

REFINE Search Query

Food Aid Quality Review Phase III
July 2021

The Research Engagement on Food Interventions for Nutritional Effectiveness (REFINE) maintains a collection of ongoing and published literature for the purpose of enhancing the empirical knowledge base on food-supported interventions. The following delineates the search methods used by REFINE in curating and maintaining the collection of ongoing and published studies.

SEARCH QUERY FOR ONGOING STUDIES

[U.S. Clinical Trials Registry¹](#)

- [click on “Show/Hide Columns” to view start date and most recent updates]
 - Search Terms *250-character limit, currently 209 characters*
 - (malnutrition OR malnourished OR undernutrition OR undernourished OR stunting OR stunted OR wasted OR wasting OR underweight) AND (supplement OR food OR RUF OR RUTF OR LNS OR fortified OR "nutrition program")
 - Eligibility Criteria
 - Child, Adult (not Elderly)
 - Condition *250-character limit, currently 224 characters*
 - NOT (disease OR disorder OR syndrome OR obesity OR overweight OR diabetes OR cancer OR fibrosis OR surgery OR ADHD OR stroke OR schizophrenia OR dysplasia OR hypertension OR autism OR sleep OR encephalopathy OR hemodialysis)
- Full RSS Search Query for New Studies
 - (malnutrition OR malnourished OR undernutrition OR undernourished OR stunting OR stunted OR wasted OR wasting OR underweight) AND (supplement OR food OR RUF OR RUTF OR LNS OR fortified OR "nutrition program") | NOT (disease OR disorder OR syndrome OR obesity OR overweight OR diabetes OR cancer OR fibrosis OR surgery OR ADHD OR stroke OR schizophrenia OR dysplasia OR hypertension OR autism OR sleep OR encephalopathy OR hemodialysis) | Child, Adult

[EU Clinical Trials Register²](#)

- Search Terms *no character limit*
 - (malnutrition OR malnourished OR undernutrition OR undernourished OR stunting OR stunted OR wasted OR wasting OR underweight) AND (supplement OR food OR RUF OR RUTF OR LNS OR fortified OR "nutrition program")

¹ “[ClinicalTrials.gov](#),” NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine, accessed July 2021.

² “[EU Clinical Trials Register](#),” accessed July 2021.

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[International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number \(ISRCTN\) Registry³](#)

- Search Terms *no character limit*
 - (malnutrition OR malnourished OR undernutrition OR undernourished OR stunting OR stunted OR wasted OR wasting OR underweight) AND (supplement OR food OR RUF OR RUTF OR LNS OR fortified OR "nutrition program")

[International Clinical Trials Registry Platform \(ICTRP\)⁴](#)

- Search Terms⁵
 - maln* AND supplement* OR maln* AND food* OR maln* AND RUF OR maln* AND RUTF OR maln* AND LNS OR maln* AND fortif* OR undern* AND supplement* OR undern* AND food* OR undern* AND RUF OR undern* AND RUTF OR undern* AND LNS OR undern* AND fortif* OR stunt* AND supplement* OR stunt* AND food* OR stunt* AND RUF OR stunt* AND RUTF OR stunt* AND LNS OR stunt* AND fortif* OR wast* AND supplement* OR wast* AND food* OR wast* AND RUF OR wast* AND RUTF OR wast* AND LNS OR wast* AND fortif* OR underweight AND supplement* OR underweight AND food* OR underweight AND RUF OR underweight AND RUTF OR underweight AND LNS OR underweight AND fortif*
- Date of Registration
 - No fixed setting, but can be adjusted to search from the last date a search was performed

³ "[ISRCTN Registry](#)," BMC, accessed July 2021.

⁴ As of July 2021, the ICTRP search platform is under construction and temporarily inaccessible.

⁵ Allows truncation

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SEARCH QUERY FOR PUBLISHED STUDIES

PubMed⁶

- Search Terms
 - (((((((((((malnutrition OR malnourished OR undernutrition OR undernourished OR stunting OR stunted OR wasted OR wasting OR underweight) AND ("therapeutic food" OR "supplementary food" OR "supplemental food" OR "food supplement" OR "nutrient supplement" OR "lipid-based nutrient supplement" OR "lipid based nutrient supplement" OR "ready to use" OR "ready-to-use" OR "ready to use food" OR "ready-to-use-food" OR RUF OR RUTF OR LNS OR "fortified-blended food" OR "fortified blended food" OR "corn-soy blend" OR "corn soy blend" OR CSB) NOT (disease OR disorder OR syndrome OR diabetes OR cancer OR fibrosis OR surgery OR ADHD OR stroke OR schizophrenia OR dysplasia OR hypertension OR autism OR sleep OR encephalopathy OR hemodialysis OR patients OR "dietetic" OR "older adults" OR "nursing home") AND ("YYYY/MM/DD"[Date - Publication] : "YYYY/MM/DD"[Date - Publication])))])))

Web of Science⁷

- Base Search (concept of food aid)
 - TS=((food OR nutrition*) NEAR/1 (aid OR aide OR assistance OR program* OR ration* OR supplement* OR intervention*)) OR TS=((therapeutic OR supplement*) NEAR/2 (food OR feed*)) OR TS=(fortif* OR micronutrient*)
- AND (concept of malnutrition)
 - TS=((severe* OR moderate*) NEAR/1 acute AND (malnutrition* OR malnourish*)) OR TS=(acute NEAR/1 (malnutrition* OR malnourish*)) OR TS=(wast* OR stunt*)
- AND (relevant population)
 - TS=(infant* OR child* OR women OR woman OR mother* OR adolescent OR fetal OR neonat* OR community)
- NOT (irrelevant population)
 - TS=(elderly OR older adults OR older person* OR *dialysis OR nursing home* OR geriatr*)

UPDATING SEARCH CRITERIA

The key terms for the REFINE search query were updated in 2020. The search terms are recommended to be updated regularly, as the field of food assistance for nutrition advances.

⁶ "PubMed," NIH National Library of Medicine, accessed July 2021.

⁷ "Web of Science," accessed July 2021.

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CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION

REFINE tracks ongoing studies and collects relevant publications based on the following criteria:

- **Condition:** malnutrition OR undernutrition OR stunting OR stunted OR wasting OR wasted
- **Intervention:** supplement OR food OR RUF OR RUTF LNS OR “nutrition program”

REFINE includes resources based on the following criteria:

- **Interventions:** Those that use food assistance products, use foods that have been nutritionally enhanced, or study specific ingredients that are intended for use in food assistance.
- **Study population:** Restricted to those without chronic conditions that confound nutritional health (e.g., diabetes, HIV/AIDS).
- **Outcome measures:** Eligible studies report outcome measures including birth weight, weight gain, height gain, weight-for-age, height-for-age, weight-for-height/length, mid-upper arm circumference, lean body mass, recovery, mortality, default, nutritional intake, cognitive abilities, and product acceptability. Studies investigating the intergenerational effects of an intervention are considered if outcomes measures include wasted or stunted status of the participants, or body composition in addition to another measure of recovery.