

The Cholesterol Connection

Is cholesterol bad for you or good for you? Take the time this September, Cholesterol Education Month, to familiarize yourself with cholesterol's impact on your health.



Cholesterol comes both from foods we eat and from our livers. Not all cholesterol is bad. In fact, this waxy, fatlike substance is essential to the good health of our body's cells. But these fats do not dissolve in blood, so proteins in our blood carry cholesterol around our bodies. These carrier proteins are called *lipoproteins*.

Most often, when people think of cholesterol, they think of low-density lipoprotein, or LDL "bad" cholesterol. This type of cholesterol is considered bad because it creates a plaque—a hard, thick deposit that can clog arteries and make them less flexible. As LDL collects in the walls of our blood vessels, it can cause blockages and may lead to heart attack and heart disease. High-density lipoprotein, or HDL cholesterol, helps carry excess cholesterol back to the liver, where LDL is broken down and removed from the body. Both LDL and HDL levels can be measured with a simple blood test, helping doctors assess overall cardiovascular health and risk.

Foods high in trans fats and many sources of saturated fat can raise LDL cholesterol and increase the risk of heart disease. Foods rich in unsaturated fats—such as olive oil, salmon, avocados, nuts, and seeds—can help improve cholesterol levels when they replace less healthy fats in the diet. Whole grains, fruits, and vegetables also support heart health.

Eating well is not the only way to improve cholesterol. Regular physical activity, maintaining a healthy weight, and quitting smoking can all help lower cardiovascular risk and promote healthier cholesterol levels. Now that you know more about cholesterol, have a heart and pass your newfound knowledge along.

September Birthdays

In astrology, those born between September 1 and 22 are Virgos. Virgos are observant, independent, reliable, and intellectual. Virgos have sharply organized minds and enjoy analyzing problems in an attempt to bring order to chaos, no matter the consequences. Those born between September 23 and 30 balance the scales of Libra. Libras seek equality, justice, and harmony. Eager to cooperate, Libras are charming diplomats who seek compromise and goodwill.

Boxcar Willie (singer) – September 1, 1931
Bob Newhart (actor) – September 5, 1929
Jane Curtin (actress) – September 6, 1947
Otis Redding (singer) – September 9, 1941
Agatha Christie (writer) – September 15, 1890
Sophia Loren (actress) – September 20, 1934
Jim Henson (puppeteer) – September 24, 1936
Jack LaLanne (health guru) – September 26, 1914
Gene Autry (singer) – September 29, 1907
Buddy Rich (drummer) – September 30, 1917

Switchboard Switch Out



Emma M. Nutt made history on September 1, 1878, when she became the first female telephone operator. It had been customary for teenage boys to be telephone operators. However, these youth proved impatient over the phone, played pranks on callers, and often used crude language. Alexander Graham Bell himself came up with the solution to hire young women, and he started by hiring Emma Nutt. Needless to say, Nutt's cool, soothing voice transformed the new industry. Emma's sister Stella Nutt was hired just a few hours later. Emma Nutt was so successful that telephone operation became an exclusively female profession. Indeed, women relished the professional opportunity, which was considered a step up from domestic duties and factory work. Women would operate telephones for almost the next 100 years.

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Back to the '70s

September often marks a return to routines, and during the 1970s, it also signaled the start of a new television season. Long before streaming and on-demand viewing, fall TV premieres were major events. Families gathered around the television to watch the first episodes of returning favorites and discover new shows that would soon become part of everyday conversation.

The 1970s are often remembered as a golden age of television sitcoms. Programs such as *All in the Family*, *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, and *Happy Days* reflected changing social attitudes while providing plenty of humor. Their characters, catchphrases, and storylines became cultural touchstones, influencing entertainment for decades to come.

Music was equally influential. The decade saw the rise of disco, a dance-driven style that filled clubs and radio stations. Funk also gained widespread popularity, blending powerful rhythms, bass lines, and energetic performances. Artists experimented with new sounds, helping shape modern popular music.

Fashion followed suit with bold styles and colorful self-expression. Bell-bottom jeans became one of the decade's most recognizable trends, often paired with platform shoes, wide collars, and eye-catching patterns. Whether on city streets, school campuses, or television screens, 1970s fashion embraced individuality and flair.

One song in particular has become closely associated with September itself. In September 1978, Earth, Wind & Fire released the hit song "September." Its upbeat rhythm and memorable chorus helped it become one of the most enduring songs of the era. Decades later, it remains a staple at celebrations, sporting events, and community gatherings.

From disco dance floors and funk concerts to sitcom premieres and bell-bottom jeans, the 1970s left a lasting mark on American culture. Every September, as television networks unveil new seasons and the familiar strains of "September" begin to play once again, echoes of that remarkable decade are never far away.

Celebrating September

Labor Day (U.S.)
September 7th

Facility Events

Friday Jams & Donuts
September 4th & 18th

Labor Day Fun
September 7th

Resident Group Outing
September 17th

Resident Council Meeting
September 24th

Resident Birthday Bash
September 25th

