

# Nutrition Handbook

Feeding your family  
from meal planning to mealtime



## **Acknowledgements**

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
appreciates the review of this material by

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Check out the  
**RECIPE CARDS**  
in the middle of  
this book for tasty,  
healthy meal  
and snack ideas!



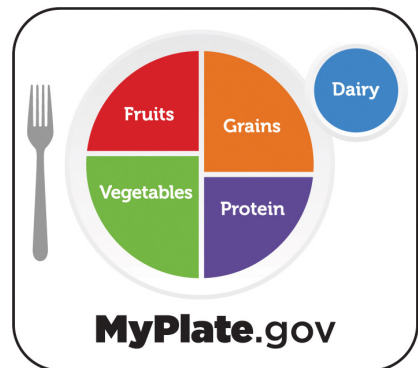
# Nutrition Basics

Food gives your body the fuel it needs for healthy body function and energy to go about your daily life. Following a healthy eating pattern throughout your lifetime can help reduce your risk of disease and improve your overall wellbeing. In this book, you will find strategies, tips and resources to help you and your family build a healthy eating pattern.

A HEALTHY EATING PATTERN	
Includes These Foods	Limits These Foods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A variety of vegetables</li><li>• Fruits, especially whole fruits</li><li>• Whole grains</li><li>• Low-fat dairy (milk, yogurt, cheese)</li><li>• A variety of proteins, such as seafood, lean meat and poultry (chicken, turkey), eggs, dairy, beans, peas, nuts and soy products</li><li>• Healthy fats, such as olive oil, avocado, nuts and seeds</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Saturated fat, <i>trans</i> fats</li><li>• Sodium (salt)</li><li>• Red meat</li><li>• Processed meats with nitrates or nitrites</li><li>• Added sugars, including sugary beverages</li><li>• Alcoholic beverages</li></ul>

**Building a Healthy Plate.** A good resource to help you find a healthy eating pattern and build a healthy plate is the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) MyPlate and the MyPlate Plan. The MyPlate Plan creates a personalized food plan for you based on your age, sex, height, weight and physical activity level.

Visit [www.myplate.gov/myplate-plan](http://www.myplate.gov/myplate-plan) for more information and to get your MyPlate Plan.



**Plant-Based Eating.** The American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR) recommends that at least two-thirds of the food on your plate should be plant foods, such as vegetables, fruits, whole grains and beans. Plant-based eating decreases risk of disease. Plant-based eating also adds phytochemicals, vitamins, minerals and fibers that may be difficult to get in good amounts if you are eating a typical Western diet of 50 percent animal protein (meat, poultry, fish, eggs and dairy). Plant foods are also often lower in calories than animal products, so eating plant foods helps you to maintain a healthy weight. Use the following tips to make the change to plant-based eating.

- Plan your meals around plant foods, such as vegetables, fruits, beans and whole grains, instead of meat or animal products.
- Choose a colorful variety of vegetables and fruits to get the most nutrients.
- Aim to fill at least two-thirds of your plate with plant-based foods including fruits, vegetables, whole grains and beans.
- Keep animal proteins (meat, poultry, fish, eggs and dairy) to one-third or less of your plate. When eating animal proteins, opt for seafood, poultry or low-fat dairy. Limit red meat to no more than 12 to 18 cooked ounces a week. Avoid processed meats, such as hot dogs, bacon and sausage.
- Instead of always choosing animal proteins, try adding more plant proteins—beans, legumes, nuts and seeds—to your meals. Try swapping animal proteins for plant proteins at one or two meals a day.
- Make gradual changes. Do not make sudden changes to your diet, especially if you have digestive issues or food sensitivities. A sudden increase in the amount of plant fibers in your meals can contribute to digestive issues. You may have to modify your approach. Work plant-based foods into your daily food choices gradually. The important thing is that you are eating more plants.

**Nutrients.** “Nutrients” are the substances in food that provide nourishment and support growth and healthy bodily functions. Nutrients can be divided into macronutrients and micronutrients. Macronutrients are nutrients that your body needs in large amounts and that provide the body with energy (calories). Protein, carbohydrates and fat are macronutrients. Micronutrients are nutrients the body needs in smaller amounts to support growth and healthy bodily functions. Vitamins and minerals are micronutrients. **The best way to get all the nutrients your body needs is by eating a variety of fruits, vegetables, lean proteins, whole grains and healthy fats.**

NUTRIENT	BENEFITS	FOOD SOURCES
<b>Carbohydrates</b>	Carbohydrates, “carbs,” provide the body with energy for physical activity.	Whole grains, vegetables, fruits, beans, dairy products.
<b>Fat</b>	Healthy fats provide energy, help the body absorb and transport vitamins, and protect organs.	Vegetable oils, fatty fish, avocado, olives, seeds and nuts contain healthy fats.  <i>Trans</i> fat increases the risk of heart disease. Avoid <i>trans</i> fat when possible. Cakes, cookies, chips, fried foods, creamer and margarine often contain <i>trans</i> fat.
<b>Protein</b>	Protein acts as a “builder.” The body uses protein to build and repair tissues and to make hormones and enzymes that promote the body’s daily functions. This supports a healthy immune system.	Meats, poultry, fish, eggs, dairy products, beans, nuts, seeds, soy and fortified* cereals  You can also add protein to your meals and beverages with a protein powder or nutrition supplement drink, if needed. Ask members of your healthcare team for a recommendation.
<b>Calcium</b>	Builds and maintains strong bones, supports movement and blood flow, and helps release hormones for bodily functions	Milk, yogurt, cheese, canned sardines, kale, broccoli  Calcium is also added to some beverages (such as milk substitutes) and cereals.
<b>Fiber</b>	Supports bowel regularity, stabilizes blood sugar and rids the body of toxins in the gastrointestinal tract	Whole grains, beans, peas, lentils, vegetables and fruit
<b>Folate/ folic acid</b>	Helps create and repair DNA in the cells of the body	Leafy green vegetables, asparagus, Brussels sprouts, beans, peas, citrus fruits (oranges, tangerines, grapefruit) and fortified whole grains

\* Fortified foods are products that have nutrients added. For example, many breakfast cereals have added vitamins and minerals.

NUTRIENT	BENEFITS	FOOD SOURCES
<b>Iron</b>	Supports blood production	Lean beef, seafood and poultry, beans, spinach, nuts, and iron-fortified cereals and breads
<b>Magnesium</b>	Regulates muscle and nerve function, blood sugar levels and blood pressure, and builds proteins and bones	Legumes, nuts, seeds, whole grains, green leafy vegetables, and fortified breakfast cereals
<b>Phytochemicals</b>	“Phytochemicals” are a variety of compounds that give fruits and vegetables their color and flavor. Phytochemicals support the immune system through the creation of healthy cells and death of damaged cells.	Fruits and vegetables in a variety of colors, whole grains, beans, coffee and tea
<b>Potassium</b>	Supports kidney and heart function, muscle contraction, and nerve transmission	Dried fruits, bananas, cantaloupe, leafy greens, beans, nuts, dairy products, and starchy vegetables, such as butternut squash and potatoes
<b>Selenium</b>	Supports thyroid gland function, DNA production, and the immune system	Seafood, meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, Brazil nuts and whole grains
<b>Sodium**</b>	Supports nerve function and muscle contraction	Table salt contains sodium. While the body does need a small amount of sodium, most people in the United States get much more sodium than the body needs. Processed foods tend to have a large amount of sodium. Too much sodium can increase the risk of heart disease.

\*\* Due to cancer or cancer treatment, some patients experience low-sodium levels (hyponatremia). Symptoms can include nausea, headaches, cramping or weakness. If untreated, hyponatremia can lead to serious complications. Talk to your healthcare team about your risk for low-sodium levels.

NUTRIENT	BENEFITS	FOOD SOURCES
<b>Vitamin A</b>	Supports eye health, the immune system, reproduction, growth and healthy organ function	Salmon, leafy greens, sweet potatoes, carrots, broccoli, squash, cantaloupe, apricots, mangos, dairy, organ meats (eg, liver) and fortified cereals
<b>Vitamin B<sub>6</sub></b>	Supports metabolism, the chemical reactions that convert food to energy in the body	Poultry, fish, organ meats (eg, liver), potatoes, fruits (other than citrus), milk and some whole grains
<b>Vitamin B<sub>12</sub></b>	Supports healthy blood and nerve cells and helps make genetic material (DNA) in cells	Fish, meat, poultry, eggs, milk and fortified foods, such as some cereals
<b>Vitamin C</b>	Supports the immune system, wound healing, and improves iron absorption	Citrus fruits (oranges, tangerines, grapefruit), tomato juice, broccoli, peppers, cantaloupe and strawberries
<b>Vitamin D</b>	Helps the body absorb calcium for strong bones and supports nerve and immune function	Fortified products, such as dairy, orange juice, egg yolks and cereals. Fatty fish is a natural source of vitamin D.
<b>Vitamin E</b>	Acts as an antioxidant to protect cells from damage, supports the immune system, and widens blood vessels to prevent blood clots	Vegetable oils, nuts, peanut butter and fortified cereals
<b>Vitamin K</b>	Supports blood clotting and healthy bones	Leafy green vegetables, vegetable oils, blueberries, figs, meat, cheese, eggs and soybeans
<b>Zinc</b>	Supports the immune system and cell creation, helps wounds heal, and helps sense of taste and smell	Oysters, red meat, poultry, seafood and fortified cereals

Source: National Institutes of Health's Office of Dietary Supplements, [www.ods.od.nih.gov/factsheets](http://www.ods.od.nih.gov/factsheets)



In addition to the nutrients listed on pages 4-6, there are more vitamins and minerals your body needs in small amounts for healthy bodily function. For more on vitamins and minerals, visit the National Institutes of Health's Office of Dietary Supplements at [www.ods.od.nih.gov/factsheet](http://www.ods.od.nih.gov/factsheet) to view detailed factsheets about many vitamins, minerals, herbs and more.

**Portion Size.** At restaurants and at home, big plates with large amounts of food have become common. Often, what a person views as a single portion is actually multiple servings. This is called “portion distortion.” A **serving size** is a standardized, measured amount of food, such as the amount used for Nutrition Facts labels (see *Understanding the “Nutrition Facts” Label* for more information on page 14). A **portion size** is the amount you choose to eat. It can be either more or less than a serving size. Learning to distinguish serving size from portion size helps correct portion distortion.

- Know the size of your bowls, cups and plates. Measure how much your bowls, glasses, cups and plates hold.
  - Example: Pour your breakfast cereal into your regular bowl. Then, pour it into a measuring cup. How many cups of cereal do you eat when you use this bowl? According to the Nutrition Facts label of your cereal, how much is one serving?
- Use smaller plates for your food so you do not feel under-served or tempted to fill up a larger plate with extra servings.
- When eating at home, make your plate in the kitchen and do not have serving bowls at the table with you. It is tempting to eat more when food is within reach.
- Restaurant portions are often more than a single serving. Ask for a to-go box before you start to eat. Put half of your food in the box, put it away, and then finish the smaller portion that's left on your plate. This can help you avoid overeating.

## DIETITIAN TIP

**Q. Do I need to take supplements?**

**A.** Choose a variety of whole foods as your first source of vitamins and other nutrients. This is the best way to get the nutrients your body needs. You may not need supplements. If you do need them, your doctor or a registered dietitian can advise you on which supplements to take. Ask your doctor before taking any supplements, vitamins, or herbs, as they may interact with medications you are taking.

- The chart on page 9 explains the serving sizes of common foods. Use the visual cues in this chart to “eyeball” your portions so you know how many servings you are actually eating. You can also check the Nutrition Facts label to learn the serving size of a food.

Visit [www.pearlpoint.org/portion](http://www.pearlpoint.org/portion) for more information about portion control.

**Hydration.** The “8 X 8” rule is a good place to start. Aim to drink eight 8-ounce glasses of caffeine-free fluid a day. Your fluid needs can change based on your health and activity level. Ask your healthcare provider for a specific daily fluid goal. Follow these tips to stay hydrated.

- Drink fluids throughout the day instead of waiting to drink when you feel thirsty.
- Keep a cup or bottle of water in sight at all times to remind you to drink.
- If you do not like plain water, try sparkling water, flavored water, adding berries or slices of lemon, cucumbers or lime, or mixing water with a splash of 100% fruit juice.
- Food contains some fluid as well, but only fluids that are liquid at room temperature, such as soups or popsicles, count toward your hydration goal.

SERVING SIZE	FOODS	LOOKS LIKE
<b>2 cups</b>	Raw leafy greens	 2 Baseballs
<b>1 cup</b>	Soup, chili, cold cereal, cooked vegetables, milk, yogurt	 1 Baseball
<b>½ cup</b>	Rice, pasta, hot cereal, cut up fruit	 ½ Baseball
<b>¼ cup</b>	Dried fruit, nuts, seeds, 100% vegetable or fruit juice	 Ping pong ball
<b>3 ounces</b>	Cooked meat, poultry (chicken/turkey) or seafood	 Deck of cards
<b>1.5 ounces</b>	Cheese	 4 Dice
<b>1 teaspoon</b>	Thin oils, such as vegetable oil and light salad dressings	 Water bottle cap



**Nutrition for Children.** Children develop eating habits early in life and carry these habits into adulthood. All children can learn how to make good food choices. You can use the following strategies to teach your children healthy eating habits:

- Be a role model. Let your child see you eating more vegetables, fruits, whole grains, healthy fats and lean proteins.
- Introduce foods again, again and again. If your child does not like a food the first time you serve it, try again. Children may need to try a food many times before they enjoy it. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics suggests it may take up to 15 tries before a child accepts a new food. However, do not force your child to eat. Many people have foods they do not enjoy.
- Encourage a colorful plate. Children often gravitate toward high-carbohydrate, starchy or bland foods, such as chicken nuggets, macaroni, fried potatoes and bread. Teach your child to eat a rainbow of foods—not just brown or tan ones. Eating a variety of different colored fruits and vegetables is a good way to get many different healthy nutrients.

- Add “secret” extra vegetables to dishes your child already enjoys to increase intake. For example, add chopped mushrooms, zucchini or carrots to spaghetti.
- Make fruits and vegetables available. Leave whole fruits like apples or bananas out for your child. Keep cut up fruits and veggies in the fridge. If healthy snacks are readily available, it is more likely your child will eat them.
- Avoid buying packaged, processed snacks (such as cookies, chips and candy). If they are available, your child may eat them and ignore other healthier options.
- Avoid using food as a reward. Foods used as rewards are typically candy or other desserts. These items often have little nutritional value and may take the place of other foods with more nutritional value, such as vegetables, fruits, whole grains and proteins. Use stickers or verbal praise to reward your child instead.

Visit [www.pearlpoint.org/ChildhoodNutrition](http://www.pearlpoint.org/ChildhoodNutrition) for more information about childhood nutrition.

**Weight Management.** Achieving and maintaining a healthy weight is an important part of a healthy lifestyle. Benefits of maintaining a healthy weight or healthy body size include:

- Decreased risk of disease
- Increased energy and wellbeing
- Improved strength and mobility
- More restful sleep

**Every person is unique. Talk to your healthcare team to determine a healthy weight goal for you.**

Your healthcare team will take into account your medical history, lifestyle, and health goals to determine your healthy weight.

If you need either to lose or gain weight to reach your healthy weight, talk to a registered dietitian. Try to find a dietitian with whom you can speak on

## DIETITIAN TIP

**Q. Are all weight-loss diets safe and effective?**

**A.** Weight-loss diets marketed on TV and social media are often fad diets. Fad diets do not work, especially not over the long term. Some fad diets can even be dangerous if they are very restrictive or eliminate entire food groups. This is especially true if you have other health conditions or if you are receiving cancer treatment. Talk to your healthcare team or a registered dietitian before making big changes to your diet. Additionally, do not take any pills or supplements for weight loss without talking to your healthcare team. Most of these pills do not work and could interfere with other medications.

a regular basis. Use the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) locator at [www.eatright.org/find-an-expert](http://www.eatright.org/find-an-expert) to find a registered dietitian in your area. You can also ask your primary care provider or health insurance provider for a referral.

A registered dietitian can help create a plan that is right for your needs so you can reach and maintain your weight goal in a safe and healthy way. Do not expect or even try to change your entire lifestyle overnight. Gradual changes are the best way to achieve and maintain results over the long term.

Visit [www.pearlpoint.org/WeightManagement](http://www.pearlpoint.org/WeightManagement) for more information about reaching and maintaining your goal weight.

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### **Note for Persons Receiving Cancer Treatment**

For cancer patients, treatment, medications and side effects may make it difficult to eat enough food to stay well-nourished. Attempting to lose weight is not usually recommended if you are a cancer patient in active treatment. It may be hard for your body to get the nutrition it needs with the added burden of a restrictive, weight-loss diet. If you are concerned about your weight, talk to members of your healthcare team or a registered dietitian before making changes to your lifestyle and food choices.

PearlPoint Nutrition Services®, a program of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), offers free nutrition consultations to cancer patients and caregivers by phone and email. Visit [www.LLS.org/consult](http://www.LLS.org/consult) to schedule.

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**Alcohol.** Heavy drinking and/or binge drinking increases your risk for liver disease, pancreatitis, certain cancers, cognitive (thinking) changes, and alcohol abuse disorders. If you do choose to drink, limit consumption to no more than one drink per day for women and two drinks per day for men and only if you are an adult of legal drinking age. “One drink” is defined as 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine, or 1.5 ounces of liquor.

**Mouth Care.** The mouth is the first stop for turning food into fuel. Here are some things you can do to maintain a healthy mouth and strong teeth.

- Brush your teeth with a fluoride toothpaste two to three times a day.
- Gently floss teeth daily.

- o If you are receiving cancer treatment, ask your oncology healthcare team if it is okay to floss. If your platelet count is low, flossing may increase the risk of bleeding. If your white blood cell count is low, flossing may increase the risk of infection.
- Visit your dentist for a checkup and cleaning at least once a year.
  - o If you are a cancer patient in treatment, talk to your oncology healthcare team before visiting the dentist or having dental work done. You may need to take special precautions or postpone your dental work.
- Do not use tobacco products. Visit **www.smokefree.gov** for more information and to get help to quit.
- Keep your mouth moist. If medication causes dry mouth, talk to your doctor about ways to manage dry mouth, such as drinking fluids, chewing sugarless gum or using a saliva substitute.

**Exercise.** Exercise offers other health benefits in addition to helping you reach and maintain a healthy weight. Regular exercise promotes good cardiovascular (heart) health and emotional wellbeing, too. The American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR) recommends at least 150 minutes of moderate activity or 75 minutes of vigorous physical activity a week. This time can be broken up over several days. Physical activity includes walking, jogging, swimming, biking, playing sports, etc. Include strength training and stretching, along with aerobic exercise, to build muscle and increase flexibility.

For additional health benefits, AICR also recommends avoiding extended periods of inactivity (eg, watching TV or sitting at a computer). Break up your day by getting up and walking around for at least a few minutes every hour. Try setting a reminder on your phone or computer calendar.

## DIETITIAN TIP

### Q. What are probiotics?

**A.** Probiotics aid in digestion and support immunity. Probiotics are the good bacteria like those naturally found in your gut or intestinal tract. Food sources of probiotics include yogurt, kefir, kimchi, sauerkraut, miso soup, sour pickles, tempeh, and milk with probiotics (buttermilk and sweet acidophilus).

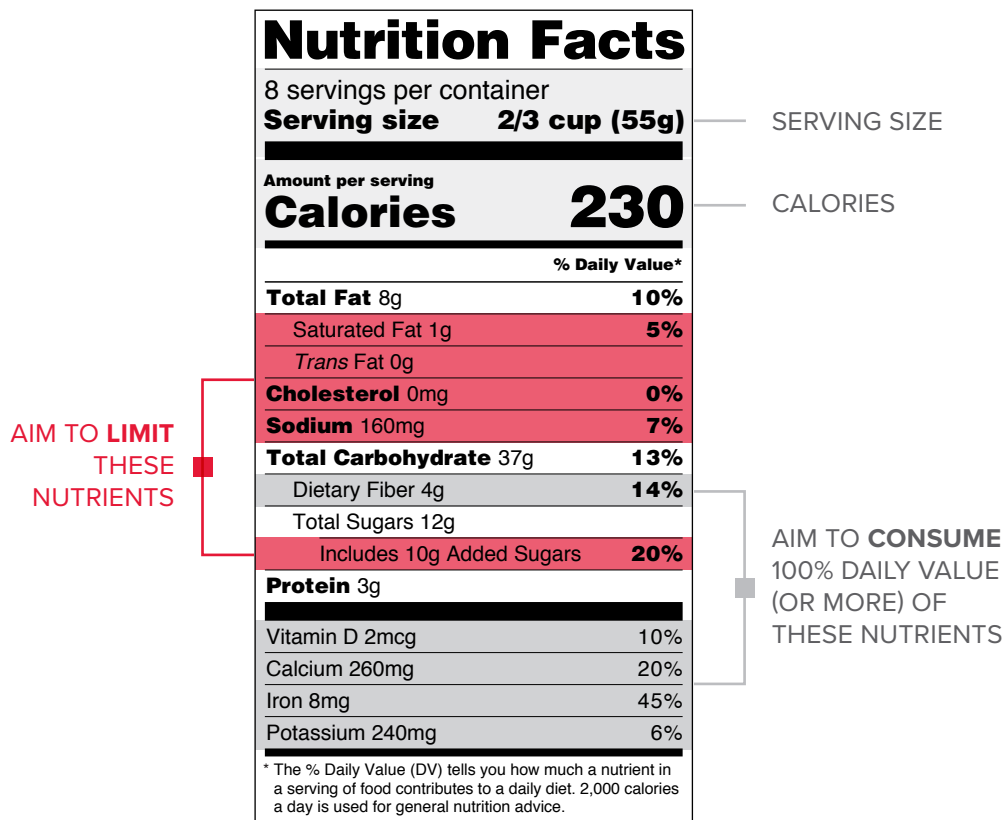
In some cases, your body may need more probiotics than you can get from food. Ask your doctor or registered dietitian if a probiotic supplement would be beneficial for you. However, your doctor may advise you to avoid probiotic foods and supplements if you are immunosuppressed.

Talk to your healthcare team before beginning any exercise plan. You may need to work up to a goal of 150 minutes per week or set a goal that has been adjusted to meet your needs. If you have mobility issues, ask for a referral to a physical therapist.

For more information, visit [www.LLS.org/booklets](http://www.LLS.org/booklets) to view *Healthy Behaviors*.

## Understanding the “Nutrition Facts” Label

The Nutrition Facts label, found on all packaged foods, follows guidelines set by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The label gives you information about the contents of the food in the package which can help you make good food choices.





**Serving Size.** The top of the Nutrition Facts label tells you the serving size and the number of servings in the container or package. The serving size is not a recommendation of how much you should eat or drink. It is a standardized measurement to make it easier to compare foods.

If you are keeping track of your calories or nutrient intake, make sure to take into account the amount of the food you actually eat. People often eat more than the specified single-serving size at one time.

For example, if a serving is one cup but you eat two cups, you need to double the amounts listed on the label to accurately measure what you ate. You may find it helpful to measure your food to keep track of the number of servings you eat.

On some food products, the Nutrition Facts label may have two columns. One column shows information for a single serving. The other column shows information for the entire package.

**Calories.** The next information on the nutrition label is the amount of calories per serving. A calorie is a measurement of energy. Calorie information can help you manage your weight if you need to gain, lose, or maintain your body weight.

The Nutrition Facts label is based on a 2,000 calorie-per-day diet. Your calorie needs may be either more or less than 2,000 calories. People undergoing cancer treatment may need to consume more calories to give their body the energy it needs to recover from treatment.

The amount of calories a person needs each day depends on a lot of factors including:

- Sex
- Age
- Physical activity level
- Nutritional needs
- Whether the person aims to lose, maintain, or gain weight

Ask your doctor or a registered dietitian for a daily calorie goal based on your needs.

Calories are not the only important information on the Nutrition Facts label. Even though many people consume more calories than they need, they still do not get the recommended amounts of important nutrients. A food that is low in calories but also low in nutrients may not be a good food choice. A food that is high in calories may be a good food choice if it is also high in the nutrients your body needs.

**Nutrients and % Daily Value (DV).** Based on a 2,000 calorie-per-day diet, the % Daily Value tells you the percentage of the recommended daily intake for each nutrient. For example, a food with 5% of the Daily Value of fiber provides 5% of the total fiber that a person consuming 2,000 calories a day should eat each day.

The amount you need of a specific nutrient may be either more or less than the recommended Daily Value. Ask your doctor or a registered dietitian for guidance.

Even if your nutritional needs are different from those shown on the Nutrition Facts label, you can still use the % Daily Value to determine whether a serving of a food is high or low in a nutrient.

A low % Daily Value is 5% or less. Choose foods that are low in saturated fat, cholesterol, sodium and added sugar. Aim to eat less than 100% of the Daily Value for these nutrients each day.

A high % Daily Value is 20% or more. Choose foods that are high in dietary fiber, vitamin D, calcium, iron, and potassium. Aim to eat 100% of the Daily Value or more of these nutrients each day.

**Nutrients Without % Daily Values.** The % Daily Values are not listed on the label for *trans* fat and total sugars because there are no recommendations for the amount to eat per day.

Aim to keep your intake of *trans* fats as low as possible. *Trans* fats are linked to increased risk of heart disease. Examples of foods that may contain *trans* fats includes baked goods, chips, fried foods, creamer, and margarine.

Aim to keep your daily intake of added sugar below 25 grams for women and below 37 grams for men. “Added sugars” are sugars added during preparation or processing, or are packaged as such (eg, table sugar). Examples of foods that contain added sugar include syrups and honey, sugar-sweetened

## DIETITIAN TIP

**Q. Does sugar cause cancer?**

**A. Sugar does not directly cause cancer, nor does it specifically “feed” cancer cells or cause cancer to grow. Sugar feeds all cells in the body. It is not possible to “starve” cancer by not eating sugar.**

Although sugar does not “feed” cancer, it is still a good idea to limit sugar, especially added sugar, in your meals, as it provides little nutritional value and may take the place of more nutritious foods.

beverages, candy, cookies, pies, dairy desserts, milk products, and sugar-sweetened cereals.

For protein, a listed % Daily Value is only required if the food claims to be high in protein. How much protein do you need each day? Divide your ideal weight by 2 to determine the minimum grams of protein your body needs daily. Cancer patients in active treatment may need to increase their protein intake. Ask your doctor or a registered dietitian for a recommendation.

## Meal Planning

Eating in a healthy way may seem difficult. Busy schedules and tight budgets may make it difficult to make good food choices. However, by meal planning, you can create healthy and balanced meals that are easy to prepare and budget-friendly. Follow these tips for meal planning.

**Plan Ahead.** As you plan your menu for the week, write down any groceries you will need to prepare each meal so you will only have to go to the grocery store once, and also so you won't buy foods you don't need.

**Shop Your Own Pantry.** Do not forget about the foods you already have at home. Do not let food go to waste by letting it expire before you use it. Check the expiration date and use the foods you already have at home in your meal plan.

**Keep It Simple.** You do not need to prepare a four-course meal for every dinner. In fact, you may not even need to cook at all. Visit [www.pearlpoint.org/MealAndSnackIdeas](http://www.pearlpoint.org/MealAndSnackIdeas) for easy-to-make meals for breakfast, lunch, and dinner with minimal cooking required.

## DIETITIAN TIP

### **Q. Should I consider juicing?**

**A. Juicing** (using a juicer or a blender) extracts the juice from fruits and vegetables. Fruits and vegetables are a good source for a variety of vitamins, antioxidants and other nutrients. Juicing can be a good way to help you add more fruits and vegetables to your menus. However, juicing alone cannot give your body everything it needs. By removing the pulp and skin from fruits and vegetables, juicing also removes the healthy fiber. If you are consuming an "all juice" diet, you are also missing out on other important food groups.

**Remember:** Juicing is a great way to add fruits or vegetables to your meals, but you should not rely on juicing to meet all of your nutritional needs. When juicing, wash all produce well and clean your juicer or blender after each use.

**Remember Leftovers.** Think about what food you will have left over after preparing a meal. Can you use that food for your next meal? For example, if you have roasted chicken for dinner, you could use the leftover chicken to make chicken soup or a sliced chicken sandwich for lunch the next day. This saves you money and time preparing food. Note—leftovers can be safely stored in a sealed container in a refrigerator for about 2 to 4 days. See *Leftovers* on page 31 for more information.

Use the *Meal Planning Worksheet* on page 36 and see the sample *Grocery List* on page 38 to get organized.



**LLS Health Manager™ App.** With *LLS Health Manager™*, you can use your phone to manage your daily health by tracking side effects, medication, food and hydration, questions for the doctor, grocery lists and more. You can also set up reminders to take medications and to eat and drink throughout the day. Visit [www.LLS.org/HealthManager](http://www.LLS.org/HealthManager) to download this free app.

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## Grocery Shopping

In order to make good food choices, you need to have healthy foods at home for meals and snacks. Use the following tips to help stock your pantry, refrigerator and freezer with nutritious foods:

**Shop with a List.** Make copies of a standardized grocery list, which includes perishables, such as milk and bread. Add to it each week.

- Check your pantry, fridge and freezer to make sure you do not already have these items.
- Organize the list by the layout of your store so you can go through the store once without backtracking.

- Add any new items you need to accommodate special dietary needs or guidelines provided by your healthcare team.

See the sample *Grocery List* on page 38.

**Shop Safely.** To keep your foods fresh and to reduce the risk of foodborne illness (see *Food Safety and Risk of Foodborne Illness* on page 22 for more information), follow these guidelines:

- Keep cold foods cold. When buying refrigerated or frozen foods, take steps to keep the foods at a safe temperature until you are able to put them in your own refrigerator or freezer.
  - Shop when the temperature outside is cooler (earlier in the day, for example).
  - Bring a cooler for cold foods.
  - Choose room temperature items first. Pick out cold and frozen foods right before you pay.
- Check the “sell by” or “use by” date on products. Do not buy products with damaged packages or dented cans.
- Keep fruits and vegetables away from raw meat, poultry and seafood in your cart and bags.
- Wash reusable grocery bags regularly by wiping them down with disinfecting wipes.

**Shop Frugally.** Use the following strategies to find discounts and ways to save money:

- Use coupons. Look online and in the newspaper for coupons. Check to see if your grocery store offers a loyalty program or coupons through a mobile app. Some brand-name specialty products can be expensive, so visit the product’s website for coupons or contact the manufacturer.

## DIETITIAN TIP

**Q. What does “organic” mean?**

**A.** For the word “organic” to be on a label, the product must meet certain United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-approved guidelines. Organic produce has been grown without the use of most synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. Organic meat comes from animals that are raised in living conditions that accommodate their natural behaviors, fed organic food, and not given antibiotics or hormones. **Keep in mind there is no definitive research that says organic foods are significantly more nutritious than conventional foods.**

Eating a variety of plant-based foods, whether organic or conventional, is what’s important. Organic foods can also be more expensive. If you prefer organic foods, you may be able to find budget-friendly organic foods at farmers’ markets. Finding a source for local fruits and vegetables means your produce is picked at peak freshness and only travels a short distance to market.



- Ask customer service for a rain check if an item on sale is sold out. Some stores will allow you to purchase the item at the sale price once it is back in stock, even if the promotion has ended.
- Check the top and bottom shelves in your grocery store. Typically more expensive items tend to be on the middle shelves at eye level. Compare these items with products on the top and bottom shelves.
- Buy generic to save money. Compare ingredients and the Nutrition Facts label to find similar products at a lower cost.
- Shop for seasonal fruits and vegetables. Seasonal produce provides great nutrition and taste and is typically more budget-friendly than foods that are not in season. Visit [www.seasonalfoodguide.org](http://www.seasonalfoodguide.org) for more information and to learn when foods are in season in your area.

For food assistance resources, visit [www.LLS.org/booklets](http://www.LLS.org/booklets) to view *Food Assistance: Resources and Tips*.



**LLS Health Manager™ App.** With *LLS Health Manager™*, you can create grocery lists, categorize items and sort your lists for easier shopping. You can also export your lists to email. Visit [www.LLS.org/HealthManager](http://www.LLS.org/HealthManager) to download this free app.

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**Shop in New Ways.** There are ways to get your groceries without a typical trip to the grocery store. Try these other ways to shop.

- Many grocery stores now offer pickup and/or delivery services. For pickup services, you send a list to the store ahead of time. A store employee then puts together your grocery order. Once your groceries are ready, you go to the store, and an employee loads them into your car. Some grocery stores and online retailers can deliver food to your home for an extra fee.
- Ask if your grocery store offers nutrition services. Some stores offer complimentary nutrition services, such as consultations with a dietitian, supermarket tours and cooking classes.
- For local fresh fruits and vegetables, visit a farmers' market. Visit [www.localharvest.org/farmers-markets](http://www.localharvest.org/farmers-markets) for more information and to find one

in your area.

- Join a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. A CSA program gives you the opportunity to pay a local farm ahead of time for your share of produce. The farm gives you a box of fruits and vegetables at set intervals, usually weekly. Some CSAs also provide eggs, meat, or other farm products. Visit [www.localharvest.org/csa](http://www.localharvest.org/csa) for more information and to find a CSA in your area.

## Food Safety and Risk of Foodborne Illness

**What Is Foodborne Illness?** Foodborne illness (food poisoning) is any illness that results from eating contaminated food. Foodborne illness is most commonly caused by bacteria and viruses. The signs and symptoms of foodborne illness range from mild to severe and can include upset stomach, stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and fever.

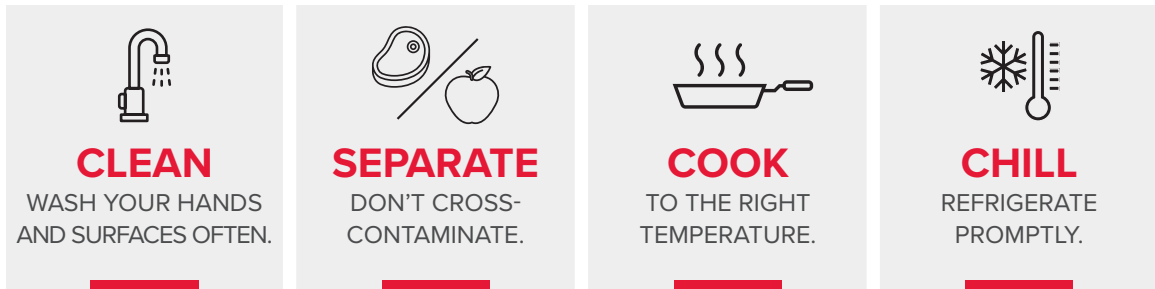
**Who Is at Risk for Foodborne Illness?** Anyone can get a foodborne illness, but some groups of people are more likely than others to become seriously ill. Persons who are at an increased risk for foodborne illness include

- Children younger than 5 years old
- Adults aged 65 and older
- Pregnant women
- People whose immune systems are weakened due to illness or medical treatment (cancer patients, for example)

**What Should You Do if You Suspect You or a Loved One Has a Foodborne Illness?** Contact your primary care provider (PCP), or if the person who is ill is a cancer patient, contact the oncology healthcare team. Mark any recently eaten food or beverages as “do not eat.” Keep the containers in the fridge in case the healthcare team wants to test any of the potentially contaminated foods. If you experience vomiting or diarrhea, be sure to drink plenty of clear liquids (water, ginger ale, sports drinks, or electrolyte replacement drinks) to replace lost fluids and stay well-hydrated. Do not take any anti-nausea or anti-diarrheal medications without checking with your healthcare provider.



**How Can I Protect Myself and My Family From Foodborne Illness?** Practicing good food safety is the best way to decrease the risk of foodborne illness. The four main steps of food safety are illustrated below.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

When preparing, eating and storing food, always follow these food safety guidelines.

- Wash your hands well, both before and after handling food. Wash hands with running water and soap for at least 20 seconds. Do not forget to scrub fingernails and the backs of your hands too.
- Disinfect food preparation surfaces both before and after cooking. Use an antibacterial kitchen cleaner and paper towels or bleach wipes. Wash or replace dish towels and sponges frequently.
- Keep raw and cooked foods separate. Do not reuse any utensils, cutting boards, plates or dishes once they have been touched by raw meat or eggs. Utensils, cutting boards, plates, and dishes that have been used for preparing raw meats or eggs should be washed in hot, soapy water.
- Wash fruits and vegetables before peeling, cutting or eating them. Rinse produce under running water and rub gently to remove any dirt. (There is no need to use soap or a special wash.) Remove and throw away the outermost leaves of produce such as lettuce and cabbage.
- Thaw foods safely. Do not thaw food at room temperature. Thaw in the refrigerator, under cold water or in the microwave. Once thawed in the refrigerator, ground meat, poultry and seafood should be cooked within 1-2 days. Red meat cuts should be cooked within 3-5 days. Food thawed under cold water or in the microwave should be cooked immediately.

- Cook food thoroughly and cook meats to the proper temperature. Use a meat thermometer to check the internal temperature (see chart below).

FOOD	TYPE	INTERNAL TEMPERATURE (°F)
Ground meat and meat mixtures	Beef, pork, veal, lamb	160°F
	Turkey, chicken	165°F
Fresh beef, veal, lamb	Steaks, roasts, chops Rest time: 3 minutes	145°F
Poultry	All poultry (breasts, whole bird, legs, thighs, wings, ground poultry, giblets, and stuffing)	165°F
Pork and ham	Fresh pork, including fresh ham Rest time: 3 minutes	145°F
	Precooked ham (to reheat) Note: Reheat cooked hams packaged in United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-inspected plants to 140°F	165°F
Eggs and egg dishes	Eggs	Cook until yolk and white are firm
	Egg dishes (such as frittata, quiche)	160°F
Leftovers and casseroles	Leftovers and casseroles	165°F
Seafood	Fish with fins	145°F or cook until flesh is opaque and separates easily with a fork
	Shrimp, lobster, crab, and scallops	Cook until flesh is pearly or white, and opaque
	Clams, oysters, mussels	Cook until shells open during cooking

Source: FoodSafety.gov by the US Department of Health & Human Services

## APPLE CINNAMON FRUIT LEATHER

### Ingredients

5 medium apples, chopped  
1 large date, pitted  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
½ cup water

### Directions

1. Place chopped apples in a medium saucepan with water. Bring to a simmer, cover and cook for about 10 minutes.
2. Add pitted date and cinnamon and mash. Cover and cook another 2-3 minutes on low heat.
3. Place mixture in a blender or food processor and process until smooth.
4. Pour onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper or a non-stick baking mat and spread with a spatula into a thin layer.
5. Bake at 175-200°F (as low as your oven will go) for 2-3 hours or until it's tacky but doesn't stick to your finger.

**Makes 12 servings (3 oz).** Per serving: 45 calories, 0 g total fat (0 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 12 g carbohydrates, 0 g protein, 2 g dietary fiber, 0 mg sodium, 9 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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## CHERRY BERRY YOGURT POPSICLES

### Ingredients

1 ½ cup pitted fresh or frozen cherries  
24 oz. vanilla Greek yogurt  
½ cup fresh or frozen blackberries  
12 (3 oz.) paper cups and 12 popsicle sticks  
1 Tbsp. honey

### Directions

1. In small mixing bowl, mash cherries and blackberries. Drizzle on honey and mix together.
2. In paper cups, layer alternating spoonfuls of yogurt and fruit until full. Place popsicle stick or plastic spoon in each cup. Freeze.
3. When ready to serve, tear paper cup off popsicle and enjoy.

**Makes 12 servings (1 popsicle).** Per serving: 70 calories, 0 g total fat (0 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 11 g carbohydrates, 5 g protein, 1 g dietary fiber, 20 mg sodium, 10 g sugar, 1 g added sugar.

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# COTTAGE CHEESE, CUCUMBER AND TOMATO TOAST

## Ingredients

- 1 slice whole grain bread
- 2-3 thin tomato slices, cut into quarters
- ¼ cup low-fat cottage cheese
- Cracked black pepper (to taste)
- 4-5 thin cucumber slices



## Directions

1. Toast bread.
2. Spread cottage cheese on bread.
3. Top with cucumber slices, tomato slices and black pepper.

**Makes 1 serving.** Per serving: 2.5 g total fat (1 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 5 mg cholesterol, 17 g carbohydrates, 10 g protein, 0 g dietary fiber, 280 mg sodium, 6 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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# EASY SUMMER LASAGNA

## Ingredients

- 2 eggplants (about 3 lbs.), quartered lengthwise
- 6 medium zucchini (about 3 lbs.)
- Canola oil cooking spray
- 15 oz. low-fat ricotta or low-fat cottage cheese (or a combination of both)
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ½ tsp. ground nutmeg
- ½ tsp. garlic powder
- 4 cups low-sodium tomato sauce
- 1 lb. whole-wheat, no-boil lasagna noodles
- 3 cups part-skim mozzarella cheese

**Makes 12 servings.** Per serving: 360 calories, 11 g total fat (5 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 65 mg cholesterol, 44 g carbohydrates, 23 g protein, 9 g dietary fiber, 400 mg sodium, 12 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

## Directions

1. Preheat oven to 450°F. Grease a 13 x 9 x 2-inch baking pan, set aside.
2. Slice the eggplant and zucchini in ½ -inch slices. Layer on two baking sheets and coat both sides of the vegetables with cooking spray. Roast for about 40 minutes.
3. Reduce the oven temperature to 375°F.
4. Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, mix together the ricotta and/or cottage cheeses, eggs, Parmesan, nutmeg and garlic powder.
5. To assemble: spread a thin layer of sauce over the bottom of the prepared pan. Cover with a layer of pasta. Spread ⅓ of the ricotta mixture on top of pasta. Sprinkle ¼ of the mozzarella over the ricotta. Spoon ⅓ of the roasted vegetables on top. Top with ½ cup of tomato sauce and continue the assembly as directed until you have 4 layers of pasta and 3 layers of filling. Spread the remaining sauce on top and sprinkle with the remaining mozzarella cheese.
6. Cover the pan with aluminum foil and bake for 30 minutes. Uncover and continue to bake until golden and bubbly, about 15 minutes more. Let stand for 15 minutes before serving.



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## OATMEAL CHOCOLATE CHIP BITES



### Ingredients

2 cups old fashioned oats	½ cup mini unsweetened chocolate chips
1 cup almond flour	2 tsp. vanilla extract
¾ cup ground flaxseed	1 cup pure maple syrup
½ tsp. salt	½ cup natural almond butter
2 tsp. baking powder	

### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Combine dry ingredients including chocolate chips in large bowl. In another bowl, mix wet ingredients. Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir to combine.
3. Drop dough into 24 even mounds on greased baking sheet. Lightly press down to flatten (cookies will not flatten much during cooking). Or pour batter into greased 9 x 13-inch baking pan.
4. Bake 12-15 minutes, until cookies are set in the center.

**Makes 24 servings.** Per serving: 150 calories, 8 g total fat (1.5 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 17 g carbohydrates, 4 g protein, 3 g dietary fiber, 60 mg sodium, 10 g sugar, 9 g added sugar.

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## OATMEAL WITH FRESH FRUIT



### Ingredients

½ cup old fashioned rolled oats	⅛ tsp. cinnamon
1 ¼ cups almond milk, or other plant-based or dairy milk, divided	½ cup chopped pineapple
1 tsp. ground flaxseed, or to taste	¼ cup sliced strawberries
	2 Tbsp. chopped walnuts, optional
	1 tsp. honey, optional

### Directions

1. In small pan, cook oatmeal with 1 cup milk according to package directions.
2. Place oatmeal in serving bowl. Pour ¼ cup milk over oatmeal (heat milk if preferred). Sprinkle on flaxseed and cinnamon.
3. Top with pineapple, strawberries, walnuts and honey, if desired.

Recipe may be doubled, tripled or quadrupled.

**Makes 1 serving.** Per serving: 370 calories, 16 g total fat (1.5 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 50 g carbohydrates, 10 g protein, 8 g dietary fiber, 200 mg sodium, 16 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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# PAN-SEARED HALIBUT WITH HEIRLOOM TOMATOES



## Ingredients

### Halibut

Two 5 oz. halibut fillets  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste  
1 tsp. olive oil  
1 tsp. butter  
1 tsp. fresh thyme, chopped  
Juice of ½ lemon

### Heirloom Tomato Topping

½ lb. heirloom tomatoes, chopped (juices saved)  
1 tsp. fresh basil, chopped  
½ tsp. olive oil  
1 tsp. shallot, minced  
1 tsp. chives, chopped  
1 tsp. white balsamic vinegar (or regular balsamic)  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

**Halibut: Makes 2 servings (4 oz. cooked per serving).** Per serving: 170 calories, 6 g total fat (2 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 75 mg cholesterol, 1 g carbohydrates, 26 g protein, 0 g dietary fiber, 110 mg sodium, 0 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

## Directions

1. In a medium bowl, combine the tomatoes and their juices with the basil, olive oil, shallots, chives and vinegar. Season with salt and pepper (to taste) and set aside.
2. Pat dry the halibut fillets with paper towels to remove extra moisture, and season with salt and pepper.
3. In a medium nonstick skillet, heat 1 tsp. of olive oil over medium-high heat.
4. Add the halibut and cook until browned on the bottom (or skin has turned crispy), about 5 minutes.
5. Flip the fillets and add the butter, thyme and lemon to the skillet; spoon the liquid over the fillets as they cook, about 2 minutes longer.
6. Transfer the halibut to a plate. Spoon 2 Tbsp. of the tomato mixture on top of each fillet.

### Heirloom Tomato Topping: Makes 8 servings (2 Tbsp. per serving).

Per serving: 10 calories, 0 g total fat (0 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 1 g carbohydrates, 0 g protein, 0 g dietary fiber, 25 mg sodium, 1 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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# PASTA SHELLS WITH GARLIC AND KALE



## Ingredients

1 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil  
5 cloves garlic, minced  
¼ tsp. red pepper flakes (or to taste)  
10-12 cups pre-washed baby kale, loosely packed, coarsely chopped  
½ cup fat-free, reduced-sodium vegetable broth  
1 Tbsp. Parmesan cheese  
8 oz. small whole-wheat pasta shells, cooked to package directions  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

## Directions

1. In large skillet over medium heat, heat oil. Sauté garlic with red pepper flakes for about 2 minutes.
2. Stir in broth and half the greens, season to taste with salt and pepper. Increase heat to medium-high, cover, and cook until greens wilt, about 3 minutes. Stir in remaining greens, cover and cook an additional 12 minutes or until greens are tender. Stir occasionally.
3. Place cooked, drained pasta in saucepan. Add greens mixture and gently toss until well combined.
4. Sprinkle with cheese and serve.

**Makes 4 servings (about 1 ¼ cup per serving).** Per serving: 210 calories, 7 g total fat (1 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 33 g carbohydrates, 12 g protein, 8 g dietary fiber, 250 mg sodium, 4 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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## QUICK EIGHT-VEGETABLE SOUP

### Ingredients

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil                                    | ½ cup frozen tri-colored bell peppers |
| 1 chopped onion   | 2 tsp. dried oregano or thyme         |
| 4 cup low-sodium vegetable broth                                  | Pinch of dried red pepper flakes      |
| ½ cup frozen baby lima beans                                      | 1 cup frozen broccoli florets         |
| 1 (15 oz.) can no salt added black, Great Northern, or navy beans | Salt, to taste                        |
| 1 cup frozen mixed vegetables                                     | ¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese          |

### Directions

1. In a large saucepan, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add onion and cook until translucent, about 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add broth and bring liquid to boil. Add lima beans, reduce heat and simmer covered for 5 minutes.
2. Add canned beans, mixed vegetables, peppers, oregano and pepper flakes and simmer covered for 5 minutes. Add broccoli, cover, and cook for 5 minutes. Add salt to taste. This soup keeps covered in refrigerator for 3 days. Reheat in covered pot over medium heat.
3. To serve, divide soup among deep bowls. Option to top each serving with 1 tablespoon of Parmesan cheese.

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**Makes 4 servings (1 ⅓ cup).** Per serving: 250 calories, 8 g total fat (2 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 5 mg cholesterol, 32 g carbohydrates, 10 g protein, 9 g dietary fiber, 410 mg sodium, 5 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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## SOUTHWESTERN BEAN SALAD

### Ingredients

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 can (15 oz.) low sodium black beans, rinsed and drained | 1 cup chopped green, red or yellow bell pepper |
| 1 cup no-salt-added canned corn kernels                   | 1 cup chopped carrots                          |
|   | ¾ cup mild tomato salsa                        |
|   | 1 Tbsp. olive oil                              |

### Directions

1. In large salad bowl, combine beans and corn. Add chopped pepper, chopped carrots, salsa and olive oil.
2. Mix together with large spoon and serve.

Regular beans can be used in place of low-sodium beans. Rinse beans thoroughly in colander and drain before using to significantly decrease sodium content.

**Makes 6 servings (1 ¼ cups per serving).** Per serving: 3 g total fat (0 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 21 g carbohydrates, 5 g protein, 5 g dietary fiber, 250 mg sodium, 4 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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# TURKEY, SPINACH AND APPLE WRAP

## Ingredients

- 1 Tbsp. reduced-fat mayonnaise\*
- 2 tsp. honey mustard
- 2 (8-in) whole-wheat flour tortillas
- 2 cups baby spinach, washed and dried, loosely packed
- 4 thin slices (4 oz.) turkey breast
- ¼ Granny Smith apple, sliced paper-thin



## Directions

1. Combine mayonnaise and honey mustard. Lay out both wraps. Spread the edges of each wrap with the mayonnaise/mustard mixture.
2. Leaving a margin free on the side closest to you, arrange a layer of greens on top of wraps. Top each layer with half the turkey. Evenly divide apple slices and lay lengthwise across turkey. Fold over the end of the wrap closest to you, then the two sides. Roll the wrap as tightly as possible toward the opposite side.
3. Serve immediately or cover each wrap tightly in plastic wrap and refrigerate, seam side down. When ready to serve, remove plastic wrap and cut each wrap in half, at an angle.

\*You may substitute 1 Tbsp. mashed avocado in place of mayonnaise.

**Makes 2 servings (1 wrap per serving).** Per serving: 230 calories, 6 g total fat (1.5 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 35 mg cholesterol, 30 g carbohydrates, 17 g protein, 1 g dietary fiber, 420 mg sodium, 5 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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# SPRING STIR FRY WITH CHICKEN

## Ingredients

- 1 Tbsp. peanut oil
- 5 cloves garlic
- 1 tsp. grated fresh ginger
- ¼ tsp. ground ginger
- 6 spring onions, chopped, including the green stems
- Salt, to taste
- 1 lb. chicken, boneless and skinless, cut into ½ -inch strips
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 cup cabbage, chopped
- 1 medium red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 medium green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 Tbsp. reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 1½ tsp. sugar (optional)
- 1 Tbsp. cornstarch
- ½ cup water
- 3 cups cooked brown rice



**Makes 4 servings (1 ½ cup per serving).** Per serving: 440 calories, 7 g total fat (1 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 65 mg cholesterol, 62 g carbohydrates, 36 g protein, 8 g dietary fiber, 490 mg sodium, 13 g sugar, 1 g added sugar.

## Directions

1. In a wok or large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. When oil is almost smoking, add garlic, ginger, ground ginger, spring onions and salt to taste. Stir-fry for 2 minutes. Add chicken. Stir-fry an additional 3 to 4 minutes.
2. Add chopped onion and cabbage and cook, stirring occasionally, for about 5 minutes. Add peppers and cook for 2 minutes.
3. Mix soy sauce, sugar and cornstarch into water, then add to wok or skillet. Cook uncovered until sauce thickens. Serve over hot rice.

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# STRAWBERRY CHIA SMOOTHIE



## Ingredients

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| ¾ cup skim milk                              | 2 tsp. orange zest          |
| 4 tsp. chia seeds                            | ½ tsp. chopped fresh ginger |
| 1 cup fresh strawberries                     | ½ tsp. vanilla extract      |
| 1 Tbsp. strawberry fruit spread, or to taste |                             |

## Directions

1. Place milk and chia seeds in a blender and let sit while measuring remaining ingredients.
2. Add strawberries, fruit spread, orange zest, ginger and vanilla to blender. Whirl on high speed until smoothie is blended and creamy, about 1 minute.
3. Pour into a tall glass and serve immediately.

**Makes 1 serving (1 cup).** Per serving: 130 calories, 3.5 g total fat (0 g saturated fat, 0 g *trans* fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 20 g carbohydrates, 6 g protein, 6 g dietary fiber, 70 mg sodium, 14 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

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## RECIPE

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### Ingredients

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### Directions

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# RECIPE \_\_\_\_\_

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## Ingredients

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## Directions

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## Ingredients

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## Directions

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- Always store cold foods and leftovers within 2 hours of purchasing or cooking, or as soon as possible. Label food containers (use a marker or pen) with a “use by” date if the packaging does not have an expiration date. Food in opened packages will go bad quicker than foods in sealed packages. Visit [www.foodsafety.gov/food-safety-charts/cold-food-storage-charts](http://www.foodsafety.gov/food-safety-charts/cold-food-storage-charts) for guidelines by type of food. If you are unsure if something is safe to eat, remember, **WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT**. See *Leftovers* on page 31 for more information.

Visit [foodsafety.gov](http://foodsafety.gov) and [www.fightbac.org](http://www.fightbac.org) for more information about food safety.

**Foods Associated with Foodborne Illness.** People who are not at high risk for food poisoning usually do not need to avoid these foods, but it is good to be aware of them. Persons who are at an increased risk for foodborne illness (cancer patients, for example) may be advised by their healthcare team to avoid these foods. High-risk foods include:

- Raw seafood dishes, such as sushi, sashimi or ceviche
- Runny eggs
- Unpasteurized beverages, such as unpasteurized juice or raw milk
- Soft mold-ripened and blue-veined cheeses, such as Brie, Camembert, Roquefort, Stilton, Gorgonzola and blue, or other soft, unpasteurized cheeses
  - o You may be able to find pasteurized versions of these cheeses. Check the label.
- Raw sprouts, such as alfalfa sprouts
- Frozen drinks, soft-serve ice cream, or frozen yogurt from bulk machines

Ask the healthcare team for additional food safety guidelines if either you or a loved one is immunosuppressed.

For nutrition information for cancer patients receiving treatment, visit [www.LLS.org/booklets](http://www.LLS.org/booklets) to view *Food and Nutrition Facts*.

**Food Allergies.** A food allergy is a serious, potentially life-threatening medical condition caused by the immune system overreacting to a typically harmless food.

Food allergy reactions can range from mild to severe. Food allergies may either start in childhood or later in adulthood. It is important that food allergies be confirmed by an allergist, a doctor who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of allergies. After a food allergy diagnosis, it is vital to work with your healthcare team to learn how to protect yourself and manage the allergy. Visit Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE) at [www.foodallergy.org](http://www.foodallergy.org) for more information.



## Cooking Healthier Meals

Cooking at home can help you save money and eat in healthier ways. The following are a few tips to keep in mind when cooking at home.

**Choose Healthier Cooking Methods.** Prepare food by baking, slow-cooking, grilling, or broiling to limit fat. Avoid fried and greasy foods.

Remember that not all fats are created equal. Your body needs fat. Choose healthy fats, such as olive oil/canola oil, avocados, nuts and seeds.

**Pick Plant-Based Options.** Swap out meat and other animal products for plant-based proteins. For example,

- Try sliced tofu in place of chicken.
- Use chopped mushrooms or cooked lentils in place of ground meat.
- Black beans, jackfruit and chickpeas are also good replacements for meat in a variety of dishes such as burgers and chili. Jackfruit can also be a substitute for shredded meat.

Try to build your meals around fruits, vegetables and beans instead of meat.

**Stock Up on Pantry Staples.** Some items you will need for many dishes. For example, seasonings, cooking oil, low-sodium broth, and whole-grain brown rice are staples. See the sample *Grocery List* on page 38 to build a well-stocked pantry.

**Check Spices.** Taste your food before serving to see if you need to add more seasoning. Typically, seasonings in recipes are just suggestions, so you can adjust them to your tastes. Remember that you can always add more spice or salt, but you cannot take it out.

**Food Safety Warning—Do not taste dishes containing meat, poultry, fish, or seafood until the food has reached a safe internal temperature. See chart on page 24.**

## DIETITIAN TIP

**Q. How can I start cooking at home?**

**A.** If you have never cooked at home before, the idea can be intimidating. You may not know where to start.

The internet offers many free videos with professional chefs and experienced home cooks who can walk you step-by-step through delicious recipes. Videos can be more helpful than a written recipe, especially for beginners. You can see what the food should look like at each step. You can pause and, when you need to, you can watch it again.

Cook for Your Life teaches healthy cooking to people impacted by cancer. Visit [www.cookforyourlife.org/videos](http://www.cookforyourlife.org/videos) to watch and learn.

If you are looking for a specific recipe, try searching YouTube. No matter what food you crave, there is likely a video to guide you.

You can also ask family members or friends whose cooking you enjoy to teach you.

**Save Time.** Cooking can be time-consuming, but everything does not need to be made from scratch. Here are a few ideas to save you time in the kitchen:

- Chop veggies for multiple meals at one time. Save chopped veggies in the refrigerator in an airtight container.
- Search online for one-pot recipes to save on cleanup time.
- Use premade sauces and dressings. Remember to check the labels for added sugar and sodium content and pick the healthiest option.
- Use frozen vegetable mixes as meal starters for dishes such as stir fries, soups or casseroles.
- Try microwavable brown rice for a quick and easy serving of whole grains.
- Use a cooked rotisserie chicken as a source of protein in several dishes.

**Manage Salt Content.** Be aware of the salt content of your foods by reading the sodium content on the Nutrition Facts label. The American Heart Association recommends no more than 2,300 milligrams (mg) of sodium a day and an ideal limit of no more than 1,500 mg per day for most adults. When cooking, some of your ingredients may already contain salt, so you may not need to add more. Here are more ways to lower your sodium intake:

- Limit or avoid smoked or cured foods, such as sausage, bacon and hot dogs.
- When buying canned items, look for “no salt added” or “low-sodium” on the label. You can also rinse canned vegetables before cooking to remove added salt.
- Avoid flavored rice and noodles. Prepare plain rice and noodles and season them yourself.
- Avoid frozen vegetables that are pre-seasoned or have a sauce.
- Look for sodium-free seasoning mixes to try on meats and vegetables.
- Avoid processed foods and fast food which can be high in salt.

**Choose a Healthier Cooking Oil.** The American Heart Association recommends choosing oils with less than 4 grams of saturated fat per tablespoon and no partially hydrogenated oils or *trans* fats. This includes the following budget-friendly oils:

- Canola, corn, olive, peanut, safflower, soybean and sunflower oil

Blends of these oils are often called “vegetable oil.” Other oils like avocado or sesame oil can be healthy options, but they may be higher in price. Cooking sprays made with these oils are also a good choice.

**Reduce Added Sugar.** As a general rule, sugar in most recipes can be decreased by 25 percent without greatly affecting taste or texture. For most baked desserts, you can use 1 cup of unsweetened applesauce in place of 1 cup of sugar. If making this swap, reduce the amount of other liquids used in the recipe.

Some people use no-calorie sugar substitutes made with stevia (extracted from the leaves of the stevia plant) or artificial sweeteners as an alternative to added sugars. There is no clear evidence that links artificial sweeteners, which include sucralose (Splenda®), saccharine (Sweet’N Low®) and aspartame (Equal®), to cancer. The evidence is unclear whether artificial sweeteners support weight loss or maintaining a healthy weight. It is important to remember that sweeteners such as agave, brown rice syrup, coconut sugar, honey, maple syrup, and molasses all add calories, just like refined white sugar or high-fructose corn syrup.

**Let Your Child Help Prepare Food.** As age-appropriate, let your child help with grocery shopping, food preparation, and meal planning. For example, let younger children pick out the produce at the store. Let older children help stirring pots or measuring spices. Your child will learn these important life skills and gain a new appreciation for food. Picky eaters may even be more likely to try a new food if they help prepare it.

**Try New Recipes.** You can find recipes in many ways. Ask family and friends for their favorite dishes. Check out cookbooks from your library. Search online; here are a few websites to start your search:

- PearlPoint Nutrition Services®: [www.pearlpoint.org/recipes](http://www.pearlpoint.org/recipes)
- American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR): [www.aicr.org/cancer-prevention/recipes/](http://www.aicr.org/cancer-prevention/recipes/)
- Cook for Your Life: [www.cookforyourlife.org](http://www.cookforyourlife.org)

See the *Sample Meal Plan* starting on page 32 to see an example of a healthy menu. If you find a new recipe you enjoy, record it on one of the blank recipe cards included in this book.





## Mealtimes

Making healthy food choices is about more than just consuming food; it is also about enjoying food. Food brings people together so try to make mealtimes social and fun for you and your family. To make mealtimes more enjoyable, try the following tips:

- Sit down and eat with your friends and family.
- Make regularly scheduled mealtimes a family priority.
- Eat at the table instead of sitting on the couch or in separate rooms.
- Put away electronic devices (mobile phones and tablets). Turn off the TV. Eat without distractions so you can enjoy your food.
- Encourage pleasant conversation while you eat. Here are some fun questions to use as conversation starters. You can also make up your own.
  - o What was the highlight of your day?
  - o If you could have any superpower, what would you choose?



- o What is the best meal you have ever eaten?
- o If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

Even if you are eating alone, eat without distractions and take time to savor each bite of food.

**Eating at Restaurants.** Eating in a healthy way does not mean you cannot dine out and enjoy your favorite restaurants. Moderation is key. Here are few things to keep in mind when eating at restaurants.

- Check restaurant websites to look up the nutritional information of menu items beforehand. A little research before ordering can help you make healthy meal choices.
- Restaurant portions are often large. Pack half of your meal in a to-go box before you start eating to limit the portion size.
- Be adventurous; try restaurants that serve foods that you typically do not eat at home. Try the cuisine from another country or culture or order a vegetarian or vegan dish. You may find a new favorite dish that you can try to make at home.

## Leftovers

Leftovers are a great way to save time and money and to cut down on food waste. When planning your meal in advance, remember to incorporate leftovers throughout the week. Follow these food safety guidelines for storing and reheating leftovers.



**Store Leftovers Safely.** If you plan to make meals in advance or to use leftovers, make sure you store foods safely.

- Pack and refrigerate or freeze leftovers within 2 hours of cooking or sooner if possible. (Store foods within 1 hour if the temperature is above 90°F.)
- Eat or discard refrigerated leftovers within 2 to 4 days or frozen leftovers within 3 to 4 months. Frozen foods will stay safe for longer but they can lose moisture

and flavor. If you are not sure whether something is safe to eat, remember, **WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT.**

- Label food containers (use a marker or pen) with a “use by” date if the packaging does not have an expiration date. Food in an opened package goes bad quicker than food in a sealed package. Visit **[www.foodsafety.gov/food-safety-charts/cold-food-storage-charts](http://www.foodsafety.gov/food-safety-charts/cold-food-storage-charts)** for more guidelines.
- Put foods with the soonest expiration date at the front of the fridge or shelves so that you are more likely to use them.

**Reheat Leftovers Safely.** Just as when you prepare a meal the first time, you need to practice good food safety when reheating leftovers to reduce the risk of foodborne illness.

- You can reheat frozen leftovers without thawing; however, it will take longer to heat the food all the way through to a safe internal temperature. Do not thaw food at room temperature. Thaw in the refrigerator, under cold water or in the microwave.
- When reheating leftovers, be sure they reach 165°F as measured with a food thermometer. Check the temperature of the food in several places in case of cold spots.
- Reheat sauces, soups and gravies by bringing them to a rolling boil.
- Cover leftovers to reheat. This retains moisture and ensures that food will heat all the way through.
- When reheating in the microwave, cover and rotate the food for even heating.

## Sample Meal Plan

The following Sample Meal Plan is based on a 2,000 calorie-per-day diet. The dishes in bold and marked with an asterisk (\*) are recipes that can be found after page 24. This sample meal plan is only an example. **Make adjustments as necessary to follow dietary guidelines provided by your healthcare team or a registered dietitian.** Ask a registered dietitian for a meal plan that meets your specific needs.

## Sample Meal Plan: Day 1

MEAL	FOODS	NOTES
<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>Breakfast Burrito</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One 8-inch whole-wheat flour tortilla</li> <li>• Spinach, handful</li> <li>• 2 eggs scrambled</li> <li>• ½ cup of cherry tomatoes, halved</li> <li>• ¼ cup of shredded cheese</li> </ul>	You can also add other vegetables such as bell peppers or onions.
<b>Snack</b>	1 cup of grapes ¼ cup of walnuts or pecan halves	Slice grapes in half and freeze for a cool snack.
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Turkey, Spinach and Apple Wrap*</b> 1 cup baked chips ½ cup low-fat yogurt Peach, sliced	Use whole-wheat flour tortilla and spinach left from the breakfast burrito.  For a vegetarian option, use black beans and/or smashed chickpeas. Beans and legumes (such as chickpeas) are a good source of protein.
<b>Snack</b>	1 cup of carrot sticks 4 Tbsp. of hummus 1 medium orange	Eat a colorful variety of fruits and vegetables to get the most nutrients.
<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Spring Stir Fry with Chicken*</b>	You can substitute tofu for the chicken if you prefer a vegetarian dish.  Refrigerate or freeze leftovers in an airtight container.
<b>Dessert</b>	½ cup of frozen yogurt	

\*Recipe can be found on a recipe card after page 24.

## Sample Meal Plan: Day 2

MEAL	FOODS	NOTES
<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>Yogurt Parfait</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 cup of yogurt</li> <li>• 1 Tbsp. slivered almonds</li> <li>• ¾ cup of blueberries</li> <li>• ¼ cup of granola</li> </ul>	
<b>Snack</b>	1 apple, medium 1 Tbsp. nut butter 1 cup baked chips	When choosing a snack, try to include more than one food group such as protein, fruits, vegetable and/or complex carbohydrates.
<b>Lunch</b>	Leftover <b>Spring Stir Fry with Chicken*</b>	Heat up leftovers from the previous night so you don't have to cook again. Heat leftovers to a safe internal temperature of 165 °F.
<b>Snack</b>	1 cup of broccoli 2 Tbsp. hummus ¼ cup of walnuts or pecan halves	
<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Easy Summer Lasagna*</b> Side salad with leafy greens topped with 1 Tbsp. of Italian dressing	Refrigerate or freeze leftovers. Add your favorite veggies to the side salad—cucumbers, carrots, spinach, radishes. Use veggies not used in the Day 1 breakfast burrito.
<b>Dessert</b>	Frozen banana “ice cream” Top with chopped nuts.	For banana “ice cream,” peel and freeze a ripe banana for at least two hours. Blend or mash to an ice cream consistency.

\*Recipe can be found on a recipe card after page 24.

## Sample Meal Plan: Day 3

MEAL	FOODS	NOTES
Breakfast	Oatmeal with Fresh Fruit*	
Snack	Cottage Cheese, Cucumber and Tomato Toast*	To increase dietary fiber, choose 100% whole-grain bread.
Lunch	Leftover <b>Easy Summer Lasagna*</b> Side salad with leafy greens topped with 1 Tbsp. of Italian dressing	Heat up leftovers from the previous night so you don't have to cook again. Heat leftovers to a safe internal temperature of 165 °F.  Add your favorite veggies to the side salad—cucumbers, carrots, spinach, radishes.
Snack	½ cup salsa 1 cup of carrot sticks Multigrain tortilla chips, 10-15 chips	
Dinner	<b>Pan-Seared Halibut with Heirloom Tomatoes*</b> Asparagus, roasted • Drizzle asparagus with olive oil and seasonings • Bake at 425 °F for 10-15 minutes ½ cup of cooked brown rice	
Dessert	¼ cup of chocolate-covered raisins ¼ cup unsalted nuts	

\*Recipe can be found on a recipe card after page 24.

# Meal Planning Worksheet

Planning meals in advance is a great way to include a variety of healthy foods in your menu each week. A written meal plan can also remind you of leftovers you may have to use for lunch or snacks later in the week. It takes the guesswork out of mealtimes. Refer to this worksheet while planning your grocery list so you'll have all the ingredients you'll need on hand.

The Week of \_\_\_\_\_

DAY	MENU ITEMS	LEFTOVERS
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday		





# Grocery List

Keep your pantry and refrigerator stocked with healthy food options. Use this suggested grocery list to get started. Keep in mind that these foods are only suggestions. Make changes, as necessary, to accommodate food allergies or to follow the nutrition guidelines recommended by the healthcare team.

## Pantry

### Grains

- Whole-grain breads
- Crackers
- Whole-grain rice and pasta
- Oatmeal and hot cereal
- Couscous, bulgur wheat and quinoa
- Cereal
- Natural popcorn
- Flour and breadcrumbs
- Whole-grain cereal

### Fruits/Vegetables

- Canned and dried fruits
- Applesauce (unsweetened)
- Potatoes and sweet potatoes
- Onions and garlic
- Canned tomatoes and veggies
- Instant mashed potatoes

### Dairy

- Nonfat dry milk or whey protein powder

- Evaporated milk

### Proteins

- Canned fish and chicken (packed in water)
- Natural peanut and almond butter
- Unsalted nuts and seeds
- Canned and dried beans/peas
- Protein bars

### Fats and Oils

- Olive and canola oil
- Cooking spray

### Other

- Low-sodium soup and stock
- Dried herbs and spices
- Assorted vinegars
- Decaffeinated teas
- Decaffeinated coffee
- Flavored drink mixes
- Pudding and gelatin
- Honey, sugar or stevia

### Extra Pantry Groceries:

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## Refrigerator and Freezer

### Grains

- Whole-grain waffles
- Whole-grain breads

### Fruits/Vegetables

- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Packaged salad
- 100% juice concentrate
- Tomato or fruit salsa

### Dairy

- Low-fat milk
- Low-fat yogurt
- Low-fat cheese
- Low-fat cottage and ricotta cheese
- Fortified soy, almond and rice milk
- Sherbet, yogurt and ice cream

### Proteins

- Eggs
- Skinless chicken breast

- Lean pork
- Lean beef
- Turkey breast
- Hummus
- Fish or shrimp

### Fats and Oils *(Use full-fat choices if experiencing unintentional weight loss)*

- Low-fat mayonnaise
- Low-fat salad dressings
- Low-fat sour cream
- Soft *trans*-fat-free margarine (in a tub)

### Other

- Fortified 100% juice
- Sports drinks
- Nutrition drinks
- Popsicles
- Ready-to-eat meals

### Extra Groceries:

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## Other Organizations

### Nutrition Education and Recipes

#### **The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND)**

[www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org)

(800) 877-1600

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) is the world's largest organization of food and nutrition professionals. The [eatright.org](http://eatright.org) website provides educational nutrition information and a locator to find a registered dietitian by zip code and expertise.

#### **American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR)**

[www.aicr.org](http://www.aicr.org)

(800) 843-8114

AICR focuses its research on the link between diet and cancer and translates the results into practical information for the public and provides funding for research at leading universities, hospitals and research centers throughout the United States and abroad. The AICR website offers nutrition information, recipes, interactive web tools and more.

#### **MyPlate**

[myplate.gov](http://myplate.gov)

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides the MyPlate website which includes nutrition information, recipes and the option to take the MyPlate Quiz, which provides personalized resources.

#### **Cook for Your Life**

[www.cookforyourlife.org](http://www.cookforyourlife.org)

Cook for Your Life teaches healthy cooking to people touched by cancer. The website offers recipes and videos that can be searched by dietary needs.

#### **National Cancer Institute (NCI)**

[www.cancer.gov/publications/patient-education/eating-hints](http://www.cancer.gov/publications/patient-education/eating-hints)

(800) 4-CANCER ([800] 422-6237)

*Eating Hints: Before, During, and After Cancer Treatment* is a free booklet for people who are either having or are about to have cancer treatment.

## Food and Financial Assistance

### 2-1-1

[www.211.org](http://www.211.org)

Dial 211 on your phone

Find local resources such as food pantries, meal delivery, soup kitchens and other assistance programs by dialing 211.

### Feeding America

[www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org)

(800) 771-2303

The Feeding America website provides an online search tool to connect individuals with their local food banks.

### Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

<https://www.fns.usda.gov>

The USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) works with states to facilitate the programs below (among others).

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).** This program provides nutrition assistance to eligible low-income individuals and families. SNAP benefits are sometimes referred to as “food stamps.” Visit [www.fns.usda.gov/snap/applicant-recipient](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/applicant-recipient) for more information about eligibility and how to apply.
- **USDA National Hunger Hotline.** This hotline, operated by Hunger Free America, helps people seeking food assistance. Call (866) 3-HUNGRY ([866] 348-6479).

For more food assistance resources, visit [www.LLS.org/booklets](http://www.LLS.org/booklets) to view *Food Assistance: Resources and Tips*.

## Resources and Information

LLS offers free information and services for patients and families affected by blood cancers. This section lists various resources you may find helpful.

### For Help and Information

**Consult with an Information Specialist.** Information Specialists can assist you through cancer treatment, financial and social challenges and give accurate, up-to-date disease, treatment and support information. Our Information Specialists are highly trained oncology social workers and nurses. Language services are available. For more information, please:

- Call: (800) 955-4572 (Monday through Friday, 9 am to 9 pm ET)
- Email and Live chat: [www.LLS.org/InformationSpecialists](http://www.LLS.org/InformationSpecialists)

**Clinical Trials (Research Studies).** Research is ongoing to develop new treatment options for patients. LLS offers help for patients and caregivers in understanding, identifying and accessing clinical trials. Pediatric and adult patients and caregivers can work with our Clinical Trial Nurse Navigators who will help find clinical trials and provide personalized support throughout the entire clinical trial process. Visit [www.LLS.org/CTSC](http://www.LLS.org/CTSC) for more information.

**Nutrition Consultations.** Schedule a free one-on-one nutrition consultation with one of our registered dietitians who have expertise in oncology nutrition. Consultations are available to patients and caregivers of all cancer types. Dietitians can assist with information about healthy eating strategies, side effect management and more. Please visit [www.LLS.org/nutrition](http://www.LLS.org/nutrition) for more information.

**Free Information Booklets.** LLS offers free education and support booklets for patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals that can either be read online or ordered. Please visit [www.LLS.org/booklets](http://www.LLS.org/booklets) for more information.

**Telephone/Web Education Programs.** LLS offers free telephone/Web and video education programs for patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals. Please visit [www.LLS.org/programs](http://www.LLS.org/programs) for more information.

**Financial Assistance.** LLS offers financial support to eligible individuals with blood cancer for insurance premiums, co-pays, and non-medical expenses like travel, food, utilities, housing, etc. For more information, please:

- Call: (877) 557-2672
- Visit: [www.LLS.org/finances](http://www.LLS.org/finances)

**Podcast.** The Bloodline with LLS is here to remind you that after a diagnosis comes hope. Listen in as patients, caregivers, advocates, doctors and other healthcare professionals discuss diagnosis, treatment options, quality-of-life concerns, treatment side effects, doctor-patient communication and other important survivorship topics. Visit [www.LLS.org/TheBloodline](http://www.LLS.org/TheBloodline) for more information and to subscribe to access exclusive content, submit ideas and topics, and connect with other listeners.

### **Free Mobile Apps.**

- LLS Coloring For Kids™ – Allows children (and adults) to express their creativity and offers activities to help them learn about blood cancer and its treatment. Visit [www.LLS.org/ColoringApp](http://www.LLS.org/ColoringApp) to download for free.
- LLS Health Manager™ – Helps you track side effects, medication, food and hydration, questions for your doctor, and more. Visit [www.LLS.org/HealthManager](http://www.LLS.org/HealthManager) to download for free.

**Suggested Reading.** LLS provides a list of selected books recommended for patients, caregivers, children and teens. Visit [www.LLS.org/SuggestedReading](http://www.LLS.org/SuggestedReading) to find out more.

## **Connecting with Patients, Caregivers and Community Resources**

**LLS Community.** The one-stop virtual meeting place for talking with other patients and receiving the latest blood cancer resources and information. Share your experiences with other patients and caregivers and get personalized support from trained LLS staff. Visit [www.LLS.org/community](http://www.LLS.org/community) to join.

**Weekly Online Chats.** Moderated online chats can provide support and help cancer patients and caregivers reach out and share information. Please visit [www.LLS.org/chat](http://www.LLS.org/chat) for more information.

**Local Programs.** LLS offers community support and services in the United States and Canada including the *Patti Robinson Kaufmann First Connection® Program* (a peer-to-peer support program), local support groups and other great resources. For more information about these programs or to contact your region, please:

- Call: (800) 955-4572
- Visit: [www.LLS.org/LocalPrograms](http://www.LLS.org/LocalPrograms)

**Advocacy and Public Policy.** Working closely with dedicated volunteer advocates, LLS's Office of Public Policy elevates the voices of patients to state and federal elected officials, the White House, governors and even courts. Together, we advocate for safe and effective treatments. We pursue policies that would make care more accessible to all patients. And, most of all, we advocate for the hope for a cure. Want to join our work? Visit [www.LLS.org/advocacy](http://www.LLS.org/advocacy) for more information.

**Other Helpful Organizations.** LLS offers an extensive list of resources for patients and families. There are resources that provide help with financial assistance, counseling, transportation, patient care and other needs. For more information, please visit [www.LLS.org/ResourceDirectory](http://www.LLS.org/ResourceDirectory) to view the directory.

### **Additional Help for Specific Populations**

**Información en Español (LLS information in Spanish).** Please visit [www.LLS.org/espanol](http://www.LLS.org/espanol) for more information.

**Language Services.** Let members of your healthcare team know if you need translation or interpreting services because English is not your native language, or if you need other assistance, such as a sign language interpreter. Often these services are free.

**Information for Veterans.** Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange while serving in Vietnam may be able to get help from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. For more information, please

- Call: the VA (800) 749-8387
- Visit: [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/AgentOrange](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/AgentOrange)



**Information for Firefighters.** Firefighters are at an increased risk of developing cancer. There are steps that firefighters can take to reduce the risk. Please visit [www.LLS.org/FireFighters](http://www.LLS.org/FireFighters) for resources and information.

**World Trade Center Health Program.** People involved in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks and subsequently diagnosed with a blood cancer may be able to get help from the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program. People eligible for help include:

- Responders
- Workers and volunteers who helped with rescue, recovery and cleanup at the WTC-related sites in New York City (NYC)
- Survivors who were in the NYC disaster area and those who lived, worked or were in school in that area
- Responders to the Pentagon and the Shanksville, PA, crashes

For more information, please

- Call: WTC Health Program at (888) 982-4748
- Visit: [www.cdc.gov/wtc/faq.html](http://www.cdc.gov/wtc/faq.html)

**People Suffering from Depression.** Treating depression has benefits for cancer patients. Seek medical advice if your mood does not improve over time, for example, if you feel depressed every day for a two-week period. For more information, please:

- Call: The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) at (866) 615-6464
- Visit: NIMH at [www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov) and enter “depression” in the search box.

## References

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) has educational materials available, many of which were used to create this book. Visit [www.LLS.org/booklets](http://www.LLS.org/booklets) and [www.pearlpoint.org](http://www.pearlpoint.org) for more information.

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# Personalized Nutrition Consultations

Talk to a registered dietitian about nutrition and cancer.



Our registered dietitians have expertise in oncology nutrition and provide free one-on-one phone or email consultations.



LEUKEMIA &  
LYMPHOMA  
SOCIETY®



pearlpoint  
nutrition services®

Consultations may include

- Answers to questions about nutrition
- Strategies to manage side effects
- Recommendations to improve your nutrition
- Tips for meal planning & grocery shopping
- Information and advice for caregivers
- Questions to ask your healthcare team
- Additional nutrition resources

Visit [www.LLS.org/Consult](http://www.LLS.org/Consult) to schedule a nutrition consultation.



Get support.  
Reach out to our

## **INFORMATION SPECIALISTS**

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society team consists of highly trained oncology social workers and nurses who are available by phone Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (ET).

- Get one-on-one personalized support and information about blood cancers
- Know the questions to ask your doctor
- Discuss financial resources
- Receive individual clinical-trial searches

Contact us at

**800-955-4572** or

**[www.LLS.org/](http://www.LLS.org/)**

**InformationSpecialists**

(Language interpreters available upon request.)





For more information, please contact our Information Specialists  
**800.955.4572** (Language interpreters available upon request).

**National Office** 3 International Drive, Suite 200, Rye Brook, NY 10573

The mission of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.  
Find out more at [www.LLS.org](http://www.LLS.org).