Making Healthy Food and Drink Choices

Best choices – GREEN category

Choose GREEN category foods and drinks OFTEN as they are the most nutritious choices. Enjoy a wide variety of GREEN category foods and drinks every day because they:

- are excellent sources of important nutrients for good health and wellbeing
- are low in saturated fat and/or added sugar and/or salt
- help avoid an excess energy intake (kilojoules or calories).

Choose carefully – AMBER Category

Choose AMBER category foods and drinks SOMETIMES as they are mainly processed and have some sugar, salt and/or fat added to them. These foods and drinks should be selected carefully because they generally:

- have some nutritional value, but
- can, in large serve sizes, contribute to excess energy intake (kilojoules or calories).

Limit – RED category

Choose RED category foods and drinks RARELY as they are not an essential part of a balanced diet. It is recommended that these foods and drinks are only consumed occasionally and in small amounts as they:

- lack nutritional value
- are energy dense and can contribute to excess energy intake (kilojoules or calories)
- are high in added fats, saturated fat, and/or sugar and/or salt.

For more information

Health Promotion Branch, SA Health
Telephone: (08) 8226 6329

© Department of Health, Government of South Australia. All rights reserved. Ref: SAH 9060.2. Printed February 2010.

Acknowledgements: Adapted from Queensland Health’s A Better Choice – Healthy Food and Drink Supply Strategy for Queensland Health Facilities 2007. All rights reserved. Ref: MA99953. Printed February 2010.