# Healthier Dining Program Nutrition Guidelines 

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Healthy Foods and Dining Department, Obesity Prevention Management Division

## Contents

Category: Lower in Calories ..... 3
Category: Higher in Wholegrains ..... 4
Category: Higher in Wholegrains, Low Glycaemic Index (GI) ..... 5
Wholegrain Products ..... 6
Category: Healthier Oils ..... 9
Category: Source of Dietary Fibre ..... 10
Category: Beverage ..... 11
Category: Dessert ..... 13
Illustration I: What is a "Healthier Food" ..... 14
Illustration II: Low Glycaemic Index claim endorsement ..... 14
Illustration III: What is a "Healthier Beverage" ..... 15
Illustration IV: "Source of Dietary Fibre" endorsement ..... 16
Annex V: Types of Cuisine ..... 17
Annex VI: Illustration of Main or Set Meal Criteria ..... 18

## Category: Lower in Calories

| Criteria | Main Meal | Set Meal | Non-Main meal / Side dish |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Food <br> Composition <br> ( per dish ) | $\geq 50 \%$ weight from <br> carbohydrates and/or <br> protein | $\geq 50 \%$ weight from <br> carbohydrates and/or <br> protein | Must be $\geq 150 \mathrm{~g}$ <br> Weight <br> (per dish <br> excluding gravy <br> or soup within <br> the dish ) |

## Category: Higher in Wholegrains

| Criteria | Main Meal | Set Meal | Non-Main meal / Side dish |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Food <br> Composition ( per dish ) | $\geq 50 \%$ weight from carbohydrates and/or protein | $\geq 50 \%$ weight from carbohydrates and/or protein | - |
| Weight ( per dish ) | Must be $\geq 150 \mathrm{~g}$ | Must be $\geq 100 \mathrm{~g}$ <br> - Mains that are $\leq 150$ g may be paired with a side/drink to form a set meal. <br> - Can include soup, salads, sides or drinks. <br> - No desserts allowed to be part of set meal | - |
| Cooking Method | $\leq 40 \%$ deep fried | $\leq 40 \%$ deep fried | - |
| Energy (kcal per dish) | $\leq 600 \mathrm{kcal}$ | $\leq 600 \mathrm{kcal}$ | - |
| \% of wholegrain | Refer to Wholegrain Products ( Page 6-7 ) |  | - |
| Consumer <br> Dining pattern | - Meal is sold in a pre-defined portion <br> - Has to be taken for Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner AND Taken by an individual setting |  | - |

## Category: Higher in Wholegrains, Low Glycaemic Index (GI)

| Criteria | Main Meal | Set Meal | Non-Main meal / Side dish |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Food Composition ( per dish ) | $\geq 50 \%$ weight from carbohydrates and/or protein | $\geq 50 \%$ weight from carbohydrates and/or protein | - |
| Weight ( per dish ) | Must be $\geq 150 \mathrm{~g}$ | Must be $\geq 100 \mathrm{~g}$ <br> - Mains that are $\leq 150$ g may be paired with a side/drink to form a set meal. <br> - Can include soup, salads, sides or drinks. <br> - No desserts allowed to be part of set meal | - |
| Cooking Method | $\leq 40 \%$ deep fried | $\leq 40 \%$ deep fried | - |
| Energy (kcal per dish) | $\leq 600 \mathrm{kcal}$ | $\leq 600 \mathrm{kcal}$ | - |
| \% of wholegrain | Refer to Wholegrain Products ( Page 6-7) |  | - |
| Glycaemic Index (GI) | Must be $\leq 55$ * |  | - |
| Consumer <br> Dining pattern | - Meal is sold in a pre-defined portion <br> - Has to be taken for Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner AND Taken by an individual setting <br> OR <br> - Menu and premise has listed food item as a main meal | - Meal is sold in a pre-defined portion <br> - Has to be taken for Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner AND Taken by an individual setting <br> OR <br> - Menu and premise has listed food item as a main meal | - |

Notes:

-     * The cut-off values for the classification of low, medium and high GI are standardised internationally (ISO 2 6642: 2010)
- GI of meal will be done via indirect analysis (predicted GI)
- Aligning with indirect Caloric analysis, indirect GI analysis consultancy services must be provided by Nutritionists or Dietitians.


## Wholegrain Products

| Wholegrain products | Wholegrains Content (\%) | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rice: <br> - Rice (unpolished) <br> - Mixed rice <br> - Wholegrains (e.g. Barley, Millet, Quinoa) | $\begin{aligned} & 100 \% \\ & \geq 20 \% \\ & \geq 20 \% \end{aligned}$ | A mixture of white with wholegrain rice can qualify as wholegrain if $\%$ of wholegrains $\geq 20 \%$ |
| Pasta | 100\% |  |
| Oriental Noodles (dry) <br> - Brown rice vermicelli 'beehoon' <br> - Wheat noodles <br> - Rice-based noodles (E.g. Rice spaghetti, other forms of thicker rice based noodles) | $\begin{aligned} & \geq 80 \% \\ & \geq 15 \% \\ & \geq 15 \% \end{aligned}$ | No mixture with non-wholegrain noodles allowed |
| Oriental Noodles (Fresh) <br> - Wheat-based noodles (E.g. Hokkien Yellow Noodles <br> - Rice-based noodles (E.g. Kuay Teow, Laksa Beehoon) | $\geq 15 \%^{\text {(a) }}$ $\geq 15 \%^{\text {(a) }}$ | No mixture with non-wholegrain noodles allowed |

(a) Based on weight on final product.

## Wholegrain Products

| Sub-Category | Energy (kcal/ serving) | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Fat } \\ (\mathrm{g} / \\ 100 \mathrm{~g}) \end{gathered}$ | Saturated <br> Fat (g/ 100 g ) | Trans <br> Fat (g/ $100 \mathrm{~g})$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Sodium } \\ (\mathrm{mg} / \\ \mathbf{1 0 0 g}) \end{gathered}$ | Dietary fibre (g/ $100 \mathrm{~g})$ | Total <br> Sugar <br> (g/ <br> $100 \mathrm{~g})$ | \% of Wholegrains |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bread (loaf), breadcrumbs, Flat breads (pita, wraps) pizza crust | - | $\leq 5^{\text {(b) }}$ | - | $\leq 0.1$ | $\leq 450$ | $\geq 3$ | - | $\geq 25$ |
| Buns, rolls (unfilled, plain) Hamburger, hotdog type | - | $\leq 5^{\text {(b) }}$ | - | $\leq 0.1$ | $\leq 450$ | $\geq 3$ | - | $\geq 10$ |
| Buns, rolls (filled) Cream, jam, fruits, custard, savoury | - | $\leq 8^{\text {(b) }}$ | - | $\leq 0.1$ | $\leq 400$ | $\geq 2$ | $\leq 15$ | $\geq 10$ |
| Steamed buns | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - Filled (e.g. <br> Pau) <br> - Unfilled (e.g. <br> Mantou) |  | $\begin{aligned} & \leq 8^{\text {(b) }} \\ & \leq 8^{\text {(b) }} \end{aligned}$ | - | - | $\begin{aligned} & \leq 250 \\ & \leq 250 \end{aligned}$ | - | $\begin{aligned} & \leq 18 \\ & \leq 15 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \geq 10^{\text {(c) }} \\ & \geq 15^{\text {(c) }} \end{aligned}$ |
| Cakes, muffins | - | $\leq 22$ | - | $\leq 0.2{ }^{\text {(d) }}$ | $\leq 300$ | $\geq 3$ | $\leq 24$ | $\geq 10^{\text {(c) }}$ |

(a) Based on weight on final product.
(b) Products with fat levels that exceed the criteria and less than $10 \%$ will be accepted if the $\%$ saturated fat is less than $20 \%$ of the total fat.
(c) Based on weight of final product
(d) Where butter is the primary and/or only source of fat used in this recipe, applications can be assessed on case-by-case basis due to the presence of naturally occurring trans-fat in butter

## Wholegrain products (Convenience meals)

| Sub-Category | Calories /serving | Fat $(\mathrm{g} / \mathbf{1 0 0 g})$ | Saturated Fat (g/100g) | Trans Fat (g/100g) | Sodium (mg/100g) | Total Sugar (g/100g) | Whole-grain Content ^ (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Small meals ${ }^{1}$ | $\leq 300{ }^{\text {(a) }}$ | - | $\leq 3.0$ | $\leq 0.1$ | $\leq 400$ | - | Criteria for whole-grains are applicable for cereal based convenience meals ${ }^{2}$ |

1. Small meals refer to light meals usually consumed as lunch or snacks. Examples: sandwiches, wraps, pies, Asian glutinous rice. Typical weight <200g
2. Only wholegrain options will be acceptable. The standards for wholegrains for ingredients used in the recipe can be obtained under respective sub-categories for "Cereals". Examples of wholegrain options as listed below:

| Wholegrain standards for ingredients used in the recipe | Examples of convenience meals |
| :---: | :---: |
| - Wholemeal bread ( $\geq 25 \%$ wholegrains) <br> - Wholemeal pita ( $\geq 25 \%$ wholegrains) <br> - Wholemeal wraps ( $\geq 25 \%$ wholegrains) <br> - Wholemeal buns and rolls ( $\geq 10 \%$ wholegrains) | Sandwiches, rolls, wraps, fold-overs, burgers, pizza |
| - Rice / dehydrated rice ( $\geq 20 \%$ unpolished rice) <br> - Glutinous rice ( $\geq 20 \%$ unpolished rice) <br> - Rice flour ( $\geq 20 \%$ unpolished rice) | Ready-to-eat rice-based meals, instant porridge, sushi, dimsum (lor mai fan, fan choy, chee cheong fun, carrot cake) |
| - Dry wheat noodles ( $\geq 15 \%$ whole wheat) | Instant noodles, cup noodles |
| - Dry rice vermicelli ( $\geq 80 \%$ brown rice) | Ready-to-eat vermicelli meals |
| - Pasta (whole durum wheat pasta / wholemeal pasta / semolina) <br> - Wholemeal pizza base ( $25 \%$ wholegrains) | Frozen / Chilled ready-to-eat pasta based meals, pizza |
| - Fresh oriental rice / wheat noodles ( $\geq 15 \%$ wholegrains) | Frozen / chilled / ready-to-eat noodle meals |
| - Other wholegrain ingredients ${ }^{\wedge}$ A list of wholegrains can be referred from the link provided (http://www.wholegrainscouncil.org/whole-grains-101/whole-grains-a-to-z) |  |

(a) $10 \%$ variation will be accepted

Category: Healthier Oils

## Healthier Oil Criteria:

| Saturated Fat $(\mathbf{g} / \mathbf{1 0 0 g})$ | Trans Fat $(\mathbf{g} / \mathbf{1 0 0 g})$ | Others |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| $\leq 35 \mathrm{~g}$ | $\leq 0.5 \mathrm{~g}$ | Edible Oil carrying Healthier Choice |
|  |  | Symbol |

## Category: Source of Dietary Fibre

## Dietary Fibre Criteria:

## Source of Dietary Fibre (g/100g) or (g/100ml)

## $\geq 3 \mathrm{~g}$

## Definition (by Codex Alimentarius Commission):

Dietary fibre means carbohydrate polymers with ten or more monomeric units, which are not hydrolysed by the endogenous enzymes in the small intestine of humans and belong to the following categories:

- Edible carbohydrate polymers naturally occurring in the food as consumed,
- Carbohydrate polymers, which have been obtained from food raw material by physical, enzymatic or chemical means and which have been shown to have a physiological effect of benefit to health as demonstrated by generally accepted scientific evidence to competent authorities.


## Category: Beverage

| Sub-category | Fat (g/100g) | Saturated <br> Fat <br> (g/100g) | Total <br> Sugar <br> (g/100g) | Added <br> Sugar <br> (g/100g) | Calcium (g/100g) | Energy (kcal/serving) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Packaged Drinks/ Intrinsic no sugar beverages | - All packaged beverage carrying Healthier Choice Symbol <br> - Bottled Water / Water products <br> - Zero Calorie products <br> - Coffee or tea with no sugar and no milk/evaporated milk |  |  |  |  |  |
| Freshly Prepared Malted/ Chocolate drink | $\leq 2$ | (a) | - | $\leq 6$ |  | $\leq 200$ |
| Freshly Prepared Coffee/ Tea | - | (a) | - | $\leq 6$ |  | $\leq 200$ |
| Beverages containing flavoured milk | $\leq 1.5$ | (a) | - | $\leq 6$ | $\geq 130 \mathrm{mg}$ | $\leq 200$ |
| Freshly Prepared Cordial or Asian drinks | - | - | - | $\leq 6$ |  | $\leq 200$ |
| Freshly Prepared Soymilk / beverage containing soymilk ${ }^{(b)}$ | $\leq 2$ | (a) | - | $\leq 6$ | $\geq 60 \mathrm{mg}$ | $\leq 200$ |
| Freshly Prepared <br> Juices (at least 60\% <br> fruit juice) ${ }^{(c)}$ | - | - | $\leq 12.5$ |  |  | $\leq 200$ |
| Specialty Drink (e.g. bubble tea ) | - | - | - | $\leq 6$ |  | $\leq 200$ |
| Smoothies ( with dairy products ) ${ }^{\text {(d) }}$ | $\leq 2$ | (a) | - | $\leq 5$ |  | $\leq 200$ |
| Smoothies ( without dairy products ) ${ }^{\text {(e) }}$ | - | - | - | $\leq 5$ |  | $\leq 200$ |

## Additional guidelines that Beverage for food service needs to comply with:

- No free access to sugar/syrups to freshly brewed beverages
- Sugar/syrups cannot be served on the side
- Endorsement allowed if
(i) Beverage has been endorsed by HCS
(ii) \& no additional new formulation from partner (except for ice addition)
- Products carrying representation of health claims on product packaging or marketing advertisement collaterals will be excluded
- (a) Only products with saturated fat not more than $60 \%$ of total fat will qualify
- (b) Product with fat level between $2 \%$ and $5 \%$ will be approved if the $\%$ saturated fat is $20 \%$ or less of the total fat
- (c) Not applicable to cordials and concentrates, vegetable juice must contain $100 \%$ juice from vegetables
- (d) Must contain $\geq 15 \%$ of dairy based ingredients \& added fruits $\geq 40 \%$ of total product
- (e) Must contain $\geq 90 \%$ of fruit products

Illustration of an Intrinsic Beverage

| Intrinsic Beverage | Non-intrinsic Beverage |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\bullet \quad$ Barley without sugar | $\bullet \quad$ Honey lemon water or honey lemon tea |
| $\bullet$ | Chrysanthemum tea without sugar |
| $\bullet$ | $\bullet \quad$ Tea without sugar |
| $\quad$ (E.g. Earl grey tea, peppermint tea) | $\bullet \quad$ Luo Han Guo |
| $\bullet$ | HCS bottled water |
| $\bullet \quad$ Tap water or plain water | $\bullet \quad$ MILO 'kosong' (without added sugar) |

## Category: Dessert

| Sub-Category | Energy (kcal/ serving) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Fat } \\ (\mathrm{g} / \\ \mathbf{1 0 0 g}) \end{gathered}$ | Saturated <br> Fat (g/ 100 g ) | Trans <br> Fat (g/ 100 g ) | Sodium (mg/ 100 g ) | Dietary fibre (g/ 100 g ) | Total <br> Sugar <br> (g/ <br> 100 g ) | \% of Whole -grains |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Local and seasonal cakes (E.g. mooncakes, Nian Gao, pineapple tarts, Nonya kueh, tapioca kueh) | - | $\geq 25 \%$ <br> compar | reduction reference $\mathrm{d}^{(\mathrm{a})}$ | $\leq 0.1$ | - | $\geq 3.0$ | $\begin{aligned} & \geq 25 \% \\ & \text { sugar } \\ & \text { reduction } \\ & \text { compared } \\ & \quad \text { to } \\ & \text { reference } \\ & \text { food }^{(a)} \end{aligned}$ | - |
| Ice cream (Includes Sorbet) | $\leq 200$ | $\leq 12$ | - | $\leq 0.5$ | - | $\geq 3.0$ | $\leq 17$ | - |
| Frozen yogurt | $\leq 200$ | $\leq 5$ | - | - | $\leq 120$ | $\geq 3.0$ | $\leq 20$ | - |
| Local clear soup desserts (E.g. Cheng Tng, green bean soup, tau suan) | $\leq 200$ | - | - | - | - | $\geq 3.0$ | $\leq 6$ | - |
| Soup/Paste desserts (with dairy / cream) (E.g. almond paste, black sesame paste, pulot hitam, mango sago) | $\leq 200$ | $\leq 2.5$ | $\leq 1.5$ | - | - | $\geq 3.0$ | $\leq 6$ | - |
| Ice shaving desserts (E.g. Bingsu, Bubur Cha Cha, Chendol) | $\leq 200$ | $\leq 2.5$ | $\leq 1.5$ | - | - | $\geq 3.0$ | $\leq 6$ | - |
| Jellies <br> (E.g. grass jelly, <br> Aiyu, Fruit jellies) | $\leq 200$ | - | - | - | - | $\geq 3.0$ | $\begin{gathered} \leq 13 \\ (\leq 11 \text { from } \\ \text { April 2019) } \end{gathered}$ | - |
| Pudding (E.g. mango pudding, rice pudding) | $\leq 200$ | $\leq 1.5$ | Pdts not more than $60 \%$ of total fat will qualify | - | $\leq 120$ | $\geq 3.0$ | $\begin{gathered} \leq 13 \\ (\leq 11 \text { from } \\ \text { April } 2019) \end{gathered}$ | - |

[^0]i) The regular product which has been produced for a significant period by the manufacturer making the nutrient claim or
ii) A weighted average of an industry norm for that particular type of food or
iii) A food whose composition is determined by reference to published food composition tables

## Restricted

## Illustration I: What is a "Healthier Food"



## Illustration II: Low Glycaemic Index claim endorsement

## Illustration : What is a "Healthier Low GI Food"

Wholegrain main/set meal

- $\leq 600 \mathrm{kcal} \& \leq 40 \%$ deep fried
- Fulfils \% of wholegrain content (refer to Wholegrain category)



## Illustration III: What is a "Healthier Beverage"

(i) Beverages under the intrinsic beverage list includes:

- Bottled Water / Water products
- Zero Calorie products
- Coffee, Tea or Ice Lemon Tea with no/less sugar and no milk/evaporated milk
- Packaged/canned beverages with HCS endorsement
- HCS endorsed powdered drinks with only water/ice dilution (e.g.

Milo/Horlicks without addition of sugar/syrup/milk)

## Illustration of an Intrinsic Beverage

| - Intrinsic Beverage | - Non-intrinsic Beverage |
| :---: | :---: |
| - Barley without sugar <br> - Pure flower/leave teas without sugar (E.g. Chrysanthemum tea) <br> - Tea without sugar (E.g. Earl grey tea, peppermint tea) <br> - HCS bottled water <br> - Tap water or plain water <br> - Espresso, Americano (without milk or sugar) | - Honey lemon water or honey lemon tea <br> - Soya milk without sugar <br> - Fruit/ Herbal teas such as Luo Han Guo <br> - MILO 'kosong' (without added sugar) <br> - Water chestnut drink |

These items can be tagged with the 'No added sugar' identifier as listed below

## No added <br> sugar

(ii) Beverages which have completed lab analysis and fulfilled the nutrition criteria as listed in page 11 can be tagged with the 'Lower in sugar' identifier as listed below:

## Illustration IV: "Source of Dietary Fibre" endorsement

Endorsed items which have fulfilled the nutrition criteria listed under page 11 can be tagged with the "Source of Dietary Fibre" identifier as listed below:


Lower in sugar
Source of dietary fibre


No added sugar
Source of dietary fibre


Higher in wholegrains
Source of dietary fibre

## Annex V: Types of Cuisine

| Type of Cuisine | Examples of Main/Set Meal | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Western Cuisines | - Pastas | - Pizza assessment based on 500kcal per serve * |
|  | - Soups with Bread Bun, Salads |  |
|  | - Wraps/Burritos, |  |
|  | Sandwich, |  |
|  | - Fish/Meat with salad/soup |  |
|  | - Pizzas |  |


| Asian Cuisines | - Rice Roll (non Dim Sum) <br> - Toast with egg \& drink set <br> - Bao <br> - Popiah 2 Rolls, Chapatti/Thosai <br> - Economy rice non-fried (1 veg +1 protein/tofu/egg) <br> - One dish meal containing clear soup | Examples of main meal: <br> - Popiah has to be 2 rolls <br> - Chapatti has to be 2 pieces with at least 1 gravy dish to qualify as main meal Thosai has to be 1 piece with at least 1 gravy dish to qualify as main meal <br> - Economy Rice (non-fried items) with 1 vegetable +1 protein/tofu/egg OR 2 vegetable items (containing tofu or egg or lentils) can qualify if artwork is displayed <br> - One dish meal containing clear soups such as Yong Tau Foo soup, Sliced Fish Soup, Ban Mien, Mee Soto etc will be included if carbohydrate and/or protein ingredient items is at least 150 g . Carbohydrate and/or protein weight need not fulfil at least $50 \%$ of dish weight in view of proportion of clear soup |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

- Examples of fixed set meal:
- 1 (HCS endorsed) Bun +1 drink
- 1 Bao/Dim Sum item +1 drink

| Quick Service | • Burger, muffin, sandwich | - |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Restaurant ( QSR) | - Salads | Muffiches, Salads |
|  | - pizza slice + drink |  |
|  |  | as main) |
|  |  | Can include 1 drink as part of set meal |


| Kiosks/Chains | - Pancake + Soy Milk set | - |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | - Pancake + soymilk, Bean curd + soymilk |  |
|  | - Pizza set meal | - |

Notes

- *Serving size assessed by Officer based on consumption dining pattern
- Above list is non-exhaustive, new cuisine will be assessed case by case basis


## Annex VI: Illustration of Main or Set Meal Criteria


${ }^{1}$ Officer will assess on a case by case basis based on consumer dining pattern. Item can include a drink, soup, salads or sides to qualify as set meal. Dish weight must be $\geq 100 \mathrm{~g}$ and can include soup, salads, sides or drinks. No desserts allowed to be part of set meal, however lower in sugar desserts can be endorsed as stated in the dessert category.
${ }^{2}$ Officer will assess on a case by case basis for dishes which has an overall representation of high sodium/salt sources such as the use of ham, bacon, sausages or layer of fatty meat cuts in dish.

- End -


[^0]:    ${ }^{(a)}$ From NC1 of A Handbook on Nutrition Labelling (Singapore), a 'reference food' is defined as one of the following:

