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Diet Advice for the Patient with Gout

Purine Restriction

Too much purine in bad for the patient with gout and hence food high in purine should be taken in moderate quantities. It is generally recommended that food containing more than 150mg per 100gm should be avoided totally.

Foods Highest in Purine (150 to 825mg/100gm)

Anchovies

Sardines (295mg/100gm)

Mackerel Brain

Kidney (Beef 200mg/100gm)

Liver (Beef 233mg/100gm)

Heart

Meat Extracts (160-400mg/100gm)

Scallops Mussels

Goose

Foods High in Purine (50 to 150mg/100gm)

Fish

Eel

Meat - Beef, Lamb, Pork, Veal Poultry - Chicken, Duck, Turkey Shellfish - Crab, Lobster, Oyster

Meat Soup and Broth

Legumes, Bean, Lentils, Peas

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Asparagus Cauliflower

Mushrooms Spinach

Wheat Germ and Bran

Foods Lowest in Purine (0-50mg/100gm)

Milk

Nuts

Pasta, Noodles

Breads & Cereals except Whole Meal

Cakes & Biscuits

Cheese Chocolate Eggs

Fats - Butter - Margarine

Ice Cream

Protein Restrictions

Daily Protein intake should not exceed 1 gm per kg of body weight. A simple guide is that the portion of meat should not exceed the size of 2-3 matchboxes at mealtime.

Fluid Intake

All patients should drink lost of water. This water is helpful in removing Uric Acid in the urine and helps prevent urinary stones. The volume of fluid taken per day should be at least 2 liters per day unless the patient has a weak kidney, heart or liver.

Alcoholic Beverages

Excessive amount of alcohol results in accumulation of Lactic Acid in the blood which inhibits the urinary excretion of Uric Acid. Patients should not take more than 1-2 standard drinks per week.

Weight Reduction

Obesity is often associated with gout and patients should be careful to keep within the "normal" weight range. Weight reduction should be gradual. Fasting or drastic dieting will cause a change in the Uric crystallization in the joint fluid and may precipitate acute attack of gout.