# THE IMPORTANCE OF IODINE DURING PREGNANCY

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

#### lodine is key for you because...

- When pregnant, our body needs 50% more iodine.
- Our body can't make iodine, we must get it from food.
- lodine helps the body make energy from food.
- Many women do not have enough iodine stored in their body before pregnancy.

#### And for your baby too!

- lodine is key for a growing baby's brain and bones.
- Low iodine levels may cause brain defects and lower child IQ.



## HOW MUCH IODINE DO YOU NEED?

Recommended Amount RDA<sup>A</sup>/AI<sup>B</sup>

Pregnant teens \_\_\_\_\_\_220

Adults and teens 14-18 years — 150

# Worried you're not getting enough iodine?

Talk with your healthcare provider about ways to add more iodine rich foods and discuss if a supplement is right for you.

# WAYS TO WORK IN MORE IODINE



**Milk It:** Pair milk with your favorite cereal or oatmeal, blend in smoothies or add to pasta dishes or soups.



**Enjoy Yogurt:** Yogurt is made from milk and contains nutrients to help baby grow. Top yogurt with fruit, granola or nuts for a balanced breakfast or snack.



**Say Cheese:** Cheese is an easy option at home or on the go! Pair a cheese stick or slices with fruits and veggies. Top salads, soups or favorite dishes with shredded cheese.



**Put an Egg on It:** Eggs provide 8 essential nutrients including iodine, choline, vitamin B12 and protein.



**Go Fish:** Fish and seafood can be good sources of iodine, as well as protein, healthy fats and vitamin B12.

#### Lactose intolerant? Choose

**Lactose-free milk** – real, great tasting milk with the same nutrition, just without lactose.

Cheddar and Swiss cheese have the lowest lactose.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF IODINE DURING PREGNANCY

#### WHAT FOODS PROVIDE IODINE? MICROGRAMS SERVING (MCG) PER SERVING PERCENT DAILY FOOD VALUE (DV) SIZE Cod, baked 158 105% 3 ounces Yogurt, Greek, 6 ounces 87 58% plain, fat-free Low-fat milk 87 58% 1 cup (1%) lodized 1/4 tsp 76 51% table salt Fish sticks 39% 3 sticks 58 Pasta, cooked 27% 40 1 cup in iodized salt Cottage 1/2 cup 39 26% cheese (reduced fat) **Swiss cheese** 24% 3 slices\* 36 Crab, canned 3 ounces 32 21% and cooked Egg, 17% 26 1 egg hardboiled **American** 12% 3 slices\* 18 cheese Cheddar 3 slices\* 15 10% cheese Shrimp, 9% 3 ounces 13 pre-cooked Salmon, 3 ounces 14 9% baked Soy 1 cup 7 5% beverage **Almond** 1 cup 2 1% beverage

# DID YOU KNOW?

1 cup of milk contains over half of your daily iodine needs!

Milk is an affordable source of iodine and other important nutrients.

### FRUIT PARFAIT

#### **Ingredients**

- 2/3 cup non-fat plain or flavored yogurt
- ½ cup fruit of choice (fresh, frozen or canned (drained))
- Toppings of choice

**Fruit ideas:** Bananas, strawberries, blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, apples, peaches, pears, fruit cocktail

**Topping ideas:** Slivered almonds, granola, sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, chia, hemp or flax seeds, cinnamon, nutmeg

Instructions
Layer yogurt
and fruit.
Sprinkle with
toppings.



\*cracker sized slice of cheese

Non-iodinzed

sea salt

References: Dietary Guidelines 2020, National Institutes of Health - Iodine Factsheet for Health Professionals.

1/4 tsp

<1



1%