# Nutrition for IMMUNE HEALTH

Understanding the vitamins and minerals that support a healthy immune system



#### Benefits of Vitamins & Minerals for Immune Health

Folate Vitamins A, B<sub>6</sub>, B<sub>12</sub>, & D Iron Zinc

#### Immune Cell Growth

Micronutrients are needed to build new immune cells and for their proper function.

Vitamins
A, C, D, & E
Zinc
Essential Fatty
Acids

#### **Barrier Function**

Micronutrients help maintain and repair skin and mucous membranes.

Vitamins C & E Selenium Zinc

#### **Antioxidants**

Micronutrients protect the cells from oxidative damage.

Vitamins C, D, & E Zinc Omega-3s

#### Anti-inflammatory

Nutrients help reduce inflammation in cells.

Vitamins A, C, D, E, & K Zinc

#### **Wound Healing**

Micronutrients are needed for tissue repair for skin, tendons, and ligaments.

IMMUNE HEALTH
MEANS protection
against infectious disease

(bacteria, viruses, etc.) and wound healing.

## OTHER FACTORS THAT AFFECT IMMUNE HEALTH:

- · Daily Multivitamin
- Physical Activity
- Sleep
- Obesity
- Alcohol Consumption
- Smoking



### TOP 10 IMMUNE HEALTH



#### 1. Tuna

- Vitamins B<sub>6</sub>, B<sub>12</sub>, & D
- Iror
- Selenium
- Omega-3 Fatty Acids



#### 2. Sunflower Seeds

- Folate
- Vitamins B<sub>6</sub>, B<sub>12</sub>, & E
- Copper
- Iron
- Selenium
- Zinc



#### 3. Tofu

- Copper
- Selenium
- Zinc



#### 4. Garlic

- Vitamin C
- Copper
- Iron
- Selenium
- Zinc



#### 5. Spinach

- Folate
- Vitamins A, B<sub>6</sub>, C, & E



#### 6. Bell Peppers

- B Vitamins
- Folate
- Vitamins A. C. & E



#### 7. Chicken

- Vitamins B<sub>6</sub> & B<sub>12</sub>
- Copper
- Selenium
- Zinc



#### 8. Eqqs

- Vitamins A, B<sub>6</sub>, B<sub>12</sub>, & E
- Iron
- Selenium
- Zinc



#### 9. Asparagus

- Folate
- Vitamin A
- Copper
- Iron



#### 10. Peas

- Folate
- Vitamins A & C
- Copper
- Iron
- Zinc

### A Daily Multivitamin



The Linus Pauling Institute recommends that all adults take a daily multivitamin to supplement a healthy diet.

This is especially important for adults over the age of 50.

#### How does nutrition influence health?

For more information on this and other health topics, check out the Top 10 Project online:





lpi.oregonstate.edu/mic/health-disease/immunity-in-brief



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