# Power of Protein for Healthy Eating





### What is Protein?



### Protein is:

- An essential nutrient
- Made up of 20 different amino acids which are described as building blocks
- Used to build things in our bodies such as muscle
- Part of antibodies which protect us from disease-causing bacteria and viruses
- Builds new tissues during healing





## Protein's Role for General Good Health

### Protein is a component that makes up:

- Muscle
- Blood
- Internal organs
- Skin
- Hair
- Nails
- Bones







- Promotes the feeling of fullness,
   which is helpful when trying to eat less
- Preserves muscle mass
  - For strength to do your daily tasks and activities
  - To help increase your metabolism, which means the calories you burn while at rest







### Maintain Your Muscle Mass

- As we get older, we lose (decrease) our muscle mass
- Weight loss can also lead to muscle mass loss
- What does muscle get replaced by?
- -Answer: Fat!
- \*Note: Muscle burns 2-3 times more calories than fat!

#### The Breakdown of Calories

- For each pound of muscle you have, you burn about 6-10 calories per day
- For each pound of <u>fat</u> you have, you consume about 2-4 calories per day





## Maintain Your Muscle Continued:

## How to Maintain Muscle During Weight Loss?

- Become more active by using your muscles during strength-building exercises
- Include protein-rich foods into your daily meals and snacks







- Typical Daily Protein Goals:
- ► Women: 60-75 grams per day
- ► Men: 80-100 grams per day
- \*These goals are typical for weight loss, but can vary based on your individual nutrition needs
- Speak with a registered dietitian for the meal plan that best fits you!





## Meeting Protein Goals for Weight Loss

### Protein Guide for Meals & Snacks

- 1. The body does not store protein and needs to be consumed daily
- 2. Best utilization of protein by the body is when protein is consumed throughout the day, and not just at 1-2 meals
- 3. Protein foods can help maintain satiety or the feeling of fullness.
   This is important when you are trying to eat less food (calories)

### Sample of Dividing Protein

► Breakfast: 15-20 grams

Snack: 5-10 grams

Lunch: 15-20 grams

Snack: 5-10 grams

▶ Dinner: 15-20 grams

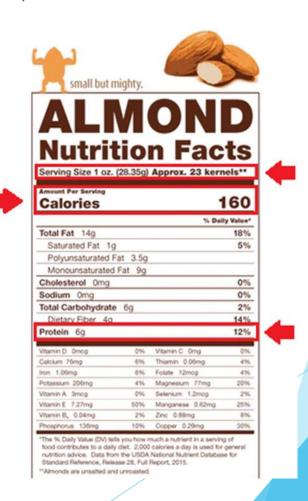
Snack: 5-10 grams

\*You may not want 3 snacks per day. Your meal plan should be tailored to your needs and preferences. This is just an example of how to spread your protein intake throughout the day.

## Meeting Protein Goals for Weight Loss (Continued)

#### Use the Nutrition Facts Label to:

- Check the calories and protein per serving on the food label of packaged/processed foods
- Compare the amount of protein per serving of similar foods when protein content may vary such as yogurt
- \*Be sure to review all the information provided on the food label to make the best food choice!



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WEIGHT LOSS

SOLUTIONS



## Meeting Protein Goals for Weight Loss

- Meal Planning Guidelines:
- Plan meals and snacks ahead of time to have the appropriate foods when needed
- Include a protein-rich food at each meal and snack time
- Along with protein, be sure to include vegetables, fruit and whole grains when planning meals and snacks for a balanced approach



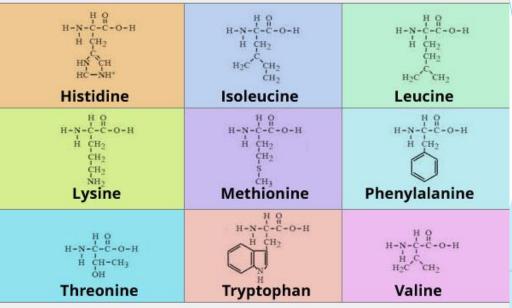


### **Essential Amino Acids**

- 9 out of the 20 amino acids are called essential amino acids because our bodies cannot make them on their own, we must consume them from protein-rich foods
- A complete protein is referred to a food that contains all 9 essential amino acids

### THE ESSENTIAL AMINO ACIDS

(WHICH OUR BODIES CANNOT MAKE):



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## Which Foods Contain Complete Proteins?

Anything that Comes from an Animal Contains Complete Protein:

- Meat: beef, pork, lamb, venison
- Poultry: chicken, turkey
- Fish and shellfish
- Eggs
- Dairy Foods: yogurt, cheese, cottage cheese, milk

 \*All of the foods listed are examples of a complete protein because they all contain all 9 essential amino acids





## Which Foods Contain Protein? (Plant Edition)

#### Plant Sources of Protein

- Legumes: beans and lentils
- Nuts and nut butters
- Seeds
- Grains
- Soy foods: tofu, soy milk, edamame
- Some vegetables like peas, broccoli, and spinach
- \*Note: Plant sources of protein are mostly incomplete, but consumed in combination over a day can make a complete protein!

\*Soy foods & (whole grains) like Quinoa, Buckwheat, and Amaranth are all plant sources of protein that are complete proteins



\*All these foods are an important part of a healthy diet!



### **Examples of Protein Content of Foods:**

- \*grams = (g)
- ▶ 8 oz. of milk = 8 (g)
- ► 6 oz. container non-Greek yogurt= 5-6 (g)
- ▶ 5.3 oz. container Greek yogurt = 10-15 (g)
- ▶ 1 oz. of cheese = 7 (g)
- ½ cup of cottage = 7 (g)
- > 3 oz. lean beef, pork, poultry = 18-25 (g)
- 3 oz. light tuna canned packed in water = 16.5 (g)
- 3 oz. salmon = 22 (g)
- ▶ 1 large egg = 6 (g)
- ½ cup canned kidney beans = 6.4 (g)
- ► 1 cup quinoa = 8 (g)
- ▶ 1 cup cooked broccoli = 3.7 (g)
- \*3 oz. of cooked meat, fish, and poultry is about the size of a deck of cards



- \*Source: USDA Nutrient Database & Food Labels
- \*Amount of protein per individual item will vary based on specific type or brand.
- \*Protein content of meat, fish, & poultry are after cooking.





### Meal Replacement Guidelines

### Protein Supplements Per Serving

- Recommendation:
- ▶ 15-30 grams of protein
- 5 grams or less of <u>Total Sugar</u>
- 2 grams or less of <u>Added Sugar</u>
- Check the ingredient list for the sources of protein
- Sources of complete proteins:
- Egg: Egg albumin
- Milk: Milk Protein, milk protein concentrate, whey
- Soy: Vegetable source of protein





Serving size	185	1 Bottle	(340mL)
Amount per servi	ing	8	150
		% Da	ity Value
Total Fat 2.5g			3%
Saturated Fat 1.5g			8%
Cholesterol 10mg			3%
Sodium 230mg			10%
<b>Total Carbon</b>	yd	rate 4g	1%
Dietary Fiber 1g			4%
Total Sugars	_		
Includes 0g	-	lded Sua	ars 0%
Protein 30g			60%
Vitamin D 5mog 25%		Calcium	730mg 605
Iron 1.9mg 10%		name and the same of the same	480mg 109
Vitamin A 200mog 209	-	Vitamin B <sub>12</sub>	And in contrast of the last of
Phosphorus 510mg 40			60mog 409
Magnesium 70mg 15% •			inc 4mg 357
Selenium 10mcg 20%	. *	Chloride	480mg 205

 Fairlife is just one example of a quality meal replacement



### Meal Replacement Guidelines (Plant Edition)

### Examples of Plant Sources of Protein:

- Pea Protein
- Rice Protein
- \*Example of incomplete protein but appropriate based on dietary preferences/restrictions

Organic Organic Protein

Orgain Protein Powder follows the protein supplement guidelines!



### Using as a Meal Replacement

- Can be used to replace up to 1 meal per day to help:
- 1. Control calorie intake
- 2. Help meet daily protein needs
- For a meal replacement shake that contains less than 200 calories, add one additional food such as a piece of fruit to complete the meal
- For more information on ready to drink shakes or powders appropriate as a meal replacement, as your registered dietitian during your next visit!









### Protein-Focused Meal Plan



#### Breakfast:

- Premier Protein Cereal 1 cup = 20 grams of protein
- ▶ 8 oz. 1% milk = 8 grams of protein
- ▶ ¾ cup of blueberries

#### Lunch:

- Lettuce salad with a variety of vegetables (2 cups) = about 4 grams of protein
- ▶ 3 oz. grilled chicken = 25 grams of protein
- 2 Tbsp. Reduced-fat salad dressing
- ▶ 6 whole grain crackers = 3 grams of protein
- ► 17 small grapes
- \*This 1-day meal plan provides a total of about 109 grams of protein; this includes the 3 meals from above plus the light Greek yogurt. The number of snacks per day depends on individual needs

#### Dinner:

- 3 oz. grilled salmon = 22 grams
- 1 cup cooked quinoa = 8 grams
- 1 cup cooked broccoli = 3.7 grams
- ▶ 1 tsp. margarine
- 1 orange

#### Snack Ideas with Protein:

- 1 oz of cheese and 6 whole grain crackers
- 1 Tbsp of peanut butter and 1 small apple
- Raw vegetables and 2 Tbsp of hummus
- \*Light Greek yogurt = 15 grams
  - \*Protein varies based on brand of yogurt





- A healthy meal plan includes:
  - Lean meat, poultry, fish, or meat alternative
  - Vegetables
  - **Fruits**
  - Whole Grains
  - Dairy foods or non-dairy alternative that are calcium-rich
  - \*Meal planning is important to make sure you are achieving your daily nutrition goals. Check with your dietitian for more information on this topic.

Follow the Plate Guide for planning your meals and snacks:

