## EAT WELL TIPS FOR MEN WITH PROSTATE CANCER

Part 1: Building meals that work

# Nourish E X T R A 

CANADA'S NUTRITION COMPANION FOR ONCOLOGY PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS
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EatWell

Our Nourish team of registered dietitians is pleased to provide you with this guide, part one in our EAT WELL TIPS series developed for men with advanced prostate cancer.
Eating well can improve your quality of life, give you a greater sense of control, and help you cope better with cancer and its treatment. ${ }^{1}$ No specific foods or nutrients have been shown to effectively treat cancer, but all are important to your overall health. Making good nutrition a part of your day means you're taking a great step towards a more active role in your care.

If you are experiencing other health conditions in addition to prostate cancer, you may want to talk to a registered dietitian or a member of your healthcare team before changing your way of eating.

This guide gives you ideas on ways to eat well, some quick tips and suggestions. For more information, and lots of recipes, check out the resource section. Let's build meals that work!

## EAT A VARIETY OF FOODS

Eating well means eating a VARIETY of different foods. It increases your chance of getting enough of all the nutrients you need to support good health.

Use the EAT WELL plate below to compose your meals. Always choose foods before taking any supplements. Speak with a member of your healthcare team if you do choose supplements.

## USE THE EAT WELL PLATE

The Eat Well plate is a tool to help plan balanced meals and snacks. It helps us understand which foods we need to eat more of and which ones we need in smaller amounts. ${ }^{2}$


Men with advanced prostate cancer may find that they are losing weight because of their cancer, or because pain or fatigue sometimes mean less interest in eating. But research has shown that people with cancer who maintain their weight may respond better to treatment, have fewer side effects from treatment, and enjoy a better overall quality of life. ${ }^{1}$

## EAT WELL TIPS

$\checkmark$ Include foods that are rich in protein at every meal and snack (see Box 1).
$\checkmark$ Eat the foods rich in protein first, especially if you feel full quickly.
$\checkmark$ Aim to eat a small meal or snack every 2 to 3 hours throughout the day, starting within half an hour of waking up.

Plan to eat your biggest meal when your appetite is at its best.
$\checkmark$ Choose fluids that provide protein and calories like blender drinks and smoothies. Try our smoothie recipe!
$\checkmark$ For convenience, try high-calorie and high-protein nutritional drinks.

## BOX 1

HOW TO ADD PROTEIN TO YOUR MEALS AND SNACKS

| TRY ADDING... | TO YOUR |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nuts, seeds |  | Yogurt, cereal or salad |
| Hummus |  | Sandwich, wrap or as a dip for veggies |
| Tofu |  | Soup, chili or stir-fry |
| Eggs |  | Sandwich or salad or eat them on their own |
| Grated cheese |  | Smoothie, soup, hot chocolate, hot or cold cereal |
| Soy beverage* or milk |  | Omelets, quiches, casseroles, soups or sauces |
| Diced meat |  |  |

## I'm feeling tired and weak. What should I eat?

Up to 80\% of people with cancer experience fatigue because of their cancer or treatment. Men with prostate cancer who are treated with hormone therapy can experience a loss of muscle mass and strength even if their body weight is above normal. This can leave you with less energy for daily activities. But resting more and doing less usually does not improve cancer-related fatigue. Staying well-nourished (Box 2) and being active are two important steps you can take to reduce fatigue. ${ }^{3}$

QUICK AND EASY MEAL IDEAS


BOX 2
HOW EATING CAN HELP MANAGE FATIGUE

## Fuel up regularly

- Eat small meals at regular times throughout the day even if you aren't hungry.
- Make every mouthful count by choosing foods that are high in protein and calories (Box 1).


## Give yourself a break

- Choose foods that do not require much preparation, like sandwiches, breakfast cereals, smoothies, and high-calorie and high-protein nutritional drinks.
- Choose frozen meals that are lower in sodium (less than 500 mg per serving) and higher in protein (more than 15 g per serving).

I'm overweight. What changes can I make to help prevent further weight gain?

Weight gain is another common challenge that men with prostate cancer face and is often caused by treatment and its side effects. A balanced diet that is reduced in calories and added sugar - but rich in essential nutrients like fibre - will help maintain a healthy weight. High-fibre foods provide many nutrients that make you feel full longer.

| BREAKFAST | LUNCH/DINNER | SNACK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - Hard boiled eggs with whole wheat toast and slices of honey melon <br> - Greek yogurt, sprinkled with sunflower seeds and fruits <br> - Shredded wheat with berries and milk or milk alternative | - Flaked tuna or salmon on whole grain bread with cherry tomatoes <br> - Vegetarian chili made with beans and veggies <br> - Grilled fish with mixed vegetables and couscous <br> - Green Machine smoothie (try our recipe) | - Handful of sliced, raw veggies with hummus dip <br> - Sliced medium-sized apple with a thumb-sized slice of cheddar cheese <br> - Fruits like cubed melon topped with low-fat cottage cheese <br> - A handful of trail mix made with dried fruit and nuts |

## EAT WELL TIPS

$\checkmark$ Include foods which are high in fibre at every meal, such as whole grains, vegetables and fruits. NOTE: If you are experiencing constipation or using painkillers such as narcotics, speak to your registered dietitian before adding more fibre-rich foods.
$\checkmark$ Fill up on colourful vegetables and fruits, which are naturally low in calories and good sources of fibre, vitamins and minerals.
$\checkmark$ Choose plant-based sources of protein like tofu or legumes more often.
$\checkmark$ Choose leaner cuts of meat like extra lean ground beef and skinless poultry when you do eat meat.
$\checkmark$ Enjoy high-calorie plant-based proteins like nuts and nut butters before meals so that you eat less during the meal.
$\checkmark$ Use cooking methods like steaming, baking and poaching that require little added fat.
$\checkmark$ Limit foods high in added sugars (like, sweetened drinks, jam, syrups, donuts, pastries and muffins) because these foods are concentrated sources of calories.
$\checkmark$ Limit processed foods like breaded or fried foods, or foods with sauces and toppings already added.
$\checkmark$ Choose calorie-free fluids like water or herbal teas. osteoporosis. Should I follow a special diet?
Osteoporosis is a disease that weakens bones, making bone fractures more likely. Men over the age of 50 and those receiving hormone treatments like androgen deprivation therapy are at higher risk for developing osteoporosis. There are several things you can do to help maintain strong bones:
$\checkmark$ Eat a diet rich in calcium and
Vitamin D.
$\checkmark$ Get physically active; focus on
weight-bearing exercises.
$\checkmark$ Avoid smoking.
$\checkmark$ Limit alcohol to no more than 2 drinks a day.
$\checkmark$ Limit caffeine and salt.

For many people, it can be difficult to consume enough calcium and vitamin D through food alone. Speak with your dietitian or doctor for more information on whether you might benefit from calcium and vitamin $D$ supplements. For more information consult www.osteoporosis.ca.

## Can lifestyle choices, food or nutritional supplements help in slowing the progression of prostate cancer?

- There is evidence that exercise, refraining from smoking and maintaining a healthy weight may slow the progression of prostate cancer. ${ }^{4}$
- Lycopene-rich foods such as tomatoes, selenium-rich foods such as Brazilian nuts or soy-based foods may also be beneficial. The evidence is limited however and more studies are needed to make any recommendations. ${ }^{4}$
- Nutritional supplements providing high doses of specific nutrients are not always helpful and may even be harmful. They are not a substitute for food nor can they reproduce the range of benefits you can get from eating a variety of foods. Talk to your registered dietitian and physician before you start any vitamin or mineral supplement.


RESOURCES
Nutrition, Lifestyle, Wellbeing

- Prostate Cancer Canada: Nutrition guide for men with prostate cancer. Download on
www.prostatecancer.ca
- TrueNTH: physical activity, stress reduction, nutrition programs for men living with prostate cancer. https://lifestyle.truenth.ca
- Procure: Taking control: a guide for men with advanced prostate cancer. Download on www.procure.ca
- Dietitians of Canada: Information about eating well, food preparation, nutrients. www.unlockfood.ca


## Symptom Management

- BC Cancer Agency: type "Symptom \& side effect management resource guide" in the search field at www.bccancer.bc.ca
- Sunnybrook Hospital: type "cancer-related fatigue" in the search field at www.sunnybrook.ca
- Osteoporosis Canada: Bone Health \& Osteoporosis at www.osteoporosis.ca


## RECIPES

A selection of websites to help you add a variety of foods to your meals:

- Fruits and vegetables: www.halfyourplate.ca
- Legumes: www.pulsecanada.com/resources/
- Whole grains: wholegrainscouncil.org/recipes
- Eggs: www.eggs.ca/recipes/
- Dairy: www.dairygoodness.ca/recipes
- Canola: www.canolainfo.org/recipes/
- ELLICSR Kitchen: cancer survivorship program of the University Health Network, Toronto: recipes and cooking demos on YouTube.com: type ELLICSR into search field.


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PROCURE



## GREEN MACHINE

## Preparation Time: 2 minutes Servings: 1

## INGREDIENTS

| 1 | medium banana, | 1 cup | spinach, fresh |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1 / 2$ cup | frozen <br> mango, | 1 cup | plain Greek yogurt |
| frozen or fresh |  | milk (2\%MF) |  |

PREPARATION

1. Combine all ingredients in a blender
(use frozen fruit for a more creamy texture).
2. Blend, serve and enjoy!

## MODIFIERS

- Add a tablespoon of 35\% cream to add calories and protein.
- Enjoy as a smoothie bowl as pictured and add nuts, seeds, fruits and other toppings.


## Nutrition Facts

Serving Size: 2 cups

| Amount | \% Daily Value |
| :--- | ---: |
| Calories 365kcal |  |
| Fat 8 g | $12 \%$ |
| Saturated 4 g <br> + Trans 0 g | $\mathbf{2 0 \%}$ |


| Cholesterol 27 mg | $9 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Sodium 179 mg | $7 \%$ |
| Carbohyrate 60 g | $20 \%$ |
| Fibre 6 g | $\mathbf{2 4 \%}$ |
| Sugars 44 g |  |
| Protein 20 g |  |
| Vitamin D 105IU |  |
| Calcium 392 mg | $\mathbf{3 6 \%}$ |

