

Change Mindset to Prevent Diet-Related Diseases



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Malaysian Dietitians' Association

MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF BODY COMPOSITION

Malaysian Society of Body Composition



Nutrition Month Malaysia National Steering Committee 2024

MEMBERS

(Representatives from partner professional bodies)

Nutrition Society of Malaysia





Dr Roseline Yap Wai Kuan

Assoc Prof Dr Chin Yit Siew

Malaysian Dietitians' Association



Ms Tan Ye Ting



Ting Mr Georg

Malaysian Society of Body Composition



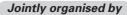
Dr Noraida Omar



Dr Yong Heng Yaw

-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Nutrition Month Malaysia (NMM) is managed and implemented by professional bodies and supported by the private sector. The initiative reflects the spirit of partnership that is essential to facilitate the dissemination of appropriate nutrition information to the general public for the well-being of all.







Nutrition Society of Malaysia

Malaysian Dietitians' Association



Malaysian Society of Body Composition

We would like to thank the following corporate companies for contributing towards the successful implementation of NMM activities for 2024.



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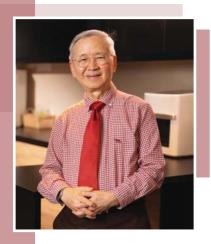
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Secretariat



12A, Jalan PJS 8/4, Mentari Plaza, Bandar Sunway, 46150 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan. Tel: 03-5632 3301 Fax: 03-5638 9909 Email: versahealth@versa-group.com

Change Mindset to Prevent Diet-Related Diseases



Dr Tee E Siong, KMN Chairman, Nutrition Month Malaysia National Steering Committee 2024

and

Immediate-Past President, Nutrition Society of Malaysia In Malaysia, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have remained a significant health concern for years. Hence, promoting awareness about healthy living is crucial and efforts to spread this message have been ongoing for decades. However, despite our awareness of the benefits of a healthier lifestyle through healthy diet and physical activities, NCD cases in Malaysia still continue to rise. This is in part largely because many still choose to ignore the importance of leading a healthy and active life. This is because many do not go for regular health screening and are oblivious about the diseases and their risk factors until it is too late. We cannot wait anymore, it is time to change our mindset and take action to PREVENT NCDs

Here is where Nutrition Month Malaysia (NMM) plays a role, as a programme designed to promote a healthier lifestyle among the public for the past 22 years. With a diverse range of engaging information and activities tailored to all age groups, NMM aims to inspire individuals to embrace positive changes. Our signature magazine this year, "HE-AL Volume 6: Change Mindset to Prevent Diet-Related Diseases", serves as a wake-up call for those who are procrastinating to change their mindset to prevent NCDs. It is an informative guide for all to adopt a healthy lifestyle through diet and exercise. Featuring eight key messages, such as assessing NCD risks, improving dietary habits, making wise choices during grocery shopping, and incorporating physical activity, this magazine provides simple actionable steps toward a healthier life.

Let's embark on this journey to wellness now. By taking small, yet consistent steps, we can gradually transition to a healthier lifestyle.

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Do health screening regularly to save lives

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Do health screening regularly

Common NCDs in Malaysia

Many are not aware they are at high risk of developing **non-communicable diseases** (NCDs), or are already having these diseases such as diabetes, heart diseases or cancers.

High prevalence of NCDs and risk factors in Malaysia

Are you at risk of NCDs?



1 in 5 adults are diabetic

3 in 10 adults have hypertension

1 in 12 adults have all 3 NCD risk factors (hypertension, high blood glucose, high blood cholesterol)

Assess your NCD risks regularly

Many people do not go for regular health screening and only see a doctor for treatment when they detect symptoms of various NCDs.

This delay in detection of NCDs can result in costly treatment and worsening of the disease.

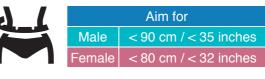
Change your mindset now! Do regular health screening to enable you to take preventive measures early.

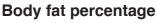


Body mass index, BMI

	Aim for		
	Normal BMI	< 18.5-24.9 kg/m ²	
	Undesirable BMI ranges		
BMI	Underweight	< 18.5 kg/m ²	
	Overweight	25 – 29.9 kg/m ²	
	Obesity	≥30 kg/m²	

Waist circumference





	Aim for		
)	Male	< 25%	
	Female	< 35%	

Blood glucose level

Aim for		
Random	< 7.8 mmol/L	
Fasting	< 5.6 mmol/L	

to save lives

Know your numbers

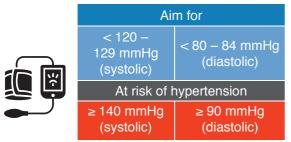
You are at risk of NCDs if you have multiple of these conditions: high BMI, body fat, blood pressure, blood glucose, blood cholesterol, and large waist circumference.



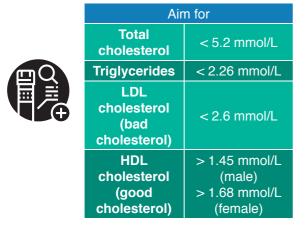
Seek advice from healthcare professionals (e.g. physicians, nutritionists, or dietitians) to review your health screening results.

This will help you make any lifestyle changes, if needed, to improve your overall health and well-being.

Blood pressure



Lipid profile





Action plans

Adults



For adults above 30 years old, attend health screenings annually



Individuals with a family history of NCDs should have health screenings earlier and monitor their health status more closely

Children



Parents can measure the weight and height of their children and monitor their BMI every 6 months



Determine if they are underweight, overweight or stunted by using the BMIfor-age growth charts



Scan the QR code to download the charts



Practise Quarter-**Quarter-Half** and vary your diet

"Kuah banjir" on top of the rice, with fried chicken and a small portion of veggies. Such unhealthy meals are a favourite among many!

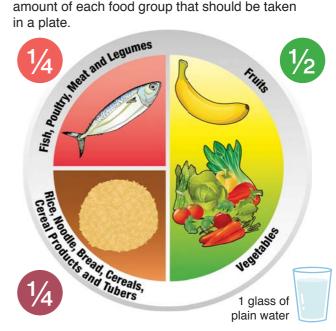
Do your lunches look like this?

A healthy diet helps the body reduce the risk of diet-related diseases. The Malaysian Healthy Plate is a simple guide to eating wholesome meals daily.

Malaysian Healthy Plate: Quarter-Quarter-Half

Your GUIDE to DAILY MEALS - breakfast, lunch & dinner

It is applicable for all ages. It shows the appropriate amount of each food group that should be taken in a plate.



3 BASIC TIPS when planning meals

Practise BALANCE

Eat foods from all groups fruits and veggies, cereals, cereal products and proteinbased foods.

Ensure MODERATION

B

- Practise mindful eating eat right amounts
- Consume appropriate serving size share meals if portion size is too large
- · Stop when you start to feel full

Go for VARIETY

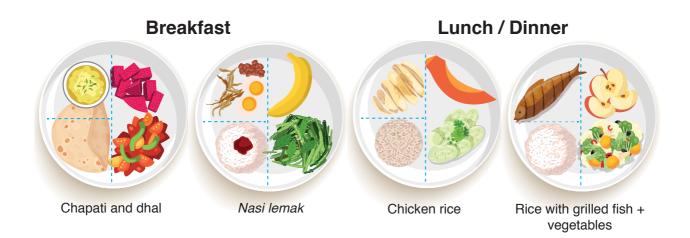
Consume a variety of foods within each food group. For example, eat different types of veggies, fruits, and meats.

Μ

Why Quarter-Quarter-Half?			
¹ / ₄ plate cereals & cereal products	1⁄4 plate protein	1⁄2 plate vegetables & fruits	
cereal			
Rice, noodle, bread, cereals, cereal products or tubers Main sources of energy for the body, but should be consumed in moderate amounts	Fish, poultry, meat or legumes Essential for the body, but needed only in moderate amounts	Vegetables & fruits Contain lower fat & less calories but are rich in fibre, vitamins, minerals & phytonutrients needed by the body	
Choose more whole grains as they are more nutritious, e.g. brown rice, oats and wholemeal bread, wholegrain cereals	 Eat fish daily Choose lean cuts of meat from poultry, beef, lamb & pork Choose more plant-based protein foods such as legumes, nuts & seeds 	Include various types of vegetables (e.g. spinach and tomato) and colourful fruits (e.g. watermelon and mangoes)	

Practise the healthy plate concept for all meals

Be it breakfast, lunch or dinner and whether you eat at home or eat out, make the healthier choice by practising Quarter-Quarter-Half. See examples below:



Make half of your grains whole grains

There's a myth that whole grains are only for sick people. The truth is that whole grains should be encouraged for everyone!

Intake of whole grains and wholegrain foods is extremely low. Most Malaysians, including children and adolescents, do not meet the recommended intake.

Why whole grains intake is so important?

The Malaysian Dietary Guidelines recommend that at least half of the grain products you eat everyday should be whole grains, because these may help to:



Make you feel full longer



Meet your recommended daily intake of fibre



Stabilise your blood sugar level

Reduce blood cholesterol and blood pressure levels



Promote a healthy balance of good gut bacteria



Improve digestion



Improve your overall health

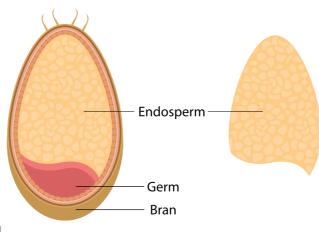




What is whole grain & refined grain

Whole grain

- Made up of all parts (bran, germ, endosperm)
- · Bran and germ contain high amounts of important nutrients. namely vitamins, minerals, fibre & phytonutrients
- · Also contains carbohydrates and some protein



Refined grain

- Made up of endosperm only (bran & germ removed)
- Contains mainly carbohydrates and some protein
- · Contains only small amounts of vitamins, minerals & phytonutrients

Examples of
whole grainsExamples of
subclegrain productsImage: Single of the subclegrain product of the subclear of the

Ideas to increase whole grain intake

Here are some suggestions to gradually incorporate whole grains into your diet:

- Mix white rice with whole grains such as brown rice, hulled barley, oat and corn
- Choose whole grain types of noodles and pasta, bread, breakfast cereals, biscuits and other cereal-based products
- Add whole grains such as corn to soups
- Check the label and choose products with higher percentages of whole grains





Examples of breakfast, lunch, dinner & snack with whole grains

Breakfast

Lunch



Wholegrain oat cereal with fruits

Dinner



Wholewheat seafood pasta with tomato sauce



Brown rice with fish and vegetables

Snack



Wholegrain bread with jam

Eat at least 3 servings of veggies and 2 servings of fruits daily

Did you know?

We need to eat fruits and vegetables everyday but...

95%

of Malaysian adults still do not eat the recommended daily amount of both fruits and vegetables.

Do you meet the recommended servings?

Fruits and vegetables are rich in fibre, phytonutrients, vitamins and minerals. To have a healthier, nutritious diet, just add more fruits and vegetables into every meal.

Aim for 3 veggies + 2 fruits

In practice, it means having vegetables and fruits during meal times as well as for snacks.

1 serving of vegetable



Half cup of spinach, cooked



1 cup of ulam



Half cup of mixed vegetables, cooked (i.e. cabbage + carrot + baby corn + French bean)

1 medium sized banana *(berangan)*



1 medium sized orange



1 slice of watermelon

1 serving of fruit



1 medium sized apple



1 slice of pineapple



8 small grapes



1 slice of papaya



1 medium sized mango



Half a medium sized pear

HE•AL 10

Go for a rainbow of colours

The variety of colours in fruits and vegetables are attributed to their content of phytonutrients, e.g. various carotenoids and flavonoids. These may be able to function as antioxidants with potential protective effects against diet-related diseases.



Consume different types of vegetables:

Types of vegetables	Examples	Types of vegetables	Examples
Cruciferous	cabbage, cauliflower	Beans	lady's fingers, long beans
Green leafy	spinach, <i>sawi</i>	Flowers	asparagus
Fruits	tomato, brinjal	Sprouting	taugeh, pea sprout
Leafy ulam	ulam raja, pegaga	Starchy	potato, pumpkin

Eat more fruits & vegetables all day

To incorporate more fruits and vegetables into your diet, here are some tips you can practise:



To achieve 3 + 2

Breakfast

Lunch



Add salad & tomato in your sandwich (1 serving of vegetable)

Dinner



1/2 cup of cooked mixed vegetables (1 serving of vegetable)



1/2 cup of cooked spinach + 1 slice of papaya (1 serving of vegetable & 1 serving of fruit)

Snack



1/2 of medium sized guava (1 serving of fruit)

HE•AL 11

Key message 5

Combine animal and plant protein foods in daily diet

When we think of protein foods, what usually come to mind are chicken, egg, fish, and meat. Many of us primarily consume animal protein foods daily. But, have you ever heard of plant protein? Some may not be aware that foods like tempeh, tofu, beans, legumes are also rich in protein—they're plant-based protein sources! Did you know that combining animal and plant protein foods gives a more nutritious diet?

Why is protein important for your body?

Protein is needed in the forming of new cells and repairing of old cells in our body. It is involved in the growth and maintenance of the human body. It is also important in the formation of enzymes and hormones.

Recommendations of daily protein intake

According to the Malaysian Dietary Guidelines 2020:







Fish: 1 serving Poultry/meat/eggs: 1-2 servings

Legumes: 1 serving

Know your sources of protein

Animal Protein

Fish and shellfish

- Good sources of protein, contain less saturated fat than meat and poultry
- Fish: salmon & herring high in omega-3-fatty acid
- Shellfish: crabs, lobster, oysters, shrimps - low in saturated fat & low in calories

Plant Protein

Legumes

- Low in fat (e.g. soya beans, red beans, chickpeas, green beans), high in dietary fibre, free from saturated fats & no cholesterol
- Contain phytonutrients



Meat and poultry

- Complete protein, containing all essential amino acids
- e.g. chicken or turkey breast, beef or pork tenderloin



· Contain unsaturated fatty acids

& phytonutrients

· e.g. walnuts, pine nuts,

Eggs

- Complete protein, containing all essential amino acids
- Egg yolk: a rich source of many vitamins and minerals



Soya bean foods

- Rich in protein, dietary fibre, unsaturated fat, vitamins & minerals
- e.g. tofu, soya bean milk, soya bean curd, tempeh



almonds

Nuts

Ideas to combine animal and plant proteins into your meal



Breakfast Soya bean milk with wholegrain egg sandwich



Lunch Add chickpeas to beef stew



Dinner Stir-fry shrimp with tofu

Tips to cooking and consuming protein foods

The ways you cook and consume protein foods are very important in order for your body to get all the essential nutrients needed and avoiding any excessive intake:



Use healthier cooking methods such as steaming, stewing, braising, boiling, poaching, microwaving, grilling, roasting and air frying

Limit deep-frying methods as deep-frying adds fat and calories to these dishes



ba fo

Limit breading and battering as these will cause the food to soak up more oil during frying, therefore, adding more fat and calories

Choose lean cuts of meat and poultry to minimise the intake of saturated fat

Choose skinless chicken parts before cooking

Limit the intake of organ meats such as liver and kidney

Consume nuts in small amounts (on a weekly basis) because they are high in calories Try this recipe with both plant-based and animal proteins!

Braised beancurd



Ingredients

350 g (2 pcs) soft beancurd, cut into 12 pieces (square)
100 g prawn, remove shell
60 g (3 tbsp) canned peas
50 g (1/2) carrot, cut into small pieces
10 g (2 pips) garlic
10 g (1 tbsp) vegetable oil
2 g pepper
5 g (2 tsp) cornflour, mixed with 4 tbsp water salt to taste
500 ml (2 cups) water

Garnishing

Coriander leaves and spring onion

Method

- 1. Heat oil and fry garlic until golden brown.
- 2. Add in prawns and stir-fry for a while.
- 3. Add in water, carrot and allow to simmer until half cooked.
- 4. Add in peas, beancurd, salt and cornflour mixture. Stir.
- 5. To serve, sprinkle pepper and garnish with spring onion and coriander leaves.



Consume foods prepared with less sugar, oil and salt

Sugar <u>Sugar</u>

Contrary to popular belief, sugar does not cause diabetes. It is excessive intake of sugar that can result in high calorie intake that may lead to weight gain when coupled with sedentary lifestyle. Over a period of time, this may lead to overweight and obesity and will in turn increase the risk of getting NCDs such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

Examples of high-sugar foods and drinks & tips to reduce sugar



≈ 27 g / 5 teaspoons of sugar

Always choose plain water

Teh tarik (250 ml)



≈ 25 g / 5 teaspoons of sugar

Limit sweet local kueh that are high in sugar



 \approx 19 g / 4 teaspoons of sugar

≈ 40-100 g / 8-20

teaspoons of sugar

Replace sugary desserts with fresh fruits

Opt for lower sugar varieties

Do you normally consume deep-fried foods and sugary drinks and salty snacks in between meals? Be aware of hidden sugar, oil and salt in these foods!

Excessive intake of fats and oils, sugar and salt can result in higher risk of chronic diseases such as obesity, hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and cancers.

Recommendation

Sugar-sweetened

packaged drinks

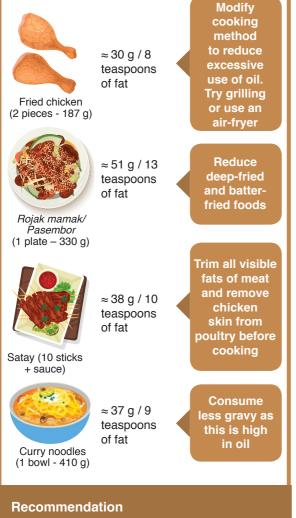
Less than 10 teaspoons daily. Taking one glass of *teh tarik* and one piece of *bingka ubi kayu* or chocolate cake would have already reached the recommended amount.

Note: Be mindful that carbohydrates also break down into sugar in the body. Excessive consumption of starchy foods can also lead to unnecessary calorie intake. Hence, consume these in moderation by practising the Malaysian Healthy Plate: only a quarter of your plate should contain carbohydrate foods.

Oils and fats

Oils and fats contribute two times more calories than carbohydrate and protein. Hence, excessive intake can result in unintended weight gain, which can lead to NCDs such as heart disease.

Examples of high-fat foods & tips to reduce oil/fat



Not more than ~15 teaspoons

daily. Having a bowl of curry noodles for lunch and 10 sticks of satay with sauce for dinner would have already exceeded the recommended intake of oil/fat for that day!

Salt (

High salt intake can lead to hypertension and may cause stroke or heart disease.

Examples of high-salt foods & tips to reduce salt



Recommendation

Reduce salt consumption to less than 5 g or 1 teaspoon per day.

Consuming a plate of *"mee kicap"* would have reached half of the salt recommended intake. Try to reduce foods prepared with sauces and opt for those prepared with spices & natural flavours.



Make smart food purchases

Do you plan your purchases for your regular grocery shopping? What are the main things that you look out for during such shopping trips?

It's important to pay attention to the quality of your fresh supplies and choice of packaged food products. Shop wisely to ensure we make nutritious and wellinformed choices.



How to make smart food purchases for fresh food

Fruits and vegetables

- Don't buy fruits and vegetables that are bruised or damaged
- Go for variety of fruits and vegetables (bear in mind the perishability of the fruits and vegetables)



Meat, poultry and seafood

- Pay attention to the texture, colour and smell
- · Choose locally produced meat, poultry and seafood
- · Buy leaner or skinless cut of meat and poultry

Read the labels!

Nutrition Information Panel (NIP)

Check the NIP for nutritional content

- Look for the amount of energy, carbohydrate, total sugars, protein, fat and sodium. The law requires these to be declared on the label of packaged foods and beverages.
- You may also find content of other nutrients such as vitamins, minerals, dietary fibre, and cholesterol.
- Make choices based on the content of several nutrients.

Nutrition Information
Serving Size: 30g

Nutrients	Per 100g	Per serving
Energy (kcal)	380	115
Carbohydrate (g)	78.7	23.8
Protein (g)	7.8	2.4
	3.8	1.2
Dietary fibre (g)	4.1	1.2
Vitamin C (mg)	70.0	21.2
Vitamin B1 (mg)	1.68	0.5
Vitamin B2 (mg)	1.6	0.5
Folic acid (ug)	200	60
Calcium (mg)	720	218
	14.0	4.2
INGREDIENTS:		

Maize (24.4%), rice flour (21.4%), whole grain wheat (21.4%), whole grain oat flour (8.8%), whole grain barley (4.3%), sugar, wheat starch, glucose syrup, raising agent, brown sugar, palm oil, iodized salt, vitamin C, vitamin B1, vitamin B2, folic acid, calcium carbonate, iron & permitted colouring.

May contain traces of nuts, milk and egg



How to make smart food purchases for pre-packaged foods



Foods in cans and packages

 Avoid cans that are rusty or dented and packages with torn labels

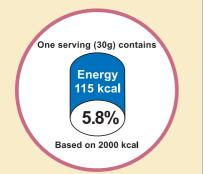
Pouch bags/sachets/ refill packs

- Ensure there are no tears or holes
- Don't buy bags that are opened
- Make sure the product has not passed its expiry date

2 Front-of-Pack labelling for energy

Use the energy icon as a quick guide of a product's calorie/ energy content. It indicates:

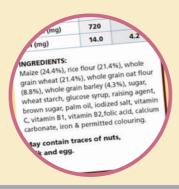
- Amount of energy you get from one serving of the packaged food
- % of energy it contributes to the average daily energy requirement of an adult



3 Ingredient list

Use the ingredient list to understand ingredients used in the product.

- The ingredients are listed in order of weight, from the most to the least
- Pay particular attention to the first three ingredients listed



4 Nutrition claims

Interpret nutrition claims wisely to help you choose healthier options.

· Nutrient content claim



Nutrient function claim



Kev message 8

Do 30 minutes of exercise most days of the week

When was the last time you went for a brisk walk or played a sport like badminton with your friends or family? Over the weekend, do you prefer to stay at home or go out for some exercise or outdoor activity? Did you know that in Malaysia. 1 in 4 adults are physically inactive?

Exercise is important for the health and well-being of people of all ages. It has long been recognised as an important factor in enhancing health and reducing the risk of various chronic diseases.



decline Improve sleep

quality



Reduce risk of NCDs 6.2 0 0



Support bone health

Feel more energised

Help boost mood

Some tips to help you get started

- Choose activities that are suitable and enjoyable for you
- Choose to meet friends over exercise sessions instead of makan sessions
- Get an exercise companion so that you are less likely to skip out two of you can motivate each other

Examples of how you can achieve the recommended 150 minutes of

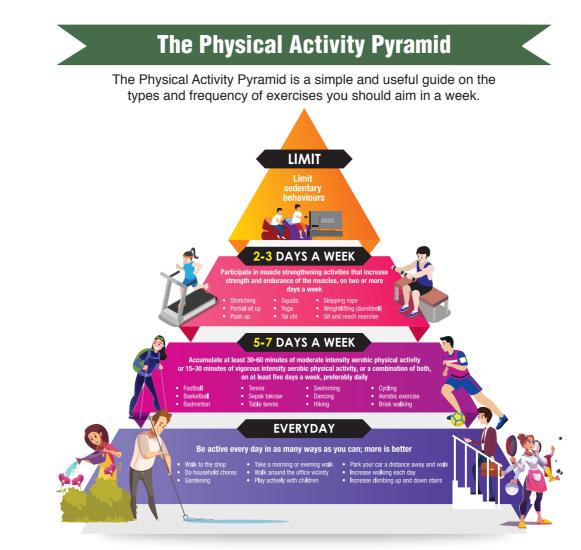
Set goals to keep you going when you feel demotivated

Beain with achievable short-term goals for a beginner and gradually increase the intensity & duration.

exercise in a week. Wednesday Sunday Saturdau Tuesdau Friday Stretching exercises Play badminton (30 mins) Brisk walking/ Strength-training with family exercises (30 mins)jogging Aerobic exercises (30 mins) (30 mins) (30 mins)

Note: Particularly for the elderly or individuals who have been inactive for an extended period, we urge extra caution to prevent injury and ensure a safe and enjoyable exercise.

HE•AL 18



Different types of exercise produce different benefits to the body:

Endurance Exercises improve cardiovascular fitness Strength-Training Exercises build muscle mass, strength & improve muscle function such as balance & posture Balance Exercises help to prevent falls and enhance balance Flexibility Exercises prevent injury to joint tissues

All types of exercise burn calories.

These much calories are burned when you exercise for a duration of 30 minutes:



Skipping: 239 kcal



Light weightlifting: 95 kcal



Running: 209 kcal



Swimming: 209 kcal



Badminton: 120 kcal



Cycling: 119 kcal

Note: Calories calculated based on 30 minutes, ~60 kg body weight

Eat Well, Live Well.



Scan here for less sodium recipe



KURANGKAN GARAM, GUNA UMAMI

Smart Salt

By replacing a portion of salt with AJI-NO-MOTO®, we can reduce the sodium level by up to 40% and able to enhance the deliciousness of the dish through Umami flavor.





LIVE ACTIVE



Mainly BCAA → BOOST energy and improve your endurance! → IMPROVE your muscle endurance → HELP with muscle soreness recovery



No mixing required. Just twist open and drink up! Suitable for:







Facebook: amino VITAL Malaysia Instagram: myaminovital





*Comparing Ayam Brand Sardines In Tomato Sauce against home-cooked sardine fishes." Reference: Muhammad Ezzudin et al. (2021)



carotenoids

squalene

phytosterols

vitamin E tocotrienol

coQ10

MSP

Did you know?

Most of the cooking oils in the Malaysian market are palm oil or blended oils that contain palm oil. This is because palm oil is stable at high cooking temperatures due to its unique fat composition, making it superior for cooking.

Red palm oil is packed with powerful antioxidants, such as vitamin E tocotrienols, provitamin A carotenoids, and many others. Including 2 teaspoons (10mL) of red palm oil in your daily cooking routines, such as using it as salad dressing or for stir-frying at lower temperatures, provides sufficient provitamin A carotenoids for our bodies to meet the daily vitamin A requirement!

> @/@/@/@ MPOCHQ www.mpoc.org.my

Rice nooder and Legumes

Complete

Diet with

Palm Oil

Malaysian

Your Healthy

Malaysian Healthy Plate



Scan for More Information on the MPOC Website







WHOLE ROLLED OATS



FIBRE

OUAKER

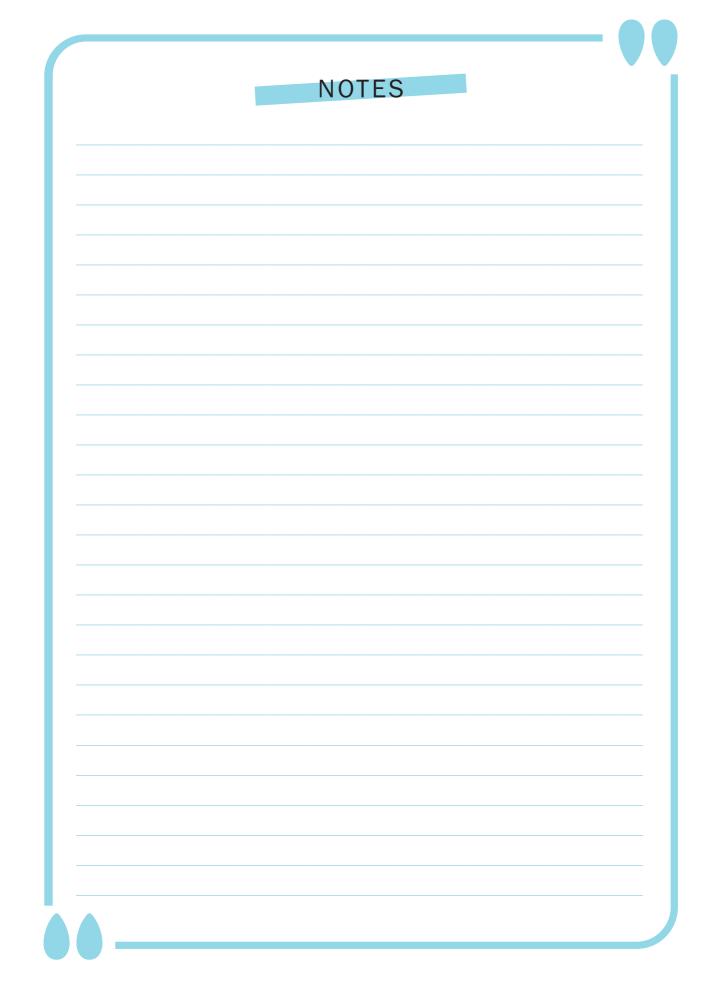


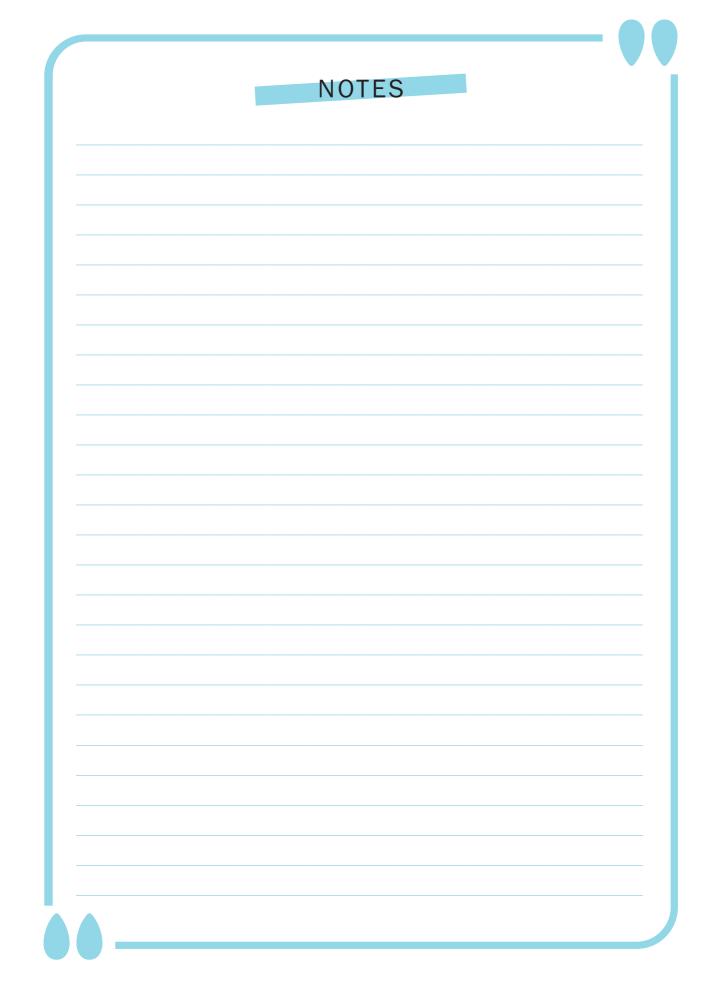
* WITH BETA GLUCAN INTAKE OF 3-6G/DAY, WITH LOW FAT & HIGH FIBRE DIET AND EXERCISE. RESULTS MAY VARY.

*USDA Food Composition Database per 100g reference amount between Quick Oats 08402 and White Rice 20444

Want to know what's in Yakult?









A Nation-Wide **Community Nutrition Promotion Programme Since 2002**

Achievements of NMM

Aimed to promote greater awareness of healthy eating and active living among Malaysians, it is a strategic partnership between three professional bodies, namely, Nutrition Society of Malaysia (NSM), Malaysian Dietitians' Association (MDA), Malaysian Society of Body Composition (MSBC). Corporate company support and partnership from 2008 enabled more educational materials and activities and greater outreach to the community.

Family Carnivals

 Organised 16 major fun-filled carnivals

School & Kindergarten Roadshows

- Visited 160 primary schools and provided healthy eating and active living messages
- Visited 175 kindergartens and conducted interactive nutrition activities

Publications for Public

 Published 16 practical nutrition guidebooks, 5 recipe books and 1 mini-booklet



Educational Materials for School Children & Preschoolers

- Published comic book and activity book for primary school children
- Published DVD and worksheets for preschoolers

Educational Press Articles

 Published over 120 articles in English, Bahasa Malaysia & Chinese newspapers

Mass Media Promotions

Disseminated messages through radio, television & website

Nutrition @ A -











Visit our website to obtain more information on educational materials from the Nutrition Month Malaysia programme. We also welcome feedback/queries. To reach us, please contact:

Chairman, Nutrition Month Malaysia Email: president@nutriweb.org.my Website: www.nutritionmonthmalaysia.org.my



VersaComm Sdn Bhd, **Nutrition Month Malaysia Secretariat** Tel: (03) 5632 3301/5637 3526

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