# Guidelines for Designing a Healthful Diet

Chapter 2
BIOL1400
Dr. Mohamad H. Termos

#### 1- Variety:

- Eating many different foods within a food group
- Needed because no one food meets all nutrient needs
- Every food in a food group is made up of different nutrients
- Supplements don't always have the same components as foods
- Different phyto-chemicals are present in different fruits and vegetables
- Some phyto-chemicals can help decrease cancer and other disease risk



#### 2- Balance:

It means not to over consume any single type of food. Food should be selected from all food groups



#### 3- Moderation:

Refers to portion size:

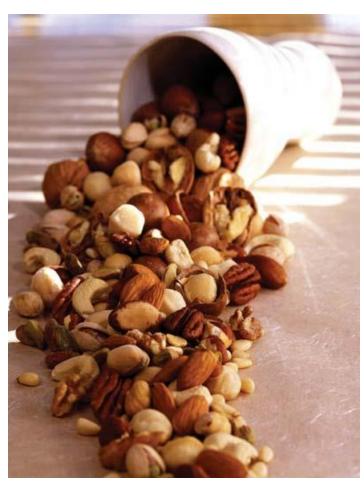
- don't over consume a specific nutrient
- moderate intake of fat, salt, and calories.



- 4- Nutrient density: (focuses on nutrient content)
- divide the amount of nutrients by the calories in a food
- usually used to describe a specific nutrient but can be used to describe the food overall
- a high nutrient density means a food has many nutrients and few calories.



- 5- Energy (kcal) density: (influences calorie intake)
- compare the calorie content with the weight of the food
- high energy density foods include: nuts, fried food, cookies.
- low energy density foods promote satiety without high calorie content
- people tend to consume fewer calories when eating low energy dense foods
- low energy dense foods contain high amounts of water and fiber like fruits and vegetables.



### States of Nutritional Health

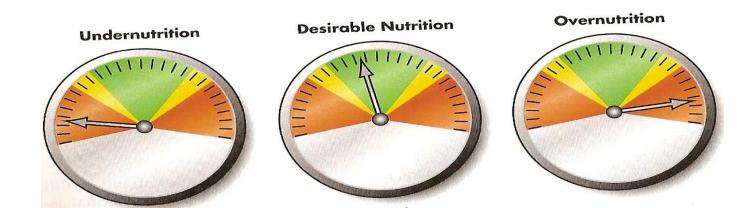
- A nutritional state is how much a body has of the needed nutrients
- Desirable nutrition: body tissues have enough of a nutrient to support normal metabolic function.



## States of nutritional health

#### **Under-nutrition:**

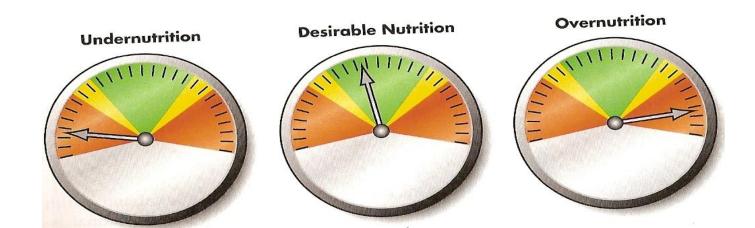
- Nutrient intake does not meet nutrient need
- When the nutrient falls sufficiently low, biochemical evidence appears
- Subclinical means there are no outward signs
- Eventually symptoms appear often in skin, hair, tongue or eyes



## States of nutritional health

#### Over-nutrition:

- Prolonged consumption of more nutrients than the body needs
- Example, too much vitamin A can have negative effects during pregnancy
- Most common in industrialized nations is too many calories
- The difference between optimal and over consumption is the smallest for vitamin A, calcium, iron, an copper.



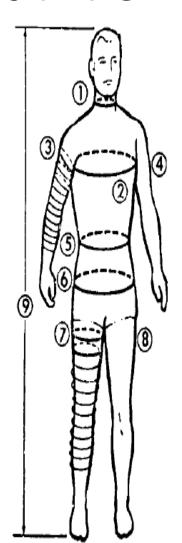
# Measurement of Nutritional State

1- <u>background factors evaluation</u>: which includes assessment of the medical history, medications, social history, education, and economic status

## Measurement of nutritional state

#### 2- The ABCDEs assessment:

- Anthropometric
   assessment: height, weight,
   body composition,
   circumferences
- Biochemical assessment: measuring nutrients in the blood and other body fluids



- Neck circumference at larynx
- Chest circumference at nipple (inspiration and expiration)
- Arm volume (girth every 3 cm)
- Arm volume (girth every 3 cm)
- Abdominal circumference at umbilicus
- Hip circumference at greatest diameter
- 1 Leg volume (girth every 3 cm)
- Leg volume (girth every 3 cm)
- Height

## The ABCDEs assessment (cont.)

- Clinical assessment: looking for physical evidence like high blood pressure
- <u>Dietary assessment:</u> looking at dietary intake
- Economic assessment: ability to purchase and prepare foods.



## Measurement of nutritional state

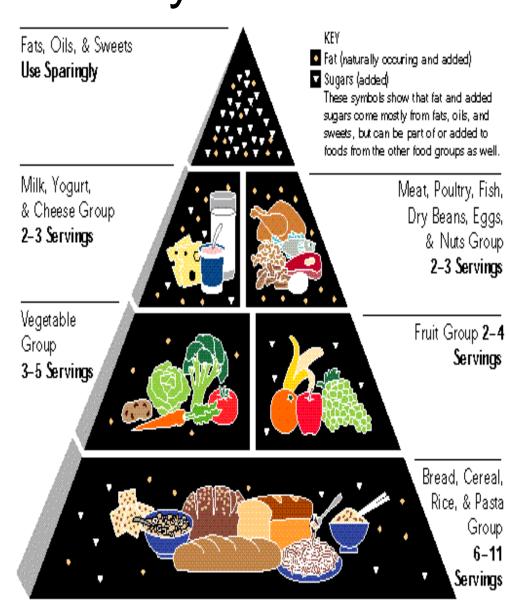
# 3- Recognizing the limitations of nutritional assessment:

- Many times there is no evidence until much later in life
- One may eat a diet high in saturated fat for many years before a heart attack occurs
- One may have a calcium deficiency but it takes years to appear as low bone density
- Many signs are not specific to a nutrient deficiency like diarrhea or facial sores



## The Food Guide Pyramid

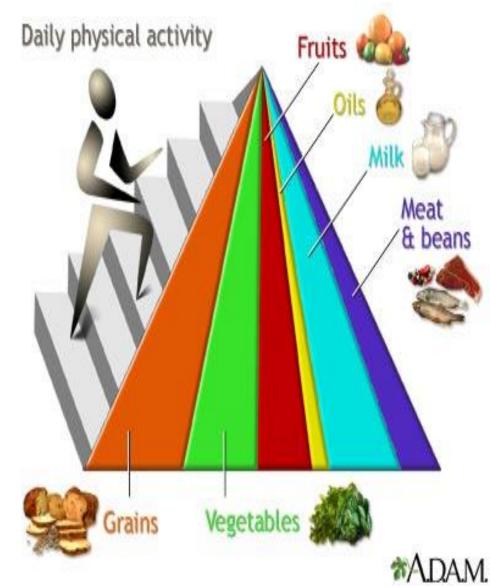
- The Food Guide
   Pyramid is an outline of what to eat each day.
- The Pyramid calls for eating a variety of foods to get the nutrients you need and at the same time the right amount of calories to maintain healthy weight.



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Agriculture/U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

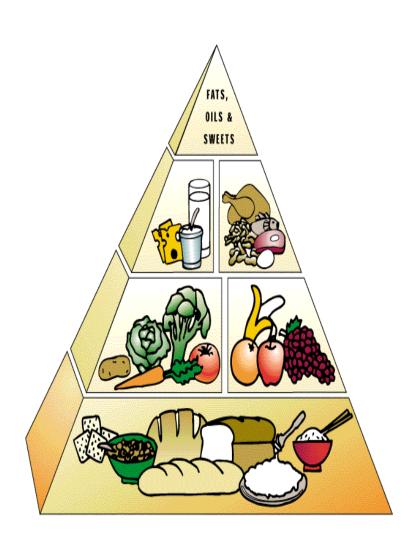
## The Food Guide Pyramid

Use the Pyramid to help you eat better every day. Start with plenty of breads, cereals, rice, pasta, vegetables, and fruits. Add 2-3 servings from the milk group and 2-3 servings from the meat group. Remember to go easy on fats, oils, and sweets, the foods in the small tip of the Pyramid.



# Dietary Guidelines

- Food pyramid was designed to meet nutritional needs for the macro and micronutrients
- Major chronic diseases in America are not associated with deficiencies of these nutrients
- Dietary guidelines is another tool for menu planning



Dietary Guidelines

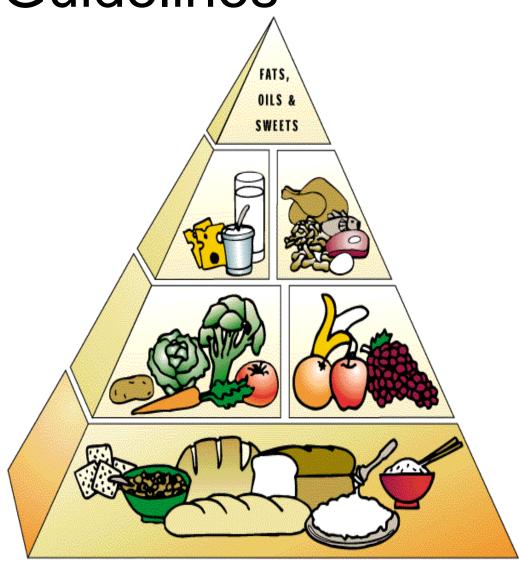
#### Three main messages:

#### 1- Aim for fitness:

Be physically active (>30mins a day)

#### 2- Build a healthy base:

- Let the Pyramid guide your choices, eat a variety of grains, fruits and vegetables daily, and keep foods safe to eat.
- 3- Choose sensibly: your diet should be low in saturated fat, cholesterol, salt, alcohol and moderate in sugar.



# Dietary Guidelines

- The Dietary Guidelines are designed to meet nutritional needs and decrease risk of cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, alcoholism and food borne illness.
- It is easy to implement and not expensive



## The Standards Used for Food Labeling

- It would be impossible to display nutrient needs for each nutrient for all ages and genders on the labels.
- More generic standard was created for food labels that applies to both genders and all ages above 4 years old
- Based on a 2000 kilocalories diet
- Used to compare a person's intake to desirable or maximum intakes.



#### Food Labels

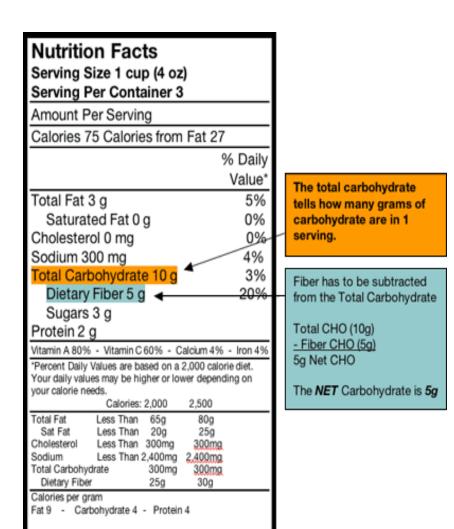
- Labels must include:
   product name, manufacturer
   name and address, amount
   of product in package,
   ingredients in descending
   order by weight
- Should be monitored by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration)



### Food Labels

# Nutrition facts panel must include:

- Kcal
- Calories from fat, total fat grams, saturated fat, trans fat, and cholesterol
- Total CHO g, fibers, sugar
- Protein in grams
- Vitamins A, C, calcium, and iron
- Monosaturated, or polysaturated fats, potassium and others, if health claims are made about them
- Percent of the daily value for each nutrient



## Health claims on food labels

Some current allowed claims by the FDA

- Calcium and osteoporosis
- Total fat and some cancers
- Sat fat and cholesterol and heart disease.
- Fiber from fruits, vegetables and grains and cancer (reduce)
- Sodium and potassium and hypertension and stroke