

Kidney Disease – Tips on Eating Out

Most people enjoy eating out or buying take-out food for many reasons. However, it can be a challenge when you have to follow a diet controlled in salt, potassium, phosphorus and fluid.

Here are some helpful hints.

- Plan ahead. Know the food you can and cannot eat.
 This helps you make better choices.
- Choose the restaurant carefully. Some restaurants are happy to follow special diet requests while others are not.

Watch your portion sizes:

- Restaurants tend to serve large portions.
- > Ask for 1/2 of a portion.
- ➤ Leave any extra portions on the plate, share them or bring them home as a leftover for another day.
- > Avoid dishes with dried beans, chickpeas, nuts and seeds.
- Avoid ordering casserole type foods that are already mixed and cooked.

Meat and other protein foods:

- Order plain food that can be cooked to order such as pork chop, steak, fish and chicken.
- Ask for the inner cut of a slice of meat to avoid sauces and marinades.
- > Remove breaded layers from chicken, meat or fish before eating.
- Avoid ham, sausages and bacon.
- ➤ Use cheese and cheese containing dishes within your weekly cheese allowance.

Dressing, seasonings and sauces:

- Order sauces and salad dressings on the side so you can use a smaller amount.
- Ask for a lemon slice for fish.

Pizza:

- Use cheese, onions, green pepper and ground meat.
- Avoid pepperoni, anchovies, olives, bacon, sausage and double cheese.

Chinese and Asian food:

> Ask if you can order without soy sauce or monosodium glutamate (MSG).

Fast Food:

> Avoid pickles, relish, ketchup and sauces.

Salads:

- Avoid potato salad, salads with feta cheese and olives, bean salads.
- Choose coleslaw, pasta salad or gelatin salads.

Side dishes:

Try pasta or plain rice instead of baked potato, hash browns and French fries.

Beverages, Drinks and Fluids:

- ➤ If you are restricted in fluid, figure out how much of your fluid allowance you can use when out.
- Avoid milkshakes, high potassium juices, and colas. Choose clear pop, cranberry juice or lemonade. Order small size drinks.
- Avoid mixed drinks with tomato juice, orange juice and colas.
- Drink wine or beer in moderation.
- > Avoid soups.

Dessert:

- Choose fruit, cake, sorbet, jello, fruit pies.
- Avoid desserts with chocolate, nuts and dried fruit.

Fruit:

Avoid high potassium fruit such as melons, bananas and kiwis.

The next few pages contain samples of food you can eat and food to avoid. Follow these guidelines and enjoy eating out.

Restaurant Type	Good Choice	Poor Choice		
Breakfast or Family Restaurant	 eggs (no salt) omelet made with low potassium vegetables (green pepper, red pepper or onion) French toast made with white bread muffin: plain or with fruit (no blueberry) low potassium fruit such as pineapple, apple, pear, grapes apple or cranberry juice grilled, broiled or baked steak or burger (chicken, pork, fish or seafood) 3 to 4 ounces kabobs, fajitas steamed white rice, buttered noodles, pasta green salad with low sodium dressing low potassium vegetables such as green beans, carrots, zucchini, corn and cauliflower sherbet, small fruit pie, cobbler, lemon meringue pie, angel food cake, pound cake coffee or tea 	 omelet with fillings such as cheese, avocado, salted meat, sausage or ham bacon (1 to 2 strips once in a while is okay) adding extra butter and/or soy sauce in preparation capers, pickles, onion or garlic salt mixed dishes or casseroles pudding cheesecake anything chocolate 		

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Restaurant Type	Good Choice	Poor Choice
Fast Food	 small sandwich (hamburger, grilled chicken, roast beef, turkey, tuna salad, or chicken salad) with mayonnaise, lettuce, onion, and one or two slices of tomato small onion rings coleslaw small tossed salad non-cola soft drink sorbet vanilla cookies fruit salad with allowed fruit 	 sandwich with cheese or bacon hotdog sausage corned beef salami bologna French fries pickles, olives potato chips milkshake ice cream cola
Italian	 pasta with olive oil and garlic or pesto pasta with tomato or cream sauce in limited amounts plain Italian bread 1 to 2 slices of medium sized pizza with chicken, hamburger, green peppers, onion, or pineapple small garden salad with oil and vinegar dressing Italian ice dessert 	 pasta dishes with sausage, olives, prosciutto or extra cheese clam sauce anything parmigiana pizza with sausage, olives, pepperoni, anchovies, feta cheese, or extra cheese

Restaurant Type	Good Choice	Poor Choice		
Chinese / Asian	 chicken, tofu, beef or pork dish with broccoli, carrots, bean sprouts, snow peas, eggplant, green pepper, green onion, pineapple, or water chestnuts steamed rice one egg roll fortune cookies tea 	 soup fried rice peanuts, cashews, almonds MSG extra soy sauce fish sauce 		
Roadhouse	 steak grilled or broiled chicken, fish, pork chop, burger or seafood roast beef plain rice pasta (see Italian section) green beans, asparagus, carrots, zucchini, cauliflower, broccoli white bread or roll plain breadstick coleslaw salad with oil and vinegar dressing pie with allowed fruit vanilla cake 	 soup casseroles or mixed dishes with cheese heavily breaded or battered items ham corned beef sausage spinach potatoes baked beans sauerkraut 		

Sample Restaurant Menus to Order

On the Go Menu

Coleslaw
Grilled Chicken on a Bun
Onion Rings
Lemon Lime Drink

Wild West Steakhouse Menu

Sirloin Steak
Steamed Rice
Green Beans
Roll
Coffee OR Tea OR Real Ice Tea

Italian Paradise Menu

Tossed Salad with Oil and Vinegar Dressing
Linguini with Chicken and Pesto
Fresh Italian Bread
Sparkling Water
Italian Ice Dessert

Chinese Palace Menu

Egg Roll
Pepper Beef with Broccoli and Carrots
Steamed Rice
Lemon Tea
Fortune Cookies

Breakfast Place

Omelet (with onion and peppers)

Occasionally 1 to 2 strips bacon OR roast beef or steak OR salmon

White toast with strawberry jam OR small muffin

Small apple juice OR coffee OR tea

When you eat away from home, you can always find food choices that are good for you and your diet.



Notes and Contacts:					