
- herbicides
- alcohol
- aging
- injury

Antioxidant	Benefits	Sources
Vitamin E	May help to slow the formation of cancer, and possibly reduce tumor size	corn, soybean and safflower oil, wheat germ, nuts
Vitamin C	May help to protect cells from damage by free radicals, plays a role in immunity, bone and collagen formation, and protecting the vascular system	kiwi, citrus fruits, strawberries, cantaloupe, broccoli
Selenium	A mineral that helps to protect cells from free radicals, regulates thyroid function, and plays a role in the immune system	
Zinc	May enhance the activity of enzymes in the body, possibly helping with wound healing and improving the senses taste and smell	oysters, red meat, chicken, beans, nuts, whole grains, fortified foods (like breakfast cereal)

# **Phytochemicals**

Phytochemicals are plant chemicals that act as antioxidants- they are found in fruits, vegetables, legumes, nuts, seeds, whole grains, fungi, herbs, and spices. They have an effect on the smell, color, and flavor of the plant. In order to reap the benefits that phytochemicals have to offer, it is important to eat 5-9 servings of a wide variety of colored fruits and vegetables a day.

According to the AICR phytochemicals provide a frontline defense against cancer.

Addiallyl sulfides       Onions, garlic, leeks, chives         Anthocyanin       Purple grapes, blueberries, cherries, plums, eggplant skin, red cabbage         Beta carotene       oranges, carrots, apricots, cantaloupe, mangoes, pumpkin, sweet potato, winter squash, spinach, broccoli, kale         Capaicin       Chill peppers         Catechins       Apple,grapes, pomegranates, raspberries, red wine, tea, dark chocolate         Curcumin       Ginger, turmeric         Indoles       Broccoli,cabbage, kale, cauliflower,brussels sprouts         Isoflavones       Soy beans, tofu, soy milk         Isothiocynates       Broccoli,cabbage, kale, cauliflower,, brussels sprouts         Labiate       Rosemary, sage, oregano, thyme         Lignans       Flaxseed oil, flaxseed flour, flaxseed meal, ( whole flaxseed cannot be digested so it has no health benefits)         Lutein       kale, spinach, collard greens, Swiss chard, romaine lettuce, broccoli, kiwi, brussels sprouts         Lycopene       Tomatoes, ketchup, tomato sauce, guava, watermelon, red grapefruits         Monoterpenes       Citrus fruits, mint, sage, cherries,, cranberries         Phthalides       Celery Seed         Quercetin       Outer part of onion         Reservatrol       Red and purple grape skin, red wine, grape juice	Phytochemical	Food Sources
Skin, red cabbage  oranges, carrots, apricots, cantaloupe, mangoes, pumpkin, sweet potato, winter squash, spinach, broccoli, kale  Capaicin  Catechins  Apple, grapes, pomegranates, raspberries, red wine, tea, dark chocolate  Curcumin  Ginger, turmeric  Indoles  Broccoli, cabbage, kale, cauliflower, brussels sprouts  Isoflavones  Soy beans, tofu, soy milk  Isothiocynates  Broccoli, cabbage, kale, cauliflower, brussels sprouts  Labiate  Rosemary, sage, oregano, thyme  Lignans  Flaxseed oil, flaxseed flour, flaxseed meal, ( whole flaxseed cannot be digested so it has no health benefits)  Lutein  kale, spinach, collard greens, Swiss chard, romaine lettuce, broccoli, kiwi, brussels sprouts  Lycopene  Tomatoes, ketchup, tomato sauce, guava, watermelon, red grapefruits  Monoterpenes  Phthalides  Celery Seed  Quercetin  Outer part of onion	Addiallyl sulfides	Onions, garlic, leeks, chives
pumpkin, sweet potato, winter squash, spinach, broccoli, kale  Capaicin  Chili peppers  Apple, grapes, pomegranates, raspberries, red wine, tea, dark chocolate  Curcumin  Ginger, turmeric  Indoles  Broccoli, cabbage, kale, cauliflower, brussels sprouts  Isoflavones  Soy beans, tofu, soy milk  Isothiocynates  Broccoli, cabbage, kale, cauliflower, brussels sprouts  Labiate  Rosemary, sage, oregano, thyme  Lignans  Flaxseed oil, flaxseed flour, flaxseed meal, ( whole flaxseed cannot be digested so it has no health benefits)  Lutein  kale, spinach, collard greens, Swiss chard, romaine lettuce, broccoli, kiwi, brussels sprouts  Lycopene  Tomatoes, ketchup, tomato sauce, guava, watermelon, red grapefruits  Monoterpenes  Phthalides  Celery Seed  Quercetin  Outer part of onion	Anthocyanin	
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	Phthalides	Celery Seed
Reservatrol Red and purple grape skin, red wine, grape juice	Quercetin	Outer part of onion
	Reservatrol	Red and purple grape skin, red wine, grape juice



# **How to Read Food Labels**

The nutrient contents of a product are displayed on the nutrition facts panel. Almost all processed foods, meat and chicken have a nutrition facts panel. Fresh fruits, vegetables and some raw sources of protein (such as meat, chicken and fish) do not have a label.



# <u>Familiarizing yourself with the Nutrition Facts label is important. Here are a few tips:</u>

- Serving sizes are based on what is normally eaten. It's different for every product.
   Take note of the serving size of a product at the top of the panel. It may be different from what you expect.
- G=Gram. Mg=milligram
- Although you may not be on a 2,000 kcal diet, the percent daily value is a good approximation of what you are eating.
- Calories, fat, cholesterol, sodium, total carbohydrate and protein are listed on the left side of the panel.

# **About those Health and Nutrient Claims**

Health claims link food with preventing disease states, such as Heart Healthy Foods. Nutrient claims use approved wording to describe the nutrient value foods, for example, low calorie foods. Let's look at a few.

#### **Calories**

- Calorie free: Less than 5 calories per serving
- Low calorie: 40 calories or less per serving
- Reduced calorie: At least 25% lower in calories than a "regular," or reference food.

#### **Fat and Cholesterol**

- Cholesterol free: Less than 2 mg of cholesterol and 2 g or less saturated fat and trans fat combined per serving.
- Low cholesterol: 20 mg or less of cholesterol and 2 g or less saturated fat per serving
- Reduced or Less Cholesterol: At least 25% less cholesterol than a reference food and 2 g or less saturated fat per serving
- Fat free: Less than 0.5g of fat per serving
- Low fat: 3 g or less fat per serving
- Saturated fat free: Less than 0.5g of saturated fat and less than 0.5g of trans fat.
- Less saturated fat: 25% or less saturated fat and trans fat combined than the comparison food
- Reduced saturated fat: At least 25% less saturated fat and reduced by more than 1 g saturated fat per serving compared with a reference food
- Trans fat free: Less than 0.5 g of trans fat and less than 0.5 g of saturated fat per serving
- **Percent (%) fat free:** Used only if the product meets the definition of low fat or fat free. Percent fat free indicates how much fat is in 100 grams of food. For example, if 100 grams of food has 7 grams of fat in it, the food its 93% fat free.
- Lean and extra lean: Indicates the fat content of meat, chicken and seafood Lean:
  - Less than 8g total fat and 3.5g or less saturated fat and less than 80mg cholesterol per serving

#### **Extra Lean:**

• Less than 5g of fat and less than 2g of saturated fat and trans fat combined, and less than 95mg of cholesterol per serving.

# **Sodium**

- Sodium Free: Less than 5 mg per serving.
- Very low sodium: 35 mg or less sodium per serving.
- Low sodium: 140 mg or less sodium per serving
- Reduced sodium: At least 25% lower in sodium than the regular product

## Sugar

- Sugar Free: Less than 0.5 mg grams of sugar per serving
  - No Added Sugar: No sugar has been added, but there may be natural sugar in the food.
  - **Zero net carbs:** Sugar Alcohols and fiber have been taken away from the total carbohydrate amount in the food.

#### **Fiber**

- **High Fiber:** 5 g or more per serving. (Foods making high-fiber claims must fit the definition of low fat, or the level of total fat must appear next to the high-fiber claim.)
- Good source of fiber: 2.5 g to 4.9 g per serving.
- More or Added Fiber: At least 2.5 g more per serving than a reference food

#### **Other Terms**

- Free, Without, No, Zero: None or a trivial amount.
- Calorie free: Means containing fewer than 5 calories per serving
- Sugar Free and Fat Free: Means containing less than half a gram per serving
- Good source: 10%-19% of the Daily Value per serving
- **Healthy:** Low in fat, saturated fat, trans fat, cholesterol, and sodium and containing at least 10% of the Daily Value for Vitamin A, Vitamin C, Calcium, Iron, Protein, or Fiber.
- **High in:** 20% or more of the Daily Value for a given nutrient per serving; other terms include "rich in" or "excellent source."
- Less, Fewer, Reduced: Containing at least 25% less of a nutrient or calories than a reference food. For example, Pretzels can claim to provide less fat than potato chips.
- More, extra: At least 10% more of the Daily Value than in a reference food. The nutrient may be added or may occur naturally.

# Vitamins, Minerals, and Herbs

**Choosing a multivitamin:** A multivitamin that offers 100% of the daily value of the nutrients offered in the product is desirable. This information is on the nutrient facts label. However, its important to avoid multivitamins that have herbal products. Ingredients derived from herbs can pose harmful drug interactions with your prescriptions or over the counter medications.

**To take or not take additional vitamins, minerals, antioxidants or herbal products:** Unless recommended by your doctor or dietitian, such additional products are not required. Obtaining the nutrients provided by these products from a plant based diet instead, is the optimal decision. Store bought vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants do not provide your body with the ideal form of nutrients. These nutrients are better obtained from a healthy diet. In addition, high doses of supplements can be harmful and can interfere with your medications. It is important to consult your healthcare team if and when you are considering any additional supplements. There is not enough research that can confirm if herbal supplements or healthful or useful, so it is important to always practice caution. Concerns or questions should again, be directed to your healthcare team.

**Supplement Quality:** As of now, there are no government agencies that review the safety of dietary supplements. This includes all vitamins, minerals and herbal products. However, two third party organizations can provide you with the additional information and the safety of such products:

- ConsumerLab.com (CL), www.ConsumerLab.com: Consumer Lab performs independent review of dietary supplements, and publishes this information on their website. Information is available to subscribers only. Brands that meet CL standards may carry the CL seal of approval on their product.
- United States Pharmacopeia (USP), <u>www.uspverified.org</u>: Supplement manufacturers volunteer to participate in this program. Quality products review the USP Verified seal of approval. Products are tested for quality, purity and potency. There are many USP verified brand and generic supplements on the market.



http://www.popsugar.com/fitness/Label-Able-USP-Verified-Supplement-Mark-638682



http://www.anh-usa.org/what-you-need-to-know-about-consumerlab-com/

# The Soy Controversy

Soy is everywhere. Whether we are looking at new soy products or products that have soy as an ingredient, it's hard to avoid soy. For the purposes of this discussion, we will be focusing on soy-derived foods such as tofu, soy milk and soy powder.

Although soy does provided a number of benefits and nutrients, there is a controversy around soy consumption and cancer. This controversy revolves around the phytochemical isoflavone, a component of soy.



# **AICR on Soy**

Soy foods contain isoflavones, which are phytoestrogens that in some ways mimic the action of estrogen. Because high levels of estrogen link to increased breast cancer risk, there was a fear that soy foods – and its isoflavones – may increase risk. Yet overall, human studies show soy foods do not increase risk and in some cases, research suggests they may lower it.

# **Limit Alcohol**

Happy Hour may be good for the bar, but definitely not for your health. The AICR recently stated that:

Breast cancer isn't the only type of cancer to which drinking alcohol is linked. AICR's expert report, Food, Nutrition, Physical Activity, and the Prevention of Cancer: a Global Perspective and **Continuous Update Project** found strong evidence that alcoholic beverages increase risk of developing the following cancers:

- Mouth
- Pharynx
- Larynx
- Esophagus
- Pre and Post-Menopausal Breast
- Colorectal
- Liver

Not only is alcohol high in calories, it has a very limited nutritional benefit. Abstaining from alcohol is what is best for your health. However, if you do want to drink, men should limit themselves to two servings or less of alcohol a day. Women should limit their servings to one or less per day. A serving is:

- 5 ounces of wine
- 12 ounces of beer
- 1 ½ ounce of liquor.

Drinking 5 or more drinks during one drinking episode is considered **binge drinking**— the more excessive drinking becomes, the more harm it poses on your health. According to the National Institute of Health, drinking too much on one single occasion OR over time, may increase the risk of developing the cancers listed above.



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30 minutes Before Breakfast	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water
Breakfast ~200 cals	8 oz green tea 6 oz hormone- free yogurt 1/4 cup high fiber cereal	8 oz green tea 1 organic egg 1 slice high fiber toast	8 oz green tea 6 oz hormone- free yogurt 1/4 cup high fiber cereal	8 oz green tea 1 tbsp peanut butter 1 slice high fiber toast	8 oz green tea 1 organic egg 1 slice high fiber toast	8 oz green tea 6 oz hormone- free yogurt 1/4 cup high fiber cereal	8 oz green tea 1 organic egg 1 slice high fiber toast
Snack ~180- 200 cals	*3 plant food smoothie	*3 plant food smoothie*	*3 plant food smoothie	*3 plant food smoothie	*3 plant food smoothie	*3 plant food smoothie	*3 plant food smoothie
30 minutes Before Lunch	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water
Lunch ~350 cals	8 oz green tea 1 cup raw cabbage 2 tbsp low fat Asian dressing 3 oz wild caught salmon (or another protein) 1 oz rice crackers	8 oz green tea 2 cups organic lettuce greens (dark multi colored) 1 tbsp LF creamy dressing 4 oz organic grilled chicken 1 oz LF shredded cheese 3 oz brown rice	8 oz green tea 1bunch roasted asparagus 2 slices whole wheat bread 2 tbsp natural peanut butter	8 oz green tea 1 cup black beans 1/2 cup cubed organic grilled chicken breast 1/2 cup salsa 2 small low fat corn tortillas 1 oz low fat cheese 1 cup organic lettuce greens	8 oz green tea 2 slices high fiber bread 3 slices of organic turkey 1 slice of low fat cheese Mustard 2 cup dark salad greens 1 tbsp LF ranch dressing	8 oz green tea 3 oz tuna 2 tbsp fat free mayo 2 slices whole wht bread 2 cup salad greens 1 tomato chopped 1 tbsp LF vinaigrette	8 oz green tea 1 cup low fat vegetable soup ½ cup chopped hardboiled egg white salad with LF mayo 2 slices high fiber bread
Snack ~160 cals	1 cup raspberries 12 almonds (no oil/salt)	½ sliced mango 15 walnuts (no oil/salt)	½ sm. Banana 12 almonds (no oil/salt)	3/4 cup orange sections 15 walnuts (no oils/salt)	1 cup papaya chunks 12 almonds (no oil/salt)	1 large apple 15 walnuts (no oil/salt)	1 large pear 12 almonds (no oil/salt)
30 Minutes Before Dinner	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water	16 oz water
Dinner ~550 cals	8 oz green tea	8 oz green tea	8 oz green tea	8 oz green tea	8 oz green tea 2 cups zucchini/garlic(roasted)	8 oz green tea	8 oz green tea

	1 cup raw spinach 1 tbsp low cal blue cheese dressing 3 oz mildly grilled organic chicken breast 1 baked potato/1 oz LF melted cheddar on top	1 green bell pepper Stuffed with 3 oz ground organic lean chicken, ½ cup brown rice, ¼ cup parm cheese, & ¼ cup meatless tomato sauce	Organic Veggie burger Whole wheat bun 1 tomato + 1 cucumber sliced With 1 tsp olive oil + vinegar	½ cup brown rice 1 cup shrimp (in low fat BBQ sauce) 1 cup roasted asparagus	3 oz white fish 1 sweet potato 1 tsp olive oil	1 cup roasted broccoli/garl ic 3 oz broiled wild caught sea bass 4 oz quinoa	2 organic chicken meatballs (ground organic chicken, oatmeal, 1 organic egg, ½ c parm cheese) 1 cup whole wheat pasta ½ cup meatless tomato sauce 1 cup steamed green beans
Snack ~150 cals	4 oz fat free cottage cheese ½ cup raw pineapple	6 oz light yogurt 1 cup blueberries	6 oz light pudding 1 apple	6 oz light yogurt 1 peach	4 oz fat free cottage cheese 2 medium tangerines	6 oz light pudding 1 cup blackberries	6 oz light yogurt 12 cherries

\*A 3 Plant Food Smoothie is a smoothie prepared with three fruits or vegetables of your choice. Try to choose brightly colored varieties in order to maximize your phytochemical and antioxidant consumption.

For example:

## **Red Berry Smoothie**

- 1 cup frozen raspberries
- ¼ cup frozen blueberries
- 1 cup spinach

Blend until desired consistency.



# Helpful Resources

American Cancer Society 800-ACS-2345 (800-227-2345) http://www.cancer.org

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) <a href="http://www.eatright.org">http://www.eatright.org</a> 800-877-1600

American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR) 800-843-8114 http://aicr.org

National Cancer Institute (NCI) 800-422-6237 http://www.cancer.gov

National Institutes of Health - Office of Dietary Supplements 301-496-4000 <a href="http://dietary-supplements.info">http://dietary-supplements.info</a>. <a href="mailto:nih.gov">nih.gov</a>

Nutrition Data <a href="http://www.nutritiondata.com">http://www.nutritiondata.com</a>