

## NATIONAL HEALTHY SKIN MONTH: Nourish Your Skin From Within

Your skin is your largest organ, so it is important to take care of it. Generally, what you eat that's good for your body is good for your skin too. A well-balanced plate filled with vegetables and fruits is the healthiest and simplest approach to supporting skin health. Learn more about skin-supporting nutrients and foods to include on your balanced plate.

**Carotenoids** or Vitamin A derivatives may protect against skin damage from UV radiation and skin cancer. Rich food sources: sweet potatoes, carrots, pumpkins, spinach, mangos, tomatoes, watermelon, red cabbage, grapefruit and guava

**Vitamins C** supports collagen synthesis and wound healing. Rich food sources: citrus fruits, bell peppers, strawberries, kiwi and broccoli

**Vitamin E** acts synergistically with carotenoids and Vitamin C and may protect against aging skin. Rich food sources: wheat germ, sunflower and safflower oils, peanuts, hazelnuts, almonds, sunflower seeds, spinach, avocado and salmon

**Vitamin D** may prevent sun-induced skin damage and skin cancer and protect against aging skin. Rich food sources: fortified cow's milk and non-dairy foods, fatty fish, egg yolk and mushrooms exposed to UV

**Omega 3 fatty acids** may improve skin barrier function, inhibit UV-induced inflammation and hyperpigmentation, attenuate dry skin, accelerate wound healing, prevent skin cancer and preserve collagen. Rich food sources: fatty fish, flaxseed, chia seeds, walnuts, soy foods, some eggs and canola oil

**Polyphenols** may protect skin from adverse effects of UV radiation, induce death of damaged unwanted cells, prevent tumor growth and have anti-aging effects. Rich food sources: dark chocolate, green and black tea, turmeric, grapes (red, purple or black), berries, citrus fruits, apples, soy, legumes, spinach, whole grain wheat flour, onions and dried herbs and spices

**Water** makes up 64% of your skin and keeps it hydrated so it will look plumper and have more elasticity. Rich food sources: celery, watermelon, strawberries, lettuce, cucumbers, oranges, apples, zucchini, cauliflower, low sodium soup & water

