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Energy Homeostasis in Humans

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Section A

General Concepts of Energy Metabolism

Types of Energy

- Solar
- Chemical
- Mechanical
- Thermal
- Electrical

Calorie

- Defined as the amount of heat required to rise the temperature of one kg of water from 14.5 to 15.5° C
- Also defined based on the heat of combustion of benzoic acid (thermochemical calorie)
- Standardized in 1956—one cal = 4.1868 Joules

Joule

- Defined as the energy expended when one kg is moved one meter by a force of one Newton
- Watt
 - Expresses rate of energy expenditure per unit time, i.e., work (J/sec)

- 1 L of O₂ = 4.825 kcal
- 1 g/atom of $O_2 = 3$ mol of ATP

Bomb Calorimeter



Diagram created by JHSPH CTLT

	0 ₂ (ml)	CO ₂ (ml)	RQ	Energy (kcal)
Starch	828	828	1.00	4.183
Fat	2019	1427	0.70	9.461
Protein	966	781	0.81	4.442

Kcal/g	Heat of Comb ustion	Availabilit y	Loss	Net
Meat	5.35	92%	1.25	4.0
Butter	9.12	95%		9.0
Starch	4.12	99%		4.0
Ethanol	7.1	100%	tr.	7.0



Section B

Energy Balance and Measurement of Energy Expenditure

Energy IN = Energy OUT

Measurement of Energy Balance

Energy Intake



Measurement of Energy Balance

Energy Intake



Energy Expenditure

- Food freq. quest.
- 24-hr recall
- Food records
- Food weighing
- Direct observation

Measurement of Energy Balance

Energy Intake



- Food freq. quest.
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Energy Expenditure

- Gas exchange calorimetry
- Heart rate monitoring
- Estimated from activity
 - Motion sensors
 - Activity diary
 - Direct observation
- Doubly labeled water (D218O)

Components of EE

Basal Metabolic Rate (BMR, REE)



Thermic Effects of Food (TEF, FIT)

Basal Metabolic Rate (BMR, REE)



Physical Activity (PA)

Thermic Effects of Food (TEF, FIT)

Basal Metabolic Rate (BMR, REE)





The Doubly-Labeled Water Method



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Disappearance Rates of DLW Tracers





Section C

Energy Requirements

Dietary Reference Intakes



Determination of Dietary Energy Requirements: Factorial Method



Physical Activity Allowance

Food-Induced Thermogenesis (ignored)

BMR (measured/predicted)

Limitations of Previous Approach

- BMR not constant throughout the day
- Unreliable data on energy cost of physical activities, and only estimated for selected activities
- EPOC, fidgeting, other involuntary activities not accounted for

Selection of Approach for Current Revision

- Use energy expenditure to estimate dietary energy requirements
- Use total daily energy expenditure (TEE) measured by the doubly-labeled water technique

Adequacy Indicator

BMI

- Strengths
 - Recognized link to health outcomes
 - Reflects relationship of weight and height
 - Good population data in U.S. and other countries

BMI

- Limitations
 - Not best indicator of body adiposity
 - Cutoffs may not be valid across populations
 - Some difficulty in defining cutoff points in children and across populations/countries

Estimated Energy Requirement (EER)

- A level of dietary energy intake sufficient to maintain a stable healthy body weight and an adequate level of physical activity
- Differs from EAR in that it is not a distribution of intakes reflecting physiological variability

Normative DLW Database TEE by Age



Measures of Physical Activity

- PAL—TEE / BEE
- MET— O₂ consumption of 3.5 mL/kg/min (= 0.0175 kcal/kg/min)
- PAL equivalents of METs
 - 0.0175 x 1.15 / 0.9

		Mea	Mean		
PA Category	Range	F	Μ		
Sedentary	1.0–1.39	1.23	1.29		
Low Active	1.4–1.59	1.52	1.51		
Active	1.6–1.89	1.74	1.74		
Very Active	1.9–2.5	2.09	2.06		

Data from Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Sciences

DLW Database: Distribution of PAL Levels



Equation for Prediction of TEE: General Models

0-2 Years of Age

TEE = 89 x Weight – 100

Ages 3 Years and Over

- TEE = A + B x Age + PA x (D x Weight + E x Height)
 - A—Constant term
 - B—Age coefficient
 - PA—Physical activity coefficient
 - D—Weight coefficient
 - E—Height coefficient



Adapted by CTLT from Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Sciences

Factors Affecting Energy Requirements



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