Sports Nutrition for the Serious Youth Athlete



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Key Sports Nutrition Issues for Youth Athletes



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- Consuming adequate calories
- Getting a good balance of foods/nutrients (carbohydrate, protein, & fat)
- Eating consistent meals
- Fuel timing
- Drinking enough & appropriate fluids
- Inappropriate use of sports/energy drinks and bars



Focus On Energy Balance

Calories In

Training Energy In:

- Carbs = 4 kcal/gram
- Protein = 4 kcal/gram
- Fat = 9 kcal/gram

Calories Out

Energy Out:

- Metabolism
- Digestion
- Basic movement
- Physical Activity

Estimated Calorie Requirements by Age and Activity Level

Gender	Age	Sedentary Activity	Moderate Activity	Active
Young child	2-3	1,000	1,000-1,400	1,000-1,400
Female	4-8	1,200	1,400-1,600	1,400-1,800
	9-13	1,600	1,600-2,000	1,800-2,200
	14-18	2,000	2,000	2,400
Male	4-8	1,400	1,400-1,600	1,600-2,000
	9-13	1,800	1,800-2,200	2,000-2,600
	14-18	2,200	2,400-2,800	2,800-3,200

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Institute of Medicine Dietary Reference Intakes, 2002



WHAT TO EAT?







MINIMIZE THIS





Take Carbs Seriously



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- Major source of energy, particularly during high-intensity exercise
- Exclusive energy source for the nervous system

Carbohydrates

 Synthesized into muscle and liver glycogen The Truth About



Body Stores of Fuels and Energy

		g	kcal
Carbohydrates			
Liver glycogen		110	451
Muscle glycogen		250	1,025
Glucose in body fluids		15	62
	Total	375	1,538
Fat			
Subcutaneous		7,800	70,980
Intramuscular		161	1,465
	Total	7,961	72,445

Note. These estimates are based on an average body weight of 65 kg (143 lb) with 12% body fat.

Relationship Between Pre-exercise Muscle Glycogen Content and Exercise Time to Exhaustion



Åstrand, P.-O. (1967). Diet and athletic performance. *Federation Proceedings*, 26, 1772-1777.

Fuel Requirements During Exercise



Influence of Carbohydrate Intake on Muscle Glycogen Stores During Repeated Days of Training



WORKSHOP Philadelphia

D.L. Costill and J.M. Miller, 1980

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Protein Needs



- RDA for protein is 0.8 g/kg per day
 - 70 kg person (154 lbs) = 56 grams of protein/day
- Strength athletes need 1.6 to 1.7 g/kg per day
- Endurance athletes need 1.2 to 1.4 g/kg per day
- Diets exceeding 1.7 g/kg per day have not been proven to provide additional benefits





Protein Needs: 0.8-1.2 g/kg/day

Recommended Dietary Allowance for Protein			
	Grams of protein needed each day		
Children ages 1 – 3	13		
Children ages 4 – 8	19		
Children ages 9 – 13	34		
Girls ages 14 – 18	46		
Boys ages 14 – 18	52		
Women ages 19 – 70+	46		
Men ages 19 – 70+	56		





Protein In Foods *10 g protein is provided by*:

- 1 c breakfast cereal
- 1 c oatmeal
- 2 small eggs
- 1¼ c cow's milk
- 1/3 c cheese
- 1 c yogurt (Greek ↑)
- 35-50 g meat, fish or chicken (1/2 chicken breast)
- 4 slices bread
- 2 c broccoli

- 2 cups cooked pasta
- 3 cups rice
- 1³⁄₄ c soy milk
- ¹/₂ c nuts or seeds
- ¹/₂ c tofu or soy meat
- ¹/₂ c legumes or lentils
- ³⁄₄ cup fruit smoothie
- 2 c spinach
- 1/2 c quinoa
- ³⁄₄ c farro



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Help Your Athletes to Plan Meal and Snack Times Wisely







Foods Before Exercise

- Ensures a normal blood glucose concentration and prevents hunger
- ~200 to 500 kcal mainly carbs that are easily digestible
- Consumed 1-2 hours before exercise
- Limit fat, fiber
- Tried & true familiar foods!!





Before Exercise: Examples of Carbohydrate Foods (Moderate-high Glycemic Index)

- Most breakfast cereals
- Whole-wheat breads
- Banana

Foods usually not eaten in isolation – added fat/fiber/protein to these contingent on:

- 1. how much time prior to exercise foods eaten
- 2. intensity of exercise
- 3. exercise mode





Great Snack Ideas – Before Exercise or Between Games

- Milk and 12 crackers, 2 tbsp. peanut butter (54 g)
- Banana and yogurt (56 g)
- Bagel with jelly and juice (83 g)
- Cereal (1 oz.) and milk (34 g)
- Juice and pretzels (50 g)
- Sports drink, 16 oz (30 g)



- Sports bar or granola bar and water (20-50 g)
- Fresh fruits such as oranges or bananas (15-25 g)
- Vegetable soup, chicken noodle or tomato and crackers (40-50 g)
- Fig bars and milk (45 g)

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Foods During Practice/Extended Games

Greater than 60 Min \rightarrow 30-60 grams of Carbs/Hour

- 16 ounces of a sports drink (30 g)
- 1 packet sports gel (25 g)
- 1 block (24 g)
- -~ ½ sports bar (30 g)
- 1 large or 2 small bananas (30 g)
- 1 slice of bread and jam/honey (30 g)
- 1 Orange (17 g)







Carbohydrate Consumption After Exercise

- Improves glycogen re-synthesis rates
- May be enhanced by the addition of protein
- Most effective when given during the 30-60 minutes of recovery









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Post-Exercise Recovery Snacks

High CHO, moderate protein and nutrient dense

- Yogurt, almonds and fruit
- Banana with peanut butter
- Sports bar + orange slices
- Nut butter on whole grain toast
- Veggies and hummus
- Chocolate milk?



Meals

- Whole-grain breakfast cereal, milk, and fruit
- Meat/cheese and veggie sandwiches on whole grain pita
- Salad and hard boiled egg
- Quinoa salad with roasted veggies

Hydration

BEFORE – Water!

- 1-2 hours before: 2-1/2 cups (20 oz.)
- 15-30 min before: 1-1/2 cups (12 oz.)



DURING 8 oz every 15-20 min

• diluted fruit juice, sports drinks (6-8%) *IF* exercise is >60 min

AFTER – Water is best

Drink 2 cups for each pound lost

- Weigh yourself before and after exercise
- Don't trust thirst
- Avoid caffeine





Thermal Stress in Youth Athletes

- Children rely more on convection and radiation, which are enhanced through greater peripheral vasodilation
- Evaporative heat loss is lower because of reduced sweat rates
- Children have greater ratios of surface area to mass
- Acclimatization to heat is slower kids than in adults









And What About All Those Drinks???











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Sport Drinks



- Uniquely designed to meet both energy and fluid needs of athletes
 - for activity > 60 minutes in duration
- Composition influences gastric emptying
 - Carbohydrate solutions empty more slowly
- Most sports drinks contain:
 - 6-8% CHO in the form of glucose and glucose polymers
 - 20-60 mmol/L sodium
- Adding glucose stimulates sodium and water absorption



Palatability



Who Really Needs Sports Drinks?

- American Academy of Pediatrics:
 - "If children are participating in prolonged vigorous physical activity in hot, humid conditions for more than one hour, small amounts of sports drinks may be appropriate"
- 2010 National Youth PA & Nutrition Study
 - 16% drank at least one serving/day
 - 9% drank at least two servings/day
- Participation in varsity sports: 33% (girls) 37% (boys)







Johnston LD, et al. Am J Prev Med 2007; Volume 33 (Oct).

Is Caffeine the Good Guy or Bad Guy?









Pros and Cons of Caffeine

Benefits

- Mental alertness
- ↑ Ventilation
- Antagonizes in adenosine receptors in brain
 - − ↑ Catecholamine release
 - Decreases fatigue & perceived exertion
- Improves endurance performance

Potential side-effects

- Gastrointestinal distress
- Tremors
- Insomnia
- Nervousness/Anxiety symptoms
- Increased BP
- Irregular heart rate/rhythm



And What About All Those Bars???



The Energy Bar/Snickers Bar *Dilemma*

- What is your goal?
 - Energy, recovery, meal
- What to look for:
 - Sugar <10-12g
 - Protein 5-10g
 - Great ingredients:
 - Seeds, nuts, peanut butter, whole grains, dried fruit



Nutrition Facts



- Athletes need:
 - to eat FOOD for FUEL
 - carbohydrate, protein and fat-containing foods daily
- Be supportive of your athletes needing to be selective about the foods they eat
 - Practice and game times
 - Refueling necessary during?
 - Foods on the road







MAXIMIZE Overall Good Nutrition



Bottom Line!! To Have a *Winning* & *Fueled Up* Team....



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- Food, fluid, and rest are essential for peak mind and body performance
- Food choices, timing, and amounts matter
- Foster POSITIVE environments









And THANK YOU!!







