

Food Fortification



Key points to support a food first approach for residents who require it

What is fortification?

Food fortification, also known as food first means adding additional calories, protein and micronutrients to food to increase the nutritional value in the same or a similar portion. Food fortification is a useful tool for those at risk of malnutrition, losing weight or have a generally poor appetite.

Why do we fortify?



To increase the nutritional value of a residents diet



Provides extra nourishment using familiar foods



To avoid having to ask the person to eat more



Way of offering extra nourishment with less food



Improves the flavour of foods

Food first strategies



Offer familiar foods



Make meals attractive



Use suitable portion sizes, offer second helpings



Ensure meals, snacks and drinks are high in calories and protein



Use feeding aids and utensils



(Allow sufficient time between meals



Ensure resident comfortable and prepared for meal



Remember fresh air and exercise promotes good appetite

Who would benefit?

All residents on a MUST step 5 should be given a fortified diet. You may also find that fortification needs to be continued after the MUST step 5 is stopped, to support weight maintenance. If somebody continues to gain weight and is reaching a higher BMI, discontinue fortification.

Fortifiers

Protein:

- 30g skimmed milk powder = 100kcals and 10g protein
- 1 pint fortified milk (using whole milk) = 600kcals and 40g protein
- 3 dessertspoons evaporated milk = 75kcals and 3g protein
- 2 tablespoons nut butter = 200kcals and 8g protein
- 30g cheese = 125kcal and 8g protein



Carbohydrates:

- 1 teaspoon of sugar = 20kcals
- 1 teaspoon jam or honey = 40kcals
- 1 heaped teaspoon of hazelnut chocolate spread = 80kcals

Fats:

- A 9g butter pat = 75kcals
- 3 dessertspoons of single cream = 60kcals



