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## Proteinews

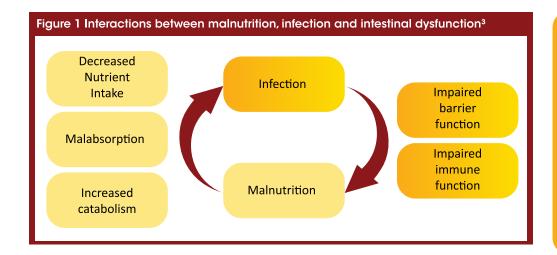
(COVID Special Edition 3)



### COVID-19 and KIDS...The unseen damage

- » Experts warn that the third wave, expected to hit India later this year, will affect children the most.<sup>1</sup>
- » Malnutrition could exacerbate the effects of COVID-19 in children.<sup>2</sup>
- » Deteriorating quality of diets, interruptions in nutrition and other essential services and socioeconomic shocks due to the pandemic are further incrementing the numbers of malnourished children.<sup>2</sup>

Malnourishment and Infection...The bad-connect



- Infection can negatively influence the
- » This leads to a reduction in the body's ability to fight infection.

nutritional status.

» Accordingly, infection can cause malnutrition and malnutrition may increase the chances of infection.<sup>3</sup>

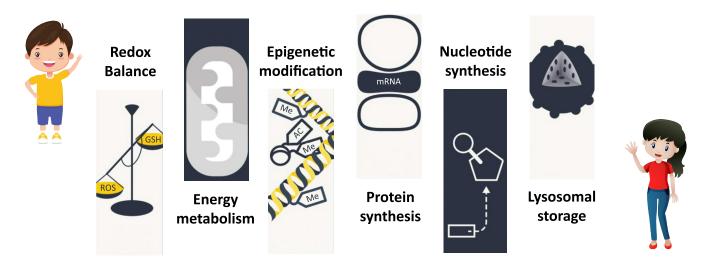


Malnourished children are at a significantly higher risk of more severe disease, increased frequency of infections and encounter significantly more acute and long-term morbidity and mortality post infection. 4

#### Proteins and Immunity....The Health-Boost

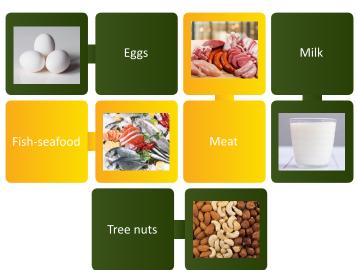
#### Amino acids support immune cell function by multiple mechanisms as they<sup>5</sup>

- » Are fundamental building blocks supporting life
- » Are instrumental for protein synthesis
- » Also contribute to ATP generation, nucleotide synthesis and redox balance to support cellular and organismal function.



### PRO-tein-ACE ... Ace the COVID-19 Recovery

- » A well balanced and healthy diet is critical for optimum antibody production and minimization of oxidative stress and inflammatory status for promoting an appropriate immune response.
- » Low protein levels can increase the risk of infections due to low antibody production. Thus, consumption of proteins along with some lipids, antioxidants, and micronutrients provides significant benefit in COVID-19 recovery.<sup>6</sup>

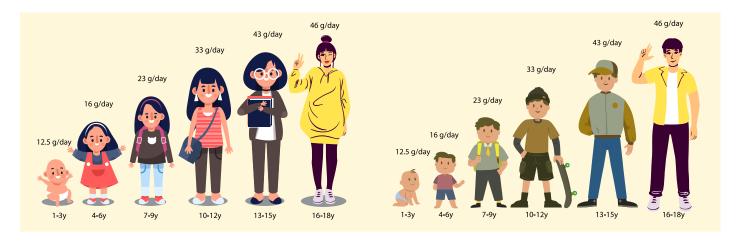


Protein sources with positive effects on COVID-19 recovery rates<sup>6</sup>

# Daily Protein Recommendations for children & adolescents in India

Proteins are important nutrients needed to protect against muscle loss while fighting COVID 19. They are even more critical in case of bedridden or inactive patients.8

Source: ICMR-NIN (2020)7



### Pro-tipper: Meeting the Nutritional Needs during COVID-19<sup>s</sup>

#### Nutritional Requirements during COVID-19

- » Fluid: about 3 liters of fluid per day
- » Calories: 2000 2500 calories per day
- » Protein: 75 100 grams per day
- » Drink Fluids Every Hour

#### Eat a High Calorie, High Protein Diet

- » Eat 6 times a day, every 2-3 hours even if you are not hungry.
- » Try to eat 75-100 grams of protein per day.
- » Good protein sources are: peanut or nut butters, milk, eggs, yogurt, cheese, meat/fish/poultry, protein shakes.
- » Due to decreased appetite, eat nutrient dense foods.
- » Drink fruit juice, milk, or other calorie-containing beverages.
- » Try using nutritional supplements between meals to increase your nutritional intake.
- » Eat small amounts frequently.

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