## How to Select A Nutrient Database Application

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Important selection criteria for nutrient calculation applications begin with how the software will be used: for *training*, assessment, counseling, food service, research, product development or marketing. General purpose nutrient calculation programs are often designed for the clinical user where important features (in addition to calculations) are comparison to dietary standards, printing menus, adjusting menus to specified goals, calculating exchanges, and generating reports. The nutrient database is central to all functions and comprises the most important, and most difficult, evaluation. This session provided the participant with a tool for evaluating database applications.