

Thick puréed diet

Speech and Language Therapy Department

Patient Information Leaflet

Introduction

Your speech and language therapist has recommended that a diet of thick puréed food may help you. This leaflet gives more information on what food to eat, what to avoid and guidelines on swallowing food safely.

What food should I eat?

A puréed diet is made up of foods that do not need chewing, such as mashed potatoes. Other foods can be blended or strained to make them the right texture. Liquids, such as broth, milk, juice, or water may be mixed into foods to make them the right texture. The food should:

- Be moist and not sticky in the mouth.
- Be smooth throughout with no bits. You may need to sieve foods to achieve this.
- Have no loose fluids which have separated off or been poured over such as milk or thin gravy.
- Have no hard pieces, crust or skin which may have formed during cooking.
- Have no ice cream or jelly unless you have been told you can eat it by the Speech and Language Therapy team.

It is a good idea to purée different types of foods (e.g. fish, vegetables) individually and put them separately on the plate so that it looks more appetising. It is best to purée meat and fish with a sauce to ensure it remains smooth and moist.

Examples:

- Puréed porridge or porridge made from powder
- Weetabix fully softened with all the milk absorbed. This means there will be no loose milk
- Puréed meat, fish, vegetables and fruit – may require sieving to remove lumps, fibres etc.
- Smooth, thick soups
- Casseroles – blended in a food mixer
- Cheese and potato pie – blended in a food mixer
- Meat or fish in sauce – blended in a food mixer
- Cauliflower cheese – blended in a food mixer
- Stewed fruit – blended in a food mixer. Serve with smooth custard
- Fruit fools – blended in a food mixer
- Puréed rice pudding
- Mousse, blancmange or yoghurt – smooth with no bits

Safe swallowing guidelines

- Ensure your posture is good and sit as upright as possible when you are eating
- Eat in a relaxed atmosphere
- Do not rush
- Try not to talk while eating and drinking
- Ensure you concentrate on swallowing
- Take small sips or mouthfuls
- Make sure that after you swallow, your mouth is clear before taking the next mouthful
- Clear any food residue from your mouth after a meal with sips of drink or by rinsing your mouth
- Ensure you remain upright for 30 minutes after eating
- Avoid having food and liquid in your mouth at the same time
- You may find it better to eat little and often

Remember: If you are sleepy or unwell, it may be more difficult for you to swallow than usual.

What if I have problems?

If you notice any of the following, either contact your GP, or the Speech and Language Therapy team on 01384 456111 ext. 4565, for advice:

- Coughing, choking or coughing fits during or after meals, or when you are swallowing food or drink
- A gurgly voice after eating or drinking
- Food remaining in your mouth after a meal
- Shortness of breath during or after eating
- Food getting stuck in your throat
- Feeling chesty or having regular chest infections

In an emergency, go your nearest emergency department (A&E).

If you have any questions, or if there is anything you do not understand about this leaflet, please contact:

Speech and Language Therapy team on 01384 456111 ext. 4565
(8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday)

Russells Hall Hospital switchboard number:
01384 456111

This leaflet can be downloaded or printed from:

<http://dudleygroup.nhs.uk/services-and-wards/speech-and-language-therapy/>

If you have any feedback on this patient information leaflet, please email patient.information@dgh.nhs.uk

This leaflet can be made available in large print, audio version and in other languages, please call 0800 073 0510.

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此宣传单可提供大字版本、音频版本和其它语言版本，请拨打电话：0800 073 0510。

Ulotka dostępna jest również w dużym druku, wersji audio lub w innym języku. W tym celu zadzwoń pod numer 0800 073 0510.

ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ, ਬੋਲ ਕੇ ਰੀਕਾਰਡ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਅਤੇ ਦੂਸਰੀਆਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ, 0800 073 0510 ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜੀ।

Aceasta broșura poate fi pusă la dispoziție tipărită cu caractere mari, versiune audio sau în alte limbi, pentru acest lucru vă rugăm sunați la 0800 073 0510.

یہ کتابچہ آپ کو بڑے حروف کی لکھائی، سمعی صورت اور دیگر زبانوں میں مہیا کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ برائے مہربانی فون نمبر 08000730510 پر رابطہ کریں۔