

Prepared For:	Date:	
Prepared By:	Contact:	

# **Gastroparesis Nutrition Therapy**

Gastroparesis means that your stomach empties very slowly. This happens when the nerves to your stomach are damaged or do not work properly. This can cause bloating, stomach discomfort or pain, feeling full after eating only a small amount of food, nausea, or vomiting.

• If you have diabetes in addition to gastroparesis, it is important to control your blood glucose. This will help the stomach empty.

#### **Tips**

- Following these tips may help your stomach empty faster:
- Eat small, frequent meals (4 to 6 times per day).
- Do not eat solid foods that are high in fat and do not add too much fat to foods. See the Foods Not Recommended table for foods that are high fat.
  - High-fat solid foods may delay the emptying of your stomach.
  - Liquids that contain fat, such as milkshakes, may be tolerated and can provide needed calories.
- Do not eat foods high in fiber. Do not take fiber supplements or fiber bulking agents for constipation.
- Do not eat foods that increase acid reflux:
  - o Acidic, spicy, fried and greasy foods
  - Caffeine
  - Mint
- Do not drink alcohol or smoke
- Do not drink carbonated beverages, as they increase bloating.
- Chew foods well before swallowing. Solid foods in the stomach do not empty well. If you have difficulty tolerating solid foods, ground foods may be better.
- If symptoms are severe, semi-solid foods or liquids may need to be your main food sources. Choose liquid nutritional supplements that have less than or equal to 2 grams fiber per serving.
- Sit upright while eating and sit upright or walk after meals. Do not lie down for 3 to 4 hours after eating to avoid reflux or regurgitation.
  - If you wish to nap during the day, nap first and then eat.
- Drinking fluids at meals can take up room in your stomach, and you might not get enough calories. At every meal, first eat a grain food and a protein food or dairy product if your body can tolerate it. Drink fluids with calories. It may be better to delay fluids until after the meal and drink more between meals.

#### **Foods Recommended**

Food Group	Foods Recommended	
Grains	Choose grain foods with less than 2 grams of fiber per serving; these will be	
	made with white flour	
	Crackers: saltines or graham crackers	
	Cold cereal: puffed rice	
	Cream of rice or wheat	
	Grits (fine ground)	
	Gluten free low fiber foods	
	Pretzels	
	White bread, toasted	
	White rice, cook until very soft	
Protein Foods	Lean meat and poultry: well-cooked, very tender, moist, and chopped fine	
	Fish: tuna, salmon, or white fish	
	Egg whites, scrambled	
	Peanut butter (limit to 1 tablespoon at a time)	
Dairy	Milk*, drink 2% if tolerated to get more nutrients or lactose-free 2% milk	
•	Fortified non-dairy milks: almond, cashew, coconut, or rice (be aware that these	
	options are not good sources of protein so you will need to eat an additional	
	protein food)	
	Fortified pea milk or soymilk (may cause gas and bloating for some)	
	Instant breakfast* (pre-made lactose-free is sold in bottles)	
	Milkshakes* (try blending in ¼ to ½ cup canned fruit)	
	Ice cream* (low-fat may be tolerated better; use in milkshakes to increase	
	calories)	
	Frozen yogurt	
	Yogurt*	
	Puddings and custard*	
	Sherbet	
	Liquid nutritional supplements with less than or equal to 2 grams fiber per 1	
	cup serving	
	*Use lactose-free varieties to reduce gas and bloating	
Vegetables	Canned and well-cooked vegetables without seeds, skins or hulls	
	Carrots, cooked	
	Mashed potatoes (white, red or yellow)	
	Sweet potato	
Fruit	Canned, soft and well-cooked fruits without seeds, skins or membranes	
	Applesauce	
	Banana, mashed may be tolerated better	
	Diced peaches/pears fruit cups in juice	
	Melon, very soft, cut into small pieces	
	Fruit nectar juices	
Oils	When possible choose oils rather than solid fats	
	Canola or olive oil	
	Margarine	
Other	Clear soup	
	Gelatin	
	Popsicles	

#### **Foods Not Recommended**

Food Group	Foods Not Recommended
Grains	Bran
	Grains foods with 2 or more grams of fiber per serving: barley, brown rice,
	kasha, quinoa
	Popcorn
	Whole grain and high-fiber cereals, including oats or granola
	Whole grain bread or pasta
<b>Protein Foods</b>	Fried meats, poultry or fish
	Sausage, bacon or hot dogs
	Seafood
	Tough meat, meat with gristle: steak, roast beef or pork chops
	Beans, peas or lentils
	Nuts
Dairy	Cheese slices
	Liquid nutritional supplements that have more than 2 grams fiber per serving
	Pea milk, soymilk (may increase gas and bloating)
Vegetables	Raw or undercooked vegetables
	Alfalfa, asparagus, bean sprouts, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage,
	cauliflower, corn, green peas or any other kind of peas, lima beans, mushrooms,
	okra, onions, parsnips, peppers, pickles, potato skins, or spinach
Fruit	Fresh fruit except for the ones in the foods recommended table
	Acidic fruit and juices: oranges/orange juice, grapefruit/grapefruit juice,
	tomatoes/tomato juice
	Avocado
	Berries
	Coconut
	Dried fruit
	Fruit skin
	Mandarin oranges
	Pineapple
Oils	Fried foods of any type
Other	Coffee
	Olives or pickles
	Pizza
	Salsa
	Sushi

# **Gastroparesis Sample 1-Day Menu**

Breakfast	1 slice white toast (1 carbohydrate serving) 1 teaspoon margarine, soft, tub ½ cup egg substitute 1 cup peach nectar (2 carbohydrate servings)	
Morning Snack	Smoothie made with: ½ small banana (1 carbohydrate serving) 1/3 cup Greek strawberry yogurt (½ carbohydrate serving) 1 cup 2% milk (1 carbohydrate serving)	
Lunch	2 ounces canned chicken 9 saltine crackers (1½ carbohydrate servings) ½ cup applesauce (1 carbohydrate serving) 1 teaspoon mayonnaise	
Afternoon Snack	1 slice white toast (1 carbohydrate serving) 1 tablespoon smooth peanut butter	
Evening Meal	2 ounces baked fish ½ cup mashed potatoes (1 carbohydrate serving) 1 teaspoon olive oil 1 cup 2% milk (1 carbohydrate serving)	
Evening Snack	1 packet instant breakfast ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ carbohydrate servings) 1 cup 2% milk (1 carbohydrate serving)	

# **Gastroparesis Vegan Sample 1-Day Menu**

Breakfast	<ul> <li>3/4 cup cooked farina (1 carbohydrate serving)</li> <li>1/3 cup tofu scramble</li> <li>2 teaspoons olive oil</li> <li>3/4 cup peach nectar (2 carbohydrate servings)</li> <li>1/2 cup almond milk fortified with calcium, vitamin B12, and vitamin D</li> </ul>	
Morning Snack	1 slice white toast (1 carbohydrate serving) 1 tablespoon smooth peanut butter	
Lunch	<ul> <li>3/4 cup vegetable soup (1 carbohydrate serving)</li> <li>9 saltine crackers (1 carbohydrate serving)</li> <li>1/2 cup applesauce (1 carbohydrate serving)</li> </ul>	
Afternoon Snack	6 ounces plain soy yogurt (1½ carbohydrate servings) ½ small banana (1 carbohydrate serving)	
Evening Meal	½ cup baked tofu 2/3 cup white rice (2 carbohydrate servings) 2 teaspoons olive oil ½ cup almond milk fortified with calcium, vitamin B12, and vitamin D	
Evening Snack	½ scoop soy protein powder (½ carbohydrate serving) ½ cup almond milk fortified with calcium, vitamin B12, and vitamin D	

# Gastroparesis Vegetarian (Lacto-Ovo) Sample 1-Day Menu

Breakfast	¾ cup cooked farina (1 carbohydrate serving) ½ cup egg substitute	
	2 teaspoons olive oil 3/4 cup peach nectar (2 carbohydrate servings) 1/2 cup 2% milk (1/2 carbohydrate serving)	
Morning Snack	1 slice white toast (1 carbohydrate serving) 1 tablespoon smooth peanut butter	
Lunch	3/4 cup vegetable soup (1 carbohydrate serving) 9 saltine crackers (1 carbohydrate serving) 1/2 cup applesauce (1 carbohydrate serving) 1/2 cup 2% milk (1/2 carbohydrate serving)	
Afternoon Snack	6 ounces plain yogurt (1 carbohydrate serving) ½ small banana (1 carbohydrate servings)	
Evening Meal	½ cup baked tofu 2/3 cup white rice (2 carbohydrate servings) 2 teaspoons olive oil ½ cup 2% milk (½ carbohydrate serving)	
Evening Snack	1 packet instant breakfast (1½ carbohydrate servings) 1 cup 2% milk (1 carbohydrate serving)	

#### Notes