

Low Phosphorus Diet

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Phosphorus is an essential mineral that is found in your bones, cells and tissues. Phosphorus, along with calcium, are needed to build healthy bones in addition to keeping your body healthy as well.

What is a normal phosphorus level in the blood?

- 2.5 to 4.5 mg/dL

What is the amount of phosphorus that I should eat if I have Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)?

- Your phosphorus needs will vary and your healthcare provider or dietitian will discuss the limit with you
- In general, the limit for patients with CKD is;
 - 800 - 1,000 mg of phosphorus/day

Critical Points to Note:

- Another name for elevated phosphorus in the blood is called; "Hyperphosphatemia"
- Many fast foods, prepared and canned foods have an additive or preservative in them that are phosphorus based. They add "shelf" life to foods and some examples are;
 - Trisodium phosphate
 - Monosodium phosphate
 - Phosphoric acid
 - Dicalcium phosphate
- Many "dark" cola products are high in phosphorus
- Read food labels carefully and if you see "PHOS" in any of the additives, there is added phosphorus in the food item(s)

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FOOD CHOICES: WHAT I CAN AND CANNOT EAT

Serving Size	Foods to limit and/or avoid	Acceptable Food Choices
Breads, Cereals, Rice, Soups and Pasta		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6-11 servings each day Serving size= 1 slice bread, 1 cup ready-to-eat cereal, 1/2 cup cooked cereal, rice or pasta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole wheat grains (i.e. breads, crackers, rice, pasta) Quick breads, biscuits, cornbread, waffles White rice, noodles, pasta, Cookies (without chocolate or nuts) Soups made with higher phosphorus ingredients (i.e., milk/cream) Bran/bran products Granola Grits Snack foods (i.e. potato chips, tortilla chips, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bread (not whole grain or bran) White rice, noodles, pasta, bread, crackers, dinner rolls, bagel, etc. Cake (angel food) Cookies (without chocolate or nuts) Soups made with lower phosphorus ingredients (i.e., broth or water based)
Fruit		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-4 servings each day Serving size= 1 medium-size piece of fresh fruit 1/2 cup canned fruit, 3/4 cup fruit juice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processed/canned fruits with "phos" in food label 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fresh fruits
Milk and Dairy Products		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 servings each day Serving size= 1/2 cup cottage cheese or 1 ounce cheese 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processed cheeses and cheese spreads Hard cheeses, ricotta or cottage cheese Ice cream/frozen yogurt 2% Milk Yogurts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unenriched rice milk Brie/Swiss cheese in limited amounts Regular/low-fat cream cheese Sherbet Frozen fruit pops

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Serving Size	Foods to limit and/or avoid	Acceptable Food Choices
Vegetables		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 servings each day Serving size= 1 cup raw, 1/2 cup cooked or chopped 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processed/canned vegetables with "phos" listed on the food label 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fresh vegetables Alfalfa Sprouts Asparagus Beans (green or yellow) Broccoli Cauliflower
Meats, Poultry, Fish, Dried Beans		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total of 6 ounces daily Serving size= 2-3 ounces cooked (1 egg, 1/2 cup cooked beans, 2 Tbsp. unsalted peanut butter, 1 ounce of cheese or meat). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organ meats or processed luncheon meats (i.e. Bologna, ham, & hot dogs) Sardines All nuts & seeds Dried peas, beans (black, garbanzo, lima, kidney, etc.), lentils Peanut Butter, Nutella spread Chocolate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Turkey Lean pork & beef Eggs Shrimp Fish
Beverages		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total of 6-12 glasses of water daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid hot chocolate Beer/ale Dark colas Powder tea mixes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Juices (apple, orange, grapefruit) Tea/coffee Lemon/lime soda, ginger ale, root beer

References

- www.kidney.org Phosphorus and Your CKD Diet, Accessed on August 31, 2017
- www.dpcedcenter.org/classroom/nutrition, Accessed on August 22, 2017

This content is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for medical advice or treatment. Consult your physician regarding your specific diagnosis, treatment, diet and health questions. If you are experiencing urgent medical conditions, call 9-1-1.