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Krause's Food & Nutrition Therapy



Nutrition during Infancy

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Physiologic Development

Length of gestation, the mother's prepregnancy weight, and the mother's weight gain during gestation determine an infant's birth weight

After birth, the infant's growth is influenced by genetics and nourishment

Low–Birth-Weight Infant–cont'd
n Infancy: birth to 1 year of age
n Term infant: born 37 to 42 weeks' gestation

Premature: an infant born before 37 weeks' gestation

Low–Birth-Weight Infant

Low birth weight: an infant who weighs less than 2500 g (5½ lb) at birth

Note: Not

Extremely low birth weight: an infant who weighs less than 1000 g (2¹/₄ lb) at birth

Low-Birth-Weight Infant-cont'd

n Gestational age: the age of the infant at birth, determined by length of pregnancy

Small for gestational age (SGA): weight <10th percentile of standard weight for gestational age

- Intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR)

Appropriate for gestational age (AGA): weight 10th to 90th percentile

In Large for gestational age (LGA): weight > 90th percentile

Prematurity



Energy Requirements

n Infants adjust intake to meet energy needs
n Sensitivity to hunger and satiety cues
n Monitor gains in weight and length over time

Formula-fed infants consume more kcals than breast-fed infants

Protein Requirements

Higher per kg weight than for adults because of rapid growth

Recommendations based on composition of human milk

Require large percentage of essential amino acids than adults

Note: The second sec

Lipid Requirements

n Minimum of 30 g fat per day

Essential fatty acid content of human milk vs infant formula: linoleic and linolenic acids, as well as longer chain arachidonic and docosahexaenoic acids

Linoleic acid should provide 3% of total kcals

Long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids; visual acuity and neural development

Carbohydrate Requirements
n 30% to 60% of energy intake
n Lactose tolerance
n Avoid honey and corn syrup; source of botulism spores

Water Requirements

n 0.7 L/day up to age 6 months; 0.8 L/day for age 7 to 12 months

Renal concentrating capacity may be less than for adults

May require additional water in hot, humid environments

N Hypernatremic dehydration; neural consequences

Mineral Requirements

Calcium: more is retained from breast milk than from infant formula

Iron: supplement with iron-fortified cereal or fortified infant formula by 4 to 6 months; deficiency has cognitive effects

n Zinc

n Fluoride

Vitamin Requirements

Note: The second sec

Vitamin B₁₂: Depends on maternal diet and status

Vitamin K: Hemorrhagic disease of the newborn; preventive injection at birth or supplements

n Supplementation issues

Human Milk

n Food of choice for infants **n** Provides appropriate energy and nutrients **n** Specific and nonspecific immune factors **n** Prevents diarrhea and otitis media **n** Allergic reactions are rare **n** Attachment and bonding **N** Maternal health benefits

Support for Breast-Feeding

Benefits for cognitive development, prevention of asthma and overweight

ADA and AAP support exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months and breast-feeding plus weaning foods for the next 6 months

Contraindications to breast-feeding: certain maternal infections (e.g., HIV), maternal use of psychotropic or some other drugs

Human vs Cow's Milk

Amount and type of protein affects digestibility

n Lactose content

n Essential fatty acids, cholesterol, lipase

N Vitamins and minerals

Renal solute load (protein, sodium, potassium)

Antiinfective Factors in Human Milk and Colostrum

Antibodies and antiinfective factors
Secretory immunoglobulin A (sIgA)
Lactoferrin
Lysozymes
Enhances growth of *Lactobacillus bifidus*

Formulas

n Based on cow's milk or soy products **n** Regulated by FDA through the Infant Formula Act, 1985

Decrease in anemia with use of ironfortified formulas

Questions associated with soy-based formulas

Special needs formulas

Other Milk Issues

n Fresh cow's milk and imitation milks not recommended before age 1 year

Formula preparation: cleanliness, refrigeration, warming, discarding used formula

Infant Foods

Dry cereal fortified with electrolytically reduced iron

In Jars for fruits and vegetables provide carbohydrates and vitamins A and C

n Issues with mixed foods and desserts

Home-prepared infant food: avoid added salt and sugar

Feeding

n Early feeding patterns **n** Development of feeding skills **n** Addition of semisolid foods **n** Weaning from breast or bottle to cup **•** Early childhood caries **n** Feeding older infants: type of food, serving size, forced feeding, environment

Focal Points

- Basic concepts of infant growth, development and nourishment are related.
- Nutrient needs of infants reflect rates of growth, energy expended in activity, basal metabolic needs, and the interaction of nutrients consumed.
- Infants grow rapidly in the first year of life; thus the types of infant feedings (human milk or formula), the composition of feedings, and the addition of solids to infants' diets are important considerations.
- Human milk is the food of choice for infants; commercially prepared infant formulas, manufactured to approximate human milk, also promote typical growth and development.
- The use of solid foods (with thought given to the types of foods and portion sizes served) to support nourishment and developmental progress sets the stage for lifelong food habits.