

# FAT soluble VITAMINS

D

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A



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# VITAMIN D

## Calciferol

- **With the help of sunlight, vitamin D is synthesized by the body from a precursor derived from cholesterol.**
- **Vitamin D is therefore not an essential micronutrient, given the right season and enough time in the sun.**
- **The active form of vitamin D is actually a hormone that targets organs – most notably the intestines, kidneys, and bones.**  
**In the intestine, vitamin D is involved in the absorption of calcium and phosphorus.**
- **In the bone, it assists in the absorption of calcium and phosphorus, helping bones grow denser and stronger as they absorb and deposit these minerals.**



**Vitamin D is needed at times of rapid growth that is, in infants and young children, adolescents, and pregnant women.**

### **Sources of vitamin D**

**a-The ultraviolet rays (UVRs) activate the pro vitamin (7-dehydrocholesterol) in the deep layers of the skin , but it can be filtered by air pollution and glass.**

**b- There are a few foods that are natural sources of vitamin D. These sources are oily fish, egg yolk, animal protein, beef, and mushrooms.**

**c- Fortified milk.**



## **Bioavailability of vitamin D**

**There is very little information on the bioavailability of vitamin D. It is assumed that the food matrix has little effect on absorption. Bioavailability also varies among individuals and depends on the level of circulating vitamin-D-binding protein.**

## **Risks related to inadequate or excess intake of vitamin D**

- Inadequate exposure to sunlight is the primary risk factor for poor vitamin D status.**
- The use of sunscreen, higher levels of melanin in skin (i.e., dark skin), skin coverings (clothes, veils).**
- Time of day are factors that decrease exposure to UVB rays.**



- **The distance from the equator is also a factor for UVB exposure; people living in latitudes above or below 40 degrees from the equator will be unable to form vitamin D from the skin precursor during the winter months.**
- **Breast milk is a poor source of vitamin D. Children who are exclusively breastfed and have no or little sun exposure require vitamin D supplements to meet their vitamin D requirements.**



# **Vitamin D deficiency ( Rickets and osteomalacia)**

**Rickets is a systemic disease of the growing skeleton characterized by defective calcification of the bones during growth.**

**The term osteomalacia is applied to the same pathological condition when it affects a skeleton that has completed its growth**



# SIGNS

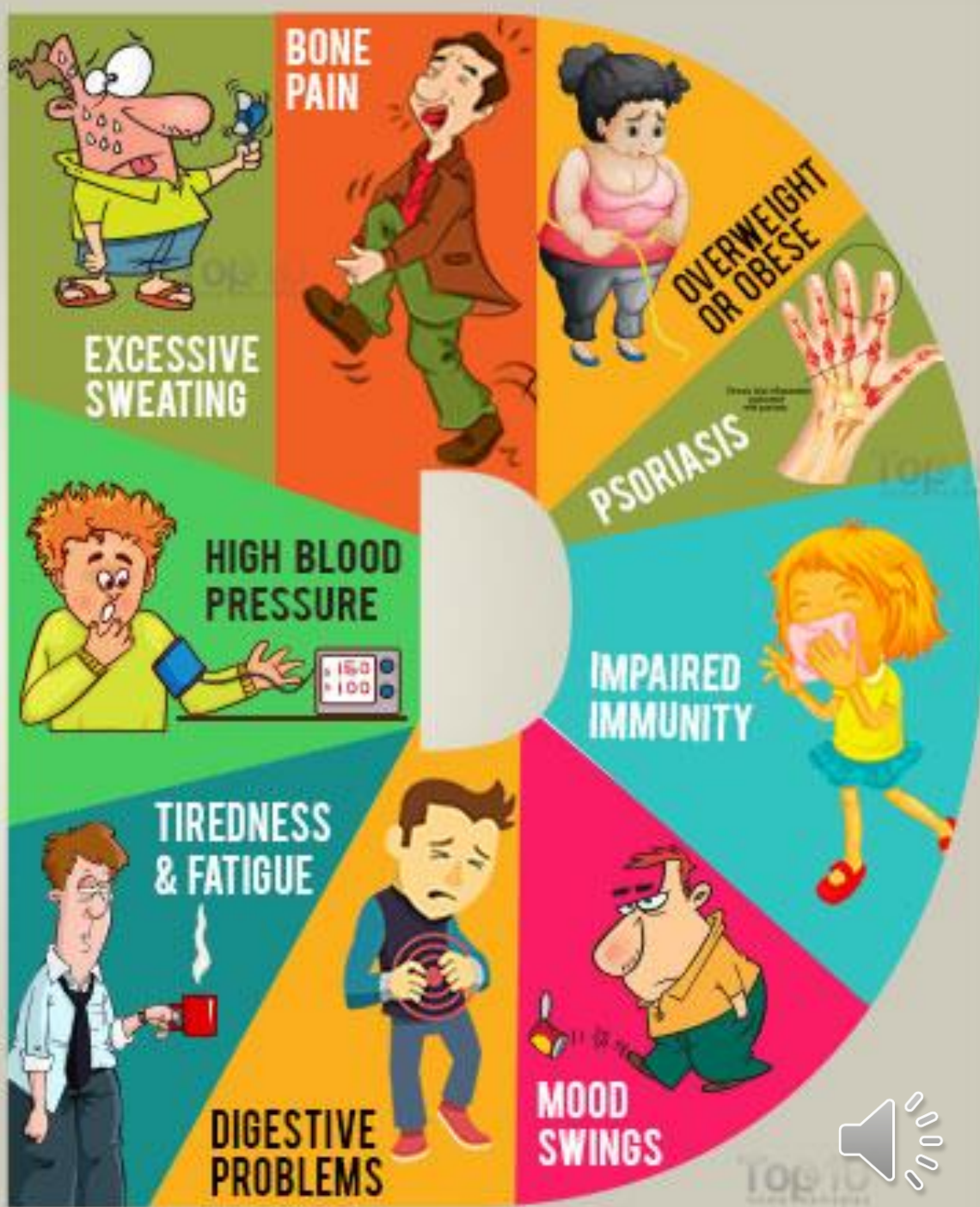
You May Have a

# VITAMIN D DEFICIENCY

**Top 10**  
Home Remedies

To explore more, visit

[www.Top10HomeRemedies.com](http://www.Top10HomeRemedies.com)



Top 10  
Home Remedies

# Less sun => Less Vitamin D => Less Health

## Less Sun

### Less time outdoors

- Air Conditioning
- TV & internet & video games
- Live in smoggy cities  
or in suburbs with little walking
- Less work outdoors
- Fear skin cancer and wrinkles

### Less sun when outdoors

- Sunscreen
- Protective clothing

*Additional reasons at:  
[is.gd/lowvitamind](http://is.gd/lowvitamind)*

Henry Lahore 10/2015 VitaminDWiki  
details at [is.gd/sundisease](http://is.gd/sundisease)

## Less Health

ALS, Asthma, Autism, Breast Cancer, Cognitive Decline, Congestive Heart Failure, Cystic Fibrosis, Dental, Depression, Diabetes, Falls/fractures, Fibromyalgia, Kidney, Headache, Hypertension, Infection (antibiotics), Influenza, Lupus, MS, Osteoarthritis, Osteopenia, Osteoporosis, RA, Rickets, Pain-Back, Parkinson's, Psoriasis, Prostate Cancer, Pregnancy problems, Raynaud's, Tuberculosis, Ulcer -leg, Weight gain

Allergy, Alzheimer's, Anemia, Bone, Cancers, Celiac, Chronic Fatigue, Chronic Pain, COPD, Fertility, Heart Disease, HIV, IBD, Metabolic Syndrome, MRSA, Myopathy, Sepsis, Thyroid

Acne, Ebola, Hearing, Liver, Rosecea, SAD, Shingles, Shin Splints, Suicide, Vision

### Strong Proof

that increase in Vit D decreases incidence and/or treats

### Associated

with low Vit D for most people with the disease

### Suspected

relationship with low Vitamin D







## Ecological factors for Vitamin D deficiency:

- Biological

Dietary

Social

- Environmental



## **1- Biological factors**

- a- Order of the child: The later the child of an undernourished mother, the higher the probability of developing Vit. D deficiency.**
- b- Twins**
- c- Low birth weight**
- d- High parity will lead to osteomalacia**

## **2-Dietary factors**

- a-Deficient intake of Vitamin D or calcium**
- b- Presence of phytic acid and oxalates in diet preventing calcium absorption.**
- c- Artificially fed babies**



### **3- Social Factors**

**a-Poverty**

**b-Ignorance of mothers about proper feeding and rearing of children**

**c-Cultural factors as wrapping infants and preventing exposure to sunshine, and early marriages of girls who are still in need of dietary calcium.**

**d-Living in dumpier areas.**

### **4- Environmental factors**

**a-Amount of sunshine and ultraviolet rays (UVRs). In cloudy and dusty atmosphere the UVRs are absorbed .**

**b- High prevalence in rural areas due to ignorance, poverty and unhealthful social habits**



# Prevention of vitamin D deficiency

Health & nutrition education

Socioeconomic development

Prevention and control of air pollution.

Enrichment of milk or baby formula with vitamin D.

Vitamin D supplements for the high-risk groups.



## **Vitamin E ( $\alpha$ -Tocopherol)**

- The most active form of vitamin E is  $\alpha$ -tocopherol, which acts as an antioxidant**
- Vitamin E protects cell membranes, proteins, and DNA from oxidation and thereby contributes to cellular health.**
- It prevents oxidation of the polyunsaturated fatty acids and lipids in the cells.**
- Vitamin E is stored in the liver and is safe even at high intake**



## **The primary sources of vitamin E**

**Vitamin E in the  $\alpha$ -tocopherol form is found in edible vegetable oils, especially wheat germ, and sunflower oil.**

**Other good sources of vitamin E are leafy green vegetables (i.e., spinach ), nuts (almonds, peanuts) and avocados, sunflower seeds, mango and kiwifruit.**

## **Bioavailability of vitamin E**

**Vitamin E is a fat-soluble nutrient. As such, absorption of this vitamin is enhanced in the presence of fat in a meal**



## **Risks related to inadequate or excess intake of vitamin E**

**Individuals whose diets consist mostly of starchy staples – with inconsistent intake of edible oils or other vegetable sources of vitamin E – are at a higher risk of inadequate vitamin E intake.**

**Vitamin E deficiency leads to red blood cell breakage and nerve damage.**

**Studies from Bangladesh link low vitamin E blood levels to an increased risk of miscarriage.**

**In other studies vitamin E supplementation has been successfully used for the treatment of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, a condition widespread in overweight and obese people.**

**Excessive intake of vitamin E from food is very rare.**





# Vitamin A





# Vitamin A

Sources of vitamin A and beta-carotene:



Vitamin A comes from animal sources such as eggs, meat and dairy products

Beta-carotene, a precursor of vitamin A, comes from green, leafy vegetables and intensely colored fruits and vegetables



**Preformed vit A is available only in Foods of animal origin, rich sources of vit A**

**carotene – the pro vitamin A , which is a pigment in yellow and green plants that the body converts to vit A .**



# Vitamin A

**Requirements: Retinol requirements are influenced by factors related to its**

**two basic forms in food sources and its storage in the body, illness and GIT or hepatic defect**



**The established RDA standard for adults is 800 ug for women and 100 ug for men.**

**The units are currently measured in *retinol equivalents* (REs) , one RE is equal to 6µg of retinol and 6 ug of carotene.**

## **FOOD SOURCES OF VITAMIN A**

*Bread, cereal ,rice, pasta:* this food group is not an important source of vit A.



## Vegetables

Carrots [raw]

1/2 cup

2379

Green beans

1/2 cup

102

Green peas

1/2 cup

144

Spinach

1/2 cup

2187

## Fruits

Apricot [dried]

4 halves

490

Apricot [fresh]

3 med

867

Banana

1 med

69

Orange juice

1/2 cup

75

Water melon

1 wedge

753

## Meat, poultry, fish, eggs

Egg, whole

1 large

78



## Milk, dairy products

Cheddar cheese

28g

90

Milk, whole

1cup

101

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## CAUSES OF VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY

**The major cause is diets which include few animal sources of pre-formed vitamin A.**

**In addition to dietary problems, there are other causes of vitamin A deficiency.**

**Iron deficiency can affect vitamin A uptake.**



# **Secondary vit A deficiency occurs due to**

**1- poor absorption due to lack of bile or defective absorbing surface**

**2- inadequate conversion of carotene because of liver disease( liver cirrhosis) or intestinal diseases.**



# Vitamin A deficiency (VAD)



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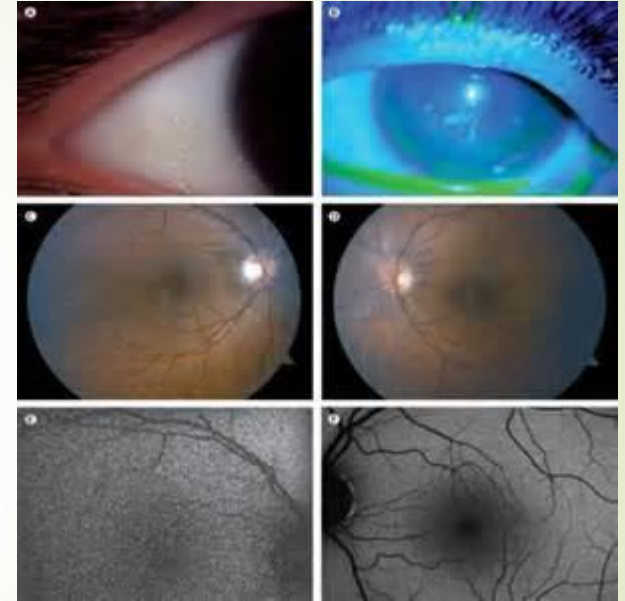
**Deficiency of vitamin A is associated with significant morbidity and mortality from common childhood infections and is the world's leading preventable cause of childhood blindness, and increases the risk of disease and death from severe infections. In pregnant women VAD causes night blindness and may increase the risk of maternal mortality.**

**An estimated 250 million preschool children are vitamin A deficient and it is likely that in vitamin A deficient areas a substantial proportion of pregnant women is vitamin A deficient.**





**Severe vitamin A deficiency is associated with Xerophthalmia and ulceration of the cornea, a condition that can lead to total blindness.**



**Vitamin A is also involved in the function of the immune system and in maintaining epithelial surfaces.**



**A vitamin A deficient child faces a 25% greater risk of dying from a range of childhood ailments such as measles, malaria or diarrhoea**

**In fact, vitamin A supplementation was shown to reduce child mortality rates by 23% in areas with significant levels of vitamin A deficiency.**



# vitamin A deficiency as a public health problem

**Requiring intervention when at least one of two specifications is met:**

**1) The prevalence of low serum retinol is **within the range specified** and another biological indicator (including night blindness, breast milk retinol, relative dose response, modified dose response, or conjunctival impression cytology), also indicates widespread deficiency; **and/or****



**2) The prevalence of low serum retinol indicates widespread deficiency and at least four demographic and ecologic risk factors are met, including:**

**1-infant mortality rate higher than 75/1000 live births and under-5-year mortality rate of higher than 100/1000 live births.**

**2-full immunization coverage in less than 50% of children at 12-23 months of age.**



**3- less than 50% prevalence of breastfeeding in 6-month-old infants.**

**4-median dietary intake lower than 50% of recommended safe level of intake among 75% of children 1-6 years of age.**

**5-two-week period prevalence of Diarrhea 20% or higher.**

**6-measles case fatality rate 1% or higher.**

**7-no formal schooling for 50% or more of women 15-44 years of age.**

**8-less than 50% of households with a safe water source.**



**Prevalence of low serum retinol ( $0.70 \mu\text{mol/l}$  or below) to define a public health problem and its level of importance among children 6-71 months of age**

**Degree of public health problem**

**Mild**

**Moderate**

**Severe**

**2-9%**

**10-19%**

**20 % or more**

**Prevalence of low serum retinol ( $0.70 \mu\text{mol/l}$  or below)**



**Assessment of serum retinol permits both the monitoring of trends of vitamin A deficiency as well as the evaluation of the impact of interventions.**

**Adequate vitamin A intake increases the chances of survival, reduces severity of childhood illnesses, and thereby eases the strain on health systems and hospitals**

**Improving the vitamin A status of pregnant women may reduce their risk of dying during pregnancy and childbirth, improves their resistance to infection, and helps reduce anemia.**



# PREVENTION

**To successfully fighting VAD, short-term interventions and proper infant feeding must be backed up by long-term sustainable solutions.**

**The collection of nutritional “well-being weapons” includes a combination of breastfeeding and vitamin A supplementation, coupled with long-term solutions, such as promotion of vitamin A-rich diets and food fortification.**





# Strategies to Control VAD

- **Promote vitamin A-rich foods (fruits, vegetables, red palm oil).**
- **Give infants and women low-dose iron supplements according to WHO protocols.**
- **Improve food security.**
- **Feed children properly.**
- **Prevent disease and treat disease early.**
- **Fortify foods.**



**Since breast milk is a natural source of vitamin A, promoting breastfeeding is the best way to protect babies from VAD.**

**For deficient children, the periodic supply of high-dose vitamin A in swift, simple, low-cost, high-benefit interventions**

**Food fortification takes over where supplementation leaves off. 6m -6y**

**Food fortification, for example sugar in Guatemala, maintains vitamin A status, especially for high-risk groups and needy families. Changing feeding habits of people and mothers nutritional education**



# Vitamin A Supplements

Infants < 6-12 months of age only if not breastfed (breast fed children in this group should be protected by post partum supplementation of their mothers.)

50,000 IU orally

Infants 6-12 months of age

100,000 IU orally, every 4-6 months

Children > 12 months of age

200,000 IU orally, every 4-6 months

Mothers (post-partum, lactating)

200,000 IU orally within 8 wks of delivery

