

What Can I Eat? – A General Guide for People Living With Kidney Disease

Information for patients, relatives and carers

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Introduction

This diet sheet is designed to be used as a general guide of foods suitable for people living with kidney disease. Portions have been specified where applicable.

This list is not exhaustive. Foods not included in this leaflet can still be included in your diet. Ask to speak to your kidney dietitian for individual advice.

Foods which may have hidden salt have been highlighted with an asterisk (*). Try to limit the frequency of these foods. Check the labels and choose lower salt options where possible.

The milk and meat alternatives section includes organic products. This is because the organic products have not been fortified and do not contain any food additives.

Vegetables

Vegetables		
Asparagus	Kohlrabi (boiled)	Peppers (raw)
(boiled)	Leeks (boiled)	Pumpkin
Aubergine (fried)	Lettuce	(boiled)
Bean sprouts	Mange tout	Radish (raw)
(raw)	(boiled/raw/ fried)	Runner beans
Beetroot	Marrow (boiled)	(boiled)
(pickled)	Mixed frozen	Salsify (boiled)
Broad beans	vegetables	Shallots (raw)
(fresh/canned –	(frozen/canned)	Spinach
boiled)	Mooli (raw)	(boiled)
Broccoli (boiled)	Mushrooms	Spring greens
Carrots (raw or	(canned and	(boiled)
boiled)	drained)	Squash
Cauliflower	Mustard cress	(boiled)
(boiled)	(raw)	Sugar snap
Chicory (raw)	Olives	peas
Corn on the cob	(canned/jar)*	(raw/boiled/stir-
(boiled)	Onions	fried)
Courgette	(raw/pickled/boiled)	Swede (boiled)
(boiled)	Peas	Sweetcorn
Cucumber (raw)	(frozen/canned/	(boiled)
Curly kale	mushy)	Tomato
(boiled)		(canned)
Gherkins		Turnip (boiled)
(pickled)*		Water
Green/French		chestnuts
beans (fresh/		(canned)
canned)		Watercress
		(raw)

Fruits

Fruits		
Apple (fresh)	Grapefruit	Peaches (fresh)
Apricots	(fresh/canned)	Pear (fresh)
(canned and	Guava (canned	Pineapple (fresh)
drained)	and drained)	Plums (canned
Blackberries	Kumquats	and
(fresh)	Lemon	drained/stewed)
Blackcurrant	Lime	Pomelo
(canned and	Loganberries	Quince
drained)	(canned and	Raspberries
Blueberries	drained)	(fresh)
(fresh)	Lychees	Rhubarb (canned
Cherries (fresh)	Mandarins	and drained)
Clementine	Melon	Satsuma
Cranberries	Nectarine (fresh)	Strawberries
(fresh)	Orange	(fresh)
Fig (fresh)	Papaya (fresh)	Tangerine
Fruit cocktail	Passion fruit	
(canned and		
drained)		
Fruit pie filling		
Gooseberries		
(stewed)		

Limit fruit juice, vegetable juice and smoothies to 150ml per day

Carbohydrates

Grains, Pasta,	Bread, Flour and	Cereals*
Potatoes and Rice	Pastries*	Cheerios
Delladuratata	Bagels	Coco Pops
Boiled potatoes	Bread and bread	Cornflakes
Bulgar wheat	rolls (white, brown,	Frosties
Chips	granary,	Oats-So-
(homemade, par-	wholemeal)	Simple
boiled)	Brioche rolls	Porridge
Cous Cous	Chapattis	oats
Mashed potatoes	Ciabatta	Puffed wheat
Noodles	Cornflour	Ready Brek
Oats (plain)	Croissants	Rice Krispies
Pasta	Dumplings	Shredded
Pearl Barley	English muffins	Wheat
Rice (all types)	Melba toast	Shreddies
Roast potatoes	Pains au Chocolats	Special
(par-boiled)	Pancakes	Flakes
Sweet potato	(homemade)	Special K
(boiled/par-	Pastry (fresh)	Sugar Puffs
boiled)	Pitta bread	Weetabix
Wedges (par-	Wheat flour	Weetos
boiled)	Yorkshire puddings	
Yam (boiled)	(homemade)	

Protein Foods

Meat	Fish	Meat
All fresh	All unsmoked fresh fish	Alternatives
meat, for	without bones for	Baked beans (3
example:	example:	tbsp)
Beef	Cod	Beans (3 tbsp)
Beef	Haddock	Chickpeas (3
mince	Mackerel (fresh/tinned –	tbsp)
Chicken	skinless and boneless) *	Eggs
Duck	Plaice	Lentils (3 tbsp,
Lamb	Salmon (fresh/tinned –	cooked)
Oxtail	skinless and boneless) *	Split peas (3
Pork	Sardines (fresh/tinned –	tbsp, cooked)
Rabbit	skinless and boneless) *	Tempeh
Turkey	Sea bass	(organic)
Turkey	Skate	Tofu (organic)
mince	Sole	
	Trout	
	Tuna (fresh/tinned –	
	skinless and boneless) *	
	Whiting	

Dairy Foods

Three portions per day can be included from this food group. Portions have been specified where applicable.

Milk	Yoghurts and	Other
Cow's milk	Puddings	Cream cheese
(100ml)	Custard (150g)	Crème fraiche
	Fromage Frais	Fresh cream
Organic milk	(125g)	Sour cream
alternatives	Ice cream (120g/2	
(200ml):	scoops)	
Almond	Ice cream - dairy	
Cashew	free (120g/2	
Coconut	scoops)	
Oat	Milk pudding	
Rice	(150g)	
Soya	Rice pudding	
	(150g)	
	Soya yoghurt	
	(250g)	
	Yoghurt (125g)	

Cheese*		
15g portion	30g portion	60g portion
Emmental	Blue Stilton	Brie
Gruyere	Cheddar	Camembert
Parmesan	Dairy free cheese	Cottage cheese
	Danish Blue	Feta
	Double Gloucester	Goat cheese
	Edam	Mozzarella
	Gouda	Quark
	Red Leicester	Ricotta
	Red Windsor	White Stilton
	Wensleydale	

Puddings and Snacks

	D'	
Puddings	Biscuits	Cakes
Arctic roll	Digestives	Angel cakes
Cheesecake	Ginger nuts	Battenberg
Crème brûlée	Hob Nobs	Cream buns
Crème caramel	Iced biscuits	Doughnuts
Fruit crumble	Jam filled	Ginger cake
Fruit pie	biscuits	Iced cakes
Ginger sponge	Marie biscuits	Iced buns
pudding	Nice biscuits	Jam buns
Golden syrup	Rich tea	Jam tarts
sponge pudding	Shortbread	Lemon cake
Jam sponge	Wafers	Lemon curd
pudding		buns
Jelly		Lemon curd
Lemon meringue		tarts
pie		Madeira cake
Lemon sponge		Swiss roll
pudding		Victoria sponge
Meringue		
Pavlova		
Sorbet		
Treacle sponge		
pudding		
Treacle tart		
Trifle		

Confectionary	Savoury	Other
	Snacks*	
Boiled sweets	Bread sticks	Chewing gum
Fruit pastilles	Butter puffs	Honey
Ice Iollies	Corn based	Jam
Jelly sweets	crisps	Lemon Curd
Kendal mint cake	Cracker bread	Marmalade
Marshmallow	Cream crackers	Sugar
Mints	Crisp breads	(white/brown)
Sweet popcorn	Dutch crisp	Syrup
Turkish delight	bakes	Treacle
	Maize based	
	crisps	
	Popcorn (plain)	
	Pretzels	
	Rice cakes	
	Scones (plain,	
	homemade)	
	Water biscuits	

Herbs, Spices, Condiments, Oils and Spreads

Herbs and	Condiments*	Oils and
Spices		Spreads
Chilli powder	Apple sauce	Butter
Curry powder	Brown sauce (reduced	(unsalted)
Garlic	salt, 1 tbsp)	Margarine
Herbs	Chilli sauce	Olive oil
(fresh/dried)	Chutney	Olive oil
Lemon juice	Cranberry sauce	spreads
Lime juice	Gravy granules	Vegetable
Pepper	(reduced salt,10g)	oils
(black/white)	Horseradish	
Spices	Ketchup (reduced salt,1	
Vinegar	tbsp)	
	Mayonnaise	
	Mint sauce	
	Mustard	
	Pickle	
	Salad cream	
	Stock cubes (reduced	
	salt)	

Drinks

Hot Drinks	Cold Drinks	Alcohol
Black tea	Barley water	Brandy
Coffee (1-2	Diet lemonade	Gin
cups per	Diet ginger beer	Rum
day)	Cordials	Vodka
Fruit tea	Fanta Zero Sugar	Whisky
Green tea	Flavoured water	
Herbal tea	Irn Bru Sugar Free	Men and women
	Lilt Zero	are advised not to
	Lucozade Energy	drink more than
	Zero Sugar	14 units a week
	Squash	on a regular basis
	Soda water	(25ml spirit = 1
	Sparkling water	unit)
	Tonic water	
	Water	

Meal Ideas

Breakfast

- Cereal or porridge with milk and fruit
- Toast/bagel/English muffin with boiled/scrambled/poached egg
- Toast/English muffin with jam or marmalade
- Bagel with cream cheese
- Yogurt with fruit
- Homemade pancakes with fruit and yoghurt

Light meals

- Poached/scrambled/boiled egg on wholegrain toast
- Crackers and cottage cheese/cream cheese
- Reduced salt baked beans on toast
- Tinned tuna and cheese on toast
- Omelette with salad
- Cold meat with potato salad
- Pizza slice with salad
- Vegetable frittata
- Tuna pasta salad with sweetcorn and mayonnaise

Sandwich/Pitta/Baguette fillings

- Egg and salad/watercress/tomato slice
- Tuna/salmon with mayonnaise/lime/vinegar and salad
- Cooked chicken with mayonnaise and salad
- Cottage cheese with chives/pineapple/roasted vegetables

- Cream cheese with vegetable sticks
- Cooked meats e.g. roast beef/pork/lamb/turkey with salad and sauce e.g. mint sauce/cranberry sauce/apple sauce/mustard/horseradish
- Roasted vegetables

Main meals

- Spaghetti bolognaise
- Vegetable/beef chilli con carne with rice
- Roast meat with roasted potatoes, Yorkshire pudding and roasted vegetables
- Shepherds/cottage/fish pie with vegetables
- Poached or oven baked fish with parsley sauce, boiled potatoes and vegetables
- Chicken/beef/bean casserole with mashed potato/rice and vegetables
- Meat/fish/vegetable curry with rice
- Homemade meatballs with rice/potatoes and salad/vegetables
- Steak/vegetable pie with mashed potatoes and vegetables
- Lamb tagine with cous cous and vegetables
- Risotto
- Lasagne

Check salt content of ready made meals and choose lower salt varieties where possible.

Recipes

Kidney Care UK's Kidney Kitchen has a variety of recipes on their website. Their recipe book can also be purchased on their website.

https://www.kidneycareuk.org/about-kidney-health/living-kidney-disease/kidney-kitchen/

[Website Accessed January 2023]

Tell us what you think of this leaflet

We hope that you found this leaflet helpful. If you would like to tell us what you think, please contact: Admin Team, The York Hospital, Wigginton Road, York YO31 8HE, telephone 01904 725269 or email Nutrition&Dietetics@york.nhs.uk.

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