

Student Essay on Vitamins

Vitamins

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Essay

The human body needs vitamins to function properly. This paper will discuss some vitamins and tell what they are used for in the body. This paper will also tell what type of foods contain certain vitamins and what happens to the body when it lacks certain vitamins you need. If you eat healthy you'll get the vitamins you need.

Your body needs Vitamin A for your eyes, growth, and for resisting infection. Vitamin B is used for growth, digestion, and your nervous system. Vitamin C is needed for teeth, bones, and firm gums.

Green, leafy and yellow vegetables are good sources of vitamin A in dairy products, eggs and liver. Vitamin A is well conserved in cooking. Cereals and meats (except pork) are best sources of vitamin B. Some of the vitamin is lost in cooking due to heat and water extraction. Citrus fruits and tomatoes are the best sources of vitamin C. Vitamin C can also be found in many other common fruits and vegetables and is also destroyed in cooking due to heat and water extraction.

If you don't get enough vitamin A in your diet you can get a disease called xerophthalmia. One of the first signs of this disease is night blindness. When your diet lacks vitamin B you can get a disease called beriberi and have a lack of appetite. "There seems to be conditions in which vitamins are not absorbed in the body, it may be necessary to give thiamine (vitamin B1) in amounts beyond those ordinarily taken." (pg 2109 health encyclopedia) Lacking vitamin C will cause a condition known as scurvy, symptoms include gum bleeding.

To get the vitamins you need you must eat healthy. Vitamin deficiency can cause many serious health problems. You can get your vitamins from common foods in your diet. To function properly your body must have vitamins.

work cited

Morris Fishbein M.D.: medical and health encyclopedia pgs 2107-2117