# Medical Nutrition Therapy for Neuroendocrine Cancer



Meghan Laszlo, MS, RD, CSO Clinical Nutrition Coordinator



# Agenda

Nutrition and Cancer Risk Reduction

Pancreatic Exocrine Insufficiency

Carcinoid Syndrome

Blood Glucose Management

**Symptom Management** 



### Nutrition and Cancer Risk Reduction









### Following the AICR's Cancer Prevention Guidelines

Associated with reduced mortality risk from all causes, cancer, and heart disease

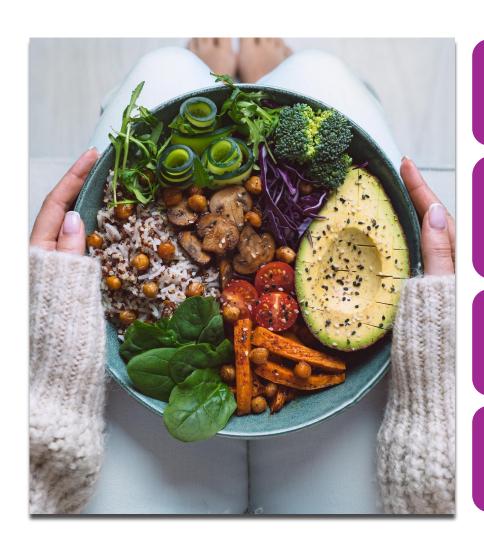
Reduces the risk of cancer

Associated with 10-61% lower risk of cancer incidence and mortality

For each recommendation followed, risk of cancer postponed by 1.6 years



### A Plant-Based Diet



Dietary pattern centered on whole, unrefined or minimally refined plants

Less environmental impact and lower risk of diet-related chronic diseases

Can include both animal and plant proteins

75% plant, 25% animal



### Protein

Individualized

#### Limit red meat

• <18oz beef, pork, lamb per week

Avoid processed meats

#### Choose more fish

>8oz/week fatty fish

Plant protein: legumes, nuts, seeds, whole grains





### Ultra Processed Foods

**NOVA Classification System** 

# 1. Unprocessed or Minimally Processed Foods

- Whole fruits, vegetables, legumes, grains, meat, fish, poultry, eggs, milk
- Can be frozen, dried, ground, powdered, pasteurized

## 2. Processed Culinary Ingredients

- Substances extracted from whole foods or the environment
- Oil, sugar, starch, salt, bacteria, yeast

#### 3. Processed Foods

- Group 1 + Group 2
- Freshly made bread
- Canned vegetables in brine
- Jarred fruit in syrup
- Fresh cheese
- Canned tuna

### 4. Ultra Processed Foods

- Formulations of ingredients that result from a series of processes
- Often require sophisticated equipment and technology
- Contain preservatives
- Sweet and savory snacks, reconstituted meat, confectionary, breakfast cereal



### Ultra Processed Food Exposure is Associated with...

#### **Adults:**

- Weight gain
- Increased waist circumference
- Obesity & abdominal obesity
- Metabolic syndrome
- High blood pressure
- Type 2 diabetes
- Cardiovascular disease
- Coronary artery disease
- Cerebrovascular disease

#### **Children & adolescents:**

- Asthma
- Blood lipids
- Metabolic syndrome
- Waist circumference



### How much physical activity should you do?



This can also be achieved by 75 minutes of vigorous activity across the week or a mixture of moderate and vigorous.

All adults should undertake muscle strengthening activity, such as



at least 2 days a week

Minimise the amount of time spent sedentary (sitting) for extended periods





# Nutrition and Pancreatic Exocrine Insufficiency





### Causes of Pancreatic Exocrine Insufficiency

### Disease in the pancreas

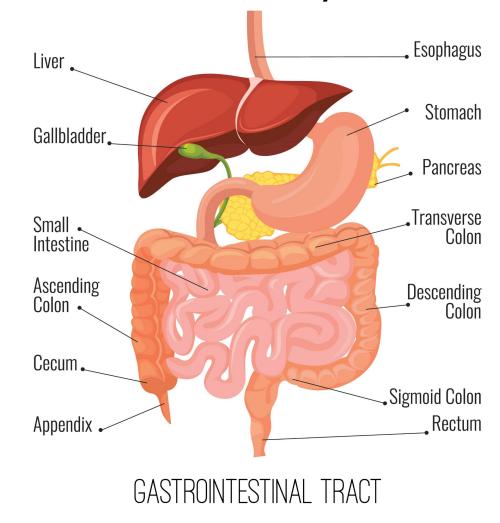
 Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumor (PNET)

### Somatostatin analogs

Octreotide, Lanreotide

### Surgery

- Pancreatic resection
- Whipple surgery





# Signs and Symptoms



Abdominal gas, bloating, smelly gas, diarrhea



Abnormal stools
Yellow, orange, oily, floating stools



Weight loss despite eating enough



Can cause fat soluble vitamin deficiencies



Fecal elastase stool test



### Treatment

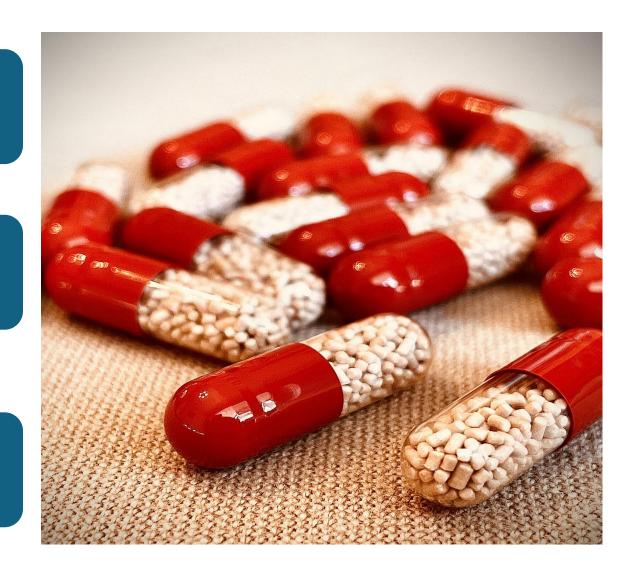
### Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy (PERT)

• Creon, Zenpep, Pertyze

### Dosing

- 25,000-80,000 lipase units per meal
- 500-4,000 lipase units per gram of fat

Enzymes are taken with all foods and beverages that contain fat





### Barriers to Treatment

### Swallowing difficulty

 Capsules can be opened and added to acidic foods (applesauce, jam), but not alkaline foods (yogurt)

### Insurance coverage

Assistance programs, coupons, brand alternatives

### **Appropriate Dosing**

Adherence





### Nutrition

Establish a routine. Take enzymes with meals, snack, and nutrition shakes.

Estimate 4,000 lipase units per 1 gram of fat

- 1 Creon 24,000 lipase units capsule per 6g of fat
- 1 Creon 36,000 lipase units capsule per 9g of fat
- 1 Zenpep 40,000 lipase units per 10g of fat

Limit fiber

Avoid antacids (TUMS, Maalox)



Meal	Food Choices	<b>Enzymes Needed</b>
Breakfast	Smoothie: 1 scoop protein powder  1c berries 1 banana 1tbsp almond butter 1c milk	54,000 lipase units (13 grams of fat)
Lunch	Stir-fry: 1c bok choy 1/2c firm tofu 1/4c mushrooms 1c brown rice	48,000 lipase units (12 grams of fat)
Snack	2tbsp hummus 1c bell peppers 1/2c wheat crackers	40,000 lipase units (10 grams of fat)
Dinner	Fish tacos (2): 6oz cod, seasoned 2 corn tortillas Mayo sauce, avocado, cabbage, cilantro, lime	160,000 lipase units (40 grams of fat)
Dessert	1/2c grapes 1oz cheddar cheese	40,000 lipase units (10 grams of fat)

# Supplements

### Medium Chain Triglyceride (MCT) Oil

- Calorie supplement 1tbsp=130kcal
- Water soluble. Add to beverages, smoothies, yogurt.

### Clear oral supplements

Protein water, Boost Soothe, Ensure Clear

### Over the counter pancreatic enzymes

- Not regulated by the FDA
- Often in low dosages
- Often not enterically coated



### Questions to Ask Provider

Can you change my enzyme prescription to adult dosing?

• 25,000-80,000 lipase units per meal

Can you prescribe my enzymes, so they match my eating pattern?

• Ex: 3 meals and 2 snacks; total number of capsules per day

Would I benefit from taking stomach acid lowering medication?

Could you refer me to a gastroenterologist?



# Nutrition and Carcinoid Syndrome





# Causes of Carcinoid Syndrome

Excessive production of gastrointestinal hormones, peptides, and amines

Midgut NET

Liver metastasis

#### The 5 E's

- Eating
- Exercise
- Ethanol
- Emotional state
- Epinephrine



# Signs and Symptoms

Flushing

Diarrhea

Wheezing

Hypotension

Bradycardia





# **Nutrition Strategies**

Don't Do **Alcohol** Small frequent meals Large meals Low-fat foods High fat foods Low-fiber diet for diarrhea Raw vegetables Hydrate **Tomatoes** High protein foods Spicy foods Keep a journal Foods high in amines



# Amines Histamine, Tyramine, Tryptamine, Phenylethylamine

#### Aged cheeses

• Blue, cheddar, parmesan, swiss, camembert

#### Alcohol

Beer, wine, liquor

#### Smoked, salted, pickled fish or meat

 Herring, salami, sausage, corned beef, bologna, pepperoni

#### Liver

Yeast extract and brewer's yeast

#### Fermented foods

 Kimchi, shrimp paste, miso, soy sauce, vinegar, tofu, fish sauce

#### Chocolate

Avocado, raspberries, bananas

Peanuts, Brazil nuts, fava beans

Coconut



### Niacin

### Tryptophan Serotonin

### Niacin Supplementation

- Nicotinamide not nicotinic acid
- General recommendation for deficiency is 300mg/day for 3-4 weeks

### Signs of deficiency

- Diarrhea
- Dermatitis
- Dementia



# Sample Meal Plan

Meal	Food Choices
Breakfast	Toast with almond butter Cantaloupe Protein shake
Lunch	Omelet Roasted sweet potatoes (peeled)
Snack	Lactose free milk Graham crackers
Dinner	Salmon with lemon Rice Sauteed zucchini
Snack	Peeled apple slices





# 5-HIAA Urine Test Avoid High Serotonin Foods

48 hours prior to and 24 hours during urine collection

Walnut	Pecan	Pineapple	Eggplant	Banana
Plantain	Kiwi	Plum	Tomato	Avocado
Date	Grapefruit	Cantaloupe	Honeydew	Olive
Berries	Apple	Cherry	Papaya	Mango
Pear	Peach	Orange	Lemon	Lime
Carrot	Cucumber	Lettuce	Nuts	Seeds



# Nutrition and Blood Glucose Management





### Causes

#### History of diabetes

#### Disease in the pancreas

• Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumor (PNET)

#### Somatostatin analogs

• Octreotide, Lanreotide

#### mTOR inhibitors

Everolimus

#### Steroids

#### Surgery

- Pancreatic resection
- Whipple surgery



# Consistent Carbohydrate Diet

### Avoid simple sugars

• Fruit juice, soda, foods prepared with added sugar

### Limit carbohydrates in each meal to <1c

Bread, pasta, rice, potatoes, fruit, beans, corn, tortillas

Include protein with all meals and snacks

### Don't skip meals



## Carbohydrate Counting

Each serving of carbohydrate = 15g 30-45g per meal and 0-15g per snack

½ hamburger 1 slice of 2 taco shells 1 tortilla (6") 1/4 large bagel or hotdog bread (5")bun ½ cup beans, ½ cup 4-6 small 3 cups cooked 1 small fruit corn, crackers popcorn potatoes cereal 2/3 cup ½ cup 2 tbsp dried 1 cup melon 1 cup milk unsweetened yogurt, fruit unsweetened fruit juice



### **Nutrition Facts**

Serving Size 1 cup (225g)

Amount Per Serving Calories

230

	% Daily Value*
Total Fat 8g	10%
Saturated Fat 1g	5%
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 160mg	7%
Total Carbohydrate 37g	13%
Dietary Fiber 4g	14%
Sugars 12g	20%
Includes 0g Added Sug	ars

Protein 5g

Vitamin A 0mg	0%
Calcium 200mg	15%
Iron 8mg	45%
Potassium 250mg	6%

<sup>\*</sup>The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice, but calorie needs vary.





Meal	Food Choices	Carbohydrate Counting (Net carbohydrates)
Breakfast	Smoothie: 1 scoop protein powder  1c berries  1 banana  1tbsp almond butter  1c milk	43g (3 servings)
Lunch	Stir-fry: 1c bok choy 1/2c firm tofu 1/4c mushrooms 1c brown rice	40g (3 servings)
Snack	2tbsp hummus 1c bell peppers 1/2c wheat crackers	30g (2 servings)
Dinner	Fish tacos (2): 6oz cod, seasoned 2 corn tortillas Mayo sauce, avocado, cabbage, cilantro, lime	23g (2 servings)
Dessert	1/2c grapes 1oz cheddar cheese	14g (1 serving)

### Questions to ask Provider

Would I benefit from medication?

Would I benefit from a continuous glucose monitor?

What are the optimal ranges for my blood sugar and when should I seek medical attention?

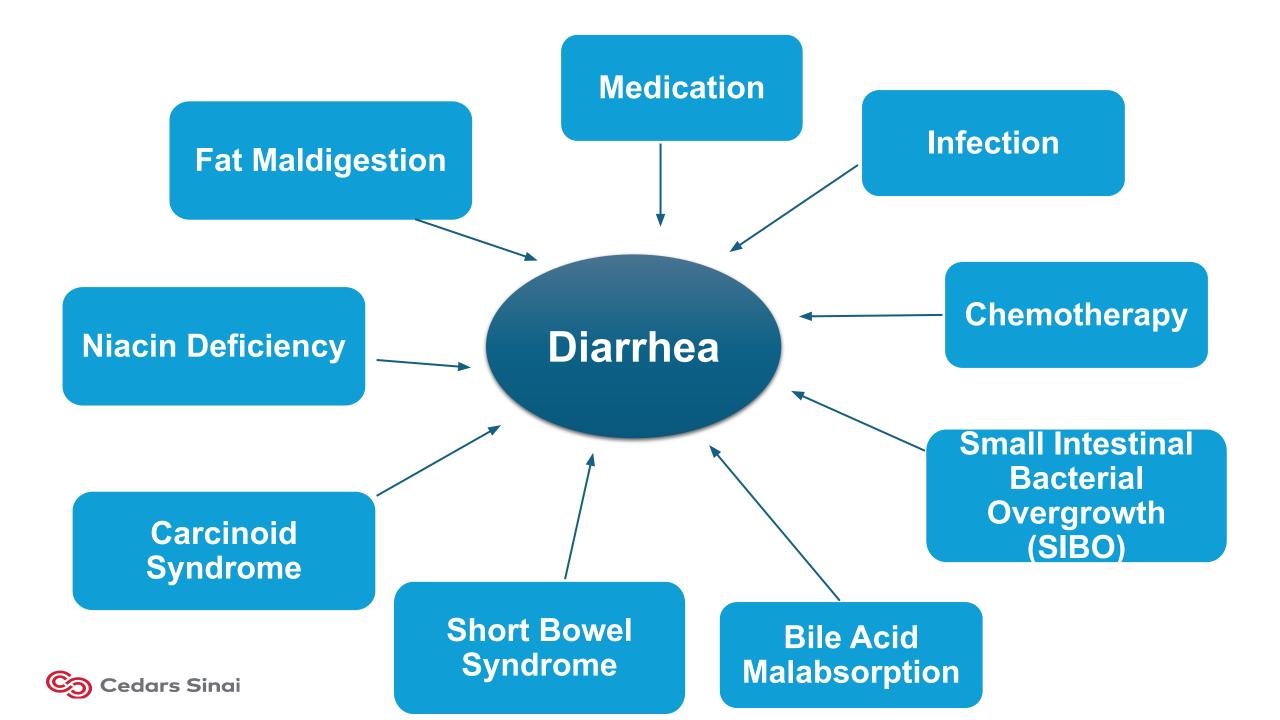
Can you refer me to a Registered Dietitian (RD)?



# **Nutrition and Symptom Management**







# Diarrhea

Choose	Avoid



# Fatigue

Choose easy to prepare meals

Eat every 3-4 hours

Hydrate

Consider meal delivery services/ready to eat meals

Exercise

Ask for help



# **Decreased Appetite**

#### Pivot to liquid foods

Soups, smoothies, kefir, nutrition shakes

Eat on a regular schedule

Distracted eating

Exercise

#### Emotional state,

- Seek support
- Discuss with provider

Discuss appetite stimulants with provider



# Weight Loss

Symptom management

Small, frequent meals

Calorically dense foods

Nutrition shakes or homemade smoothies

Protein powder, calorie supplements



### Resources

# The Adult Patient's Guide to Managing a Short Bowel

https://www.shortbowelsyndrome.com/sign-up

### Pancreatic Cancer Action Network PNET Booklet

 https://media.pancan.org/patient-services/educational-materi als/PanCAN-Booklet-PNET.pdf

