Fruits and Vegetables & Nuts

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Nutraceuticals

Nutriceuticals

Functional Foods

Dietary supplements

Many More Terms

FRUITS and **VEGETABLES**-- as functional foods

- 1. Fruits and vegetables are generally high in water and low in fat. And , in addition to vitamins and minerals, they contain significant amounts of dietary fiber and phytochemicals.
- 2. Consumption of whole foods such as fruits, vegetables is strongly associated with reduced risk of chronic diseases. Hence, a daily consumption of at least 400 g of fruits and vegetables is recommended by WHO.



Beneficial effects of fruits and vegetables:

- Reduced risk of cardiovascular diseases
- Reduced risk of cancer
- Reduced osteoporesis
- Improved memory and mental health
- Improved fetal health
- Quicker reaction time



Phytochemicals present in Fruits and Vegetables

| Class | Bioactive component Source | |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Carotenoids | Lycopene, Lutein, B-carotene | Carrots, tomatoes |
| Flavonoids | Querecetin, Apigenin, Naringenin, Catechin | Onion, apple, broccoli |
| | Proanthocyanindin | |
| Organosulphar | Allyl sulfar, Diallyl sulfide | Onion, garlic |
| Isothiocyanates | SulphoraphaneBroccoli, cauliflow cabbage, Horsera | |
| Phenolic acids | Caffeic acid, Ferulic acid, Chlorogenic acid | Apple pears, citrus fruits, some vegetables |
| Indoles | Indole-3-carbinol | Cruciferous vegetables |
| Chlorophyll | Chlorophyllin | Green vegetables |
| Sulfides/thiols | Dithiolthiones | Cruciferous vegetables |
| Phytosterol | Sitosterol, stigmasterol, Campsterol | Nuts |
| Monoterpenes | D-limonene | Citrus fruits |

Role of Various Phytochemicals

| Phyto- chemical | Source | Role |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Carotenoids | Fruits & vegetables | Antioxidants, protects against uterine, prostate, colorectal, lung and digestive tract cancers, and protection to other antioxidants. |
| Limonoids | Citrus fruits | Inhibiting phase I enzymes & inducing phase II detoxification enzymes in liver, provide protection to lung tissue. |
| Phytosterols | Various plants | Exhibit anti-inflammatory, anti-neoplastic, anti-pyretic & immune- modulating activity, decrease cholesterol |
| Phenolic constituents | Various plants | Antioxidants, lowers the risk of CHD, diabetes, hypertension etc. |
| Flavonoids | Grapes, wines | Action against free radicals, free radicals mediated cellular signaling, inflammation, allergies, platelet aggregation, & hepatotoxins |
| Catechin & gallic acids | Grapes, berries, cocoa, green tea, acacia spp. | Antioxidants, free radical scavenging ability, inhibition of eicosanoid synthesis, reduces CHD |
| Anthocyanidin s | Fruits & flowers | Antioxidants & anti-mutagenic properties |
| Glucosinolates | Cruciferous | Activators of liver detoxification enzymes, inhibit the neoplastic effect of various carcinogens |
| Fiber | Vegetables, fruits, | Protects against colorectal diseases, |

Classification of dietary phytochemicals



Health importance of fruits and vegetables

| Disease | Effective Phytochemical/fruit/vegetable |
|------------------------|--|
| Cancer | Quercetin, Chlorophyllin, Monoterpenes, Citrus Flavonoids, Cruciferous Vegetables |
| Cardiovascular disease | Lycopene, Avocado, Grapes, Berries |
| Diabetes Mellitus | Flavonoids (procyanidins) |
| Obesity | Dietary Fiber |
| Osteoporesis | Vitamin C, β-carotene |
| Asthma | Apples, pears |
| Birth defects | Folates |

Nutraceuticals from fruits and vegetables available in market

| Brand name | Components | Function |
|------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Betatene | Carotenoids | Immune function |
| Xangold | Lutein esters | Eye health |
| Lipoec | α-lipoic acid | Potent antioxidant |
| Generol | Phytosterol | CHD reduction |
| Linumlife | Lignan extract flax | Prostate health |
| Fenulife | galactomannon | Control blood sugar |
| Marinol | ω 3 FAs | Heart health protection |





•Carotenoids have a 40-carbon skeleton of isoprene units.

- Cyclized β-carotene Acyclized – Lycopene
- Long series of conjugated double bonds forming the central part of molecule.
- they have ability to quench and inactivate reactive oxygen species especially singlet oxygen.
- they can react with free radicals and can become radicals themselves.

Chemical structures of "carotenoids" present in vegetables and fruits

Lycopene

Red color of tomatoes, watermelon, pink grapefruit, guava & papa
Binds tightly to fibers, freed by high heat
Powerful antioxidant which reduces damage to DNA and proteins
Gives better skin protection against UV light than beta-carotene
Concentrates in the skin, testes, adrenal and prostate where it protects against cancer
Can reduce LDL cholesterol levels

•Suppresses Insulin-like Growth Factor (IGF-1) stimulation of tumor growth













Flavonols

Flavones













Flavanones

Anthocyanidins

Isoflavonoids

Structure of main classes of flavonoids present in traditional Indian functional foods

Flavonoids are mainly present in the glycosylated forms, and their bioavailability depends on the sugar moiety.



Sulforaphane

•Especially rich in broccoli

•Causes cell cycle arrest and apoptosis of cancer cells H₃C

Produces D-glucarolactone, a significant inhibitor of breast cancer
Kills <u>Helicobacter_pylori</u> bacteria responsible for stomach ulcers and gastric cancer risk.

Capsaicin

•Makes chilli peppers "hot"

•Stimulates neurons for burning and abrasion sensation

•Can cool mouth with cold milk, alcohol or ice cream

Promotes apoptosis in pancreatic cancer cells

•May relieve chemotherapy-induced neuropathy

•Inhibits NF-κB transcription of proinflammatory and antiapoptotic (cancer-promoting) genes



HC



Sulforaphane

Betaine

•Betaine = trimethylglycine

•Found in spinach and beets

•Capable of removing pro-atherosclerotic protein homocysteine from the body



Pectin

•Soluble fiber in apples (gives feeling of fullnes when eaten)

•Binds to sugars, releasing them slowly and keeping blood sugar levels steady

Lowers cholesterol



Anthraquinones Senna

•Sennosides are dianthrones

•From dried leaves of leguminous herbs or shrubs of the pulse family

- •Increases peristaltic movements in the colon
- •Nauseating taste

•Contraindicated for hemorrhoids or inflammation

Barbaloin

- •From Aloe vera plant (lily & onion family)
- •Uterine stimulant (abortifacient)
- •Heal skin burns & ulcers
- •Antihelminthic
- •Can cause gastritis, diarrhea & nephritis







Thiosulfonates

- •Organosulfur phytochemicals in garlic and onions
- •Includes mercaptocysteines and allylic sulfides (an **allyl** is a hydrocarbonsulfur bond)
- •Allicin is toxic to insects and microorganisms
- •Allicin protects against ulcers by inhibiting Helicobacter pylori
- •Allicin inhibits mammary, endometrial and colon cell proliferation
- •Garlic can induce nitric oxide synthetase activity
- •Garlic inhibits platelet aggregation by arachidonic acid, epinephrine and other platelet agonists
- •Propanethial-S-oxide released from cut onions converted to sulfuric acid in eyes (causes "burning")
- •Cooking garlic & onions destroys the enzyme allinase, preventing formation of beneficial sulfur compounds





Inulin-type Fructans- common dietary sources are onion, garlic & banana

The term inulin-type fructans covers all $\beta(2 \leftarrow 1)$ linear fructans including native inulin (DP 2-60, DP_{av}=12) and oligofructose (DP 2-8, DP_{av}=4).

Act as prebiotics- increase and reduce the numbers of potentially health-promoting bacteria and potentially harmful species, respectively.

Enhance calcium and magnesium absorption.

Modulate the secretion of gastrointestinal peptides involved in appetite regulation.

Reduce the risk of colon carcinogenesis and improve the management of inflammatory bowel diseases.

A "High performance"(HP) type of inulin has been made available recently to the market. This product is manufactured by removing the shorter-chain molecules.







Lutein





•Gives corn, avocado and egg yolk a yellow color

•Lutein and zeaxanthin constitute about half of all carotenoids in the retina

•Lutein and zeaxanthin are the only carotenoids in the macula of the eye

•Absorbs damaging blue light

•Protects the eye from macular degeneration and cataracts

•May protect against colon cancer

•Highest concentrations in kale, spinach, watercress and parsley (in that order)











Dominant Phytochemical Pigments

| COLOR | PIGMENT | FRUIT OR VEGETABLE |
|-----------------|------------------------|--|
| RED | Anthocyanins | Strawberries, Raspberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Pomegranates, Apples, Red Grapes |
| | Lycopene | Tomatoes, Pink Grapefruit, Watermelon |
| | Betacyanins | Beets |
| ORANGE | Beta-carotene | Carrots, Mangoes, Apricots, Cantelope, Pumpkin, Sweet Potatoes |
| | Beta- cryptoxanthin | Oranges, Tangerines |
| BLUE/PURP LE | Anthocyanins | Blueberries, Plums, Eggplant, Concord grapes |
| YELLOW | Lutein, Zeaxantin | Corn, Avocado |
| | Curcumin | Tumeric (Curry) |
| GREEN | Chlorophyll | Broccoli, Kale, Spinach, Cabbage, Asparagus, Green Tea |
| BLACK | Thearubigens | Black tea |
| | Anthocyanins | Blackberries |

Dietary Fiber (DF):-Broccoli, spinach, pear and Guava are good source of DF

- Plant polysaccharides and lignin which are resistant to hydrolysis by the digestive enzymes of man.
- plays important role in intestinal health, obesity, diabetes and cancer.
- the recommended daily intake of DF is 25-30 g/person.
- slow down gastric emptying & affect nutrient assimilation in the small intestine.



- Properties of DF in fruits and vegetables depend not only on the content, but also on the composition.
- DF of fruits and vegetables transports a significant amount of polyphenols and carotenoids linked to fiber matrix through the human gut.

Mechanism by which phytochemicals in Fruits & Vegetables may prevent diseases

- Antioxidant activity
- Enzyme induction and enhancing detoxification
- Inhibition of enzymes involved in the activation of carcinogens
- Enhancement of immune functions and surveillance
- Regulation of steroid hormone metabolism
- Antibacterial and antiviral effects
- Regulation of estrogen metabolism.
- Prevention of DNA binding



Synergistic effects of phytochemicals present in different fruits:



Consumers should obtain their phytochemicals from a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains for optimal health benefits.



Nuts- a source of phytosterols









Campesterol HO HO Stigmasterol

Chemical structures of phytosterols

- Diet high in phytosterols lowers the level of *prostrate cancer*.
- Incorporation of phytosterols in to membranes Changes the membrane fluidity/integrity and activities of Membrane-bound enzymes.
- Phytosterols have the ability to affect signal Transduction pathways such as protein kinase C pathway.



Effect of Sitosterol on sphingomylein cycle

Medicinal Mushrooms

Trade: over \$ 5 billion

Producers: China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia

Consumers: Above Countries + USA + Europe

Trade in India: over Rs. 500 crore

Commercially Important Medicinal Mushrooms

Reishi or Ling Zhi (Ganoderma lucidum)

Shiitake (Lentinula edodes)

(Cordyceps sinense)

(Coriolus versicolor)

(Schizophyllum commune)

Products in market

DXN-Chennai (220mg capsules) Rs. 360 for 30 Caps.

Organotech - (USA) 100mg capsules Rs. 1250 for 100 Caps.

Works out to Rs. 50000 to Rs. 1,25000 per kg of micronized and refined powder.









ersicolor (mycelium); (B) lentinan from Lentinus edodes (fruit body); and (C) schizophyllan from Schizo pmmune (medium product).



Phytochemicals from fruits and vegetables directly or from dietary supplements :

Whether a purified phytochemical has same health benefit as the compound when its source is a food or a mixture of food.

Isolated pure compound may lose its bioactivity or may not behave the same way as the compound in whole foods.

Natural combination of phytochemicals in fruits and vegetables is responsible for its potent antioxidant activity, it cannot simply be mimicked by pills or tablets.

Higher doses of phytochemicals in pure dietary supplement form may increase the risk of toxicity.

No single antioxidant can replace the combination of natural phytochemicals in fruits and vegetables in achieving the observed health benefits.

Functional foods in the Post-genomic Era

- Alterations in gene expression in response to bioactive food components needs to be studied using microarray technology. Further, more information is needed to examine how genetic profile of an individual influences the ability of phytochemicals to bring about phenotypic changes.
- Since influence of food components is mainly at the translational or posttranslational level (protein phosphorylation and glycosylation), PROTEOMIC-BASED studies are the need of the day.
- # Ascorbic acid reduces the anticancer potential of Selenium while allyl sulphar compounds present in the garlic has enhancing effect on its anticancer potential. These interactions among the nutrients can be examined through METABOLOMIC RESEARCH.



ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:

- Modern scientific research on claims or empirical observation-- incentives
- Efficacy and safety issues
- Regulation (unscrupulous are everywhere)
- At times (often?) we over claim
- Create awareness among masses- gain credibility
- Standard practices; agricultural, storage and manufacturing

