Christmas is here and everyone looks forward to enjoying festive food & drinks with their family and friends! Even with your special dietary needs, you should still be able to enjoy the Christmas festivities.

Potassium

Christmas is a time to treat yourself, however if you have trouble controlling your potassium level you will need to be especially careful over Christmas. Many traditional Christmas foods such as mince pies and Christmas puddings are high in potassium and should be taken with caution. There are many good alternatives that are lower in potassium. Try to choose foods that contain very little or no dried fruit, nuts or chocolate and drinks that are lower in potassium.

You can still have some high potassium foods and drinks but limit the size of your portions and how frequently you have them. Foods high in potassium could be swapped for your daily fruit & vegetable portions. Your Dietitian can give you a more detailed list of potassium options.

Festive foods high in Potassium

Christmas pudding, Christmas Cake,
Mince pies
(Limit to one of these a day e.g. 1 mince pie or 1
slice of cake or 2 tbsp Christmas pudding)

Dried fruit Chocolate Crisps Bombay mix Nuts

Green banana/ plantain/ bread fruit

Festive Foods lower in Potassium

Trifle*
Ice cream
Meringues*
Cream Cake or gateau*
Shortbread*
Turkish delight*
Pop corn
Corn snacks eg. Skips, Wotsits, Doritos,
Sunbites, monster munch
Pretzels, breadsticks

Festive drinks <u>high</u> in Potassium

Fruit & vegetable juices
White or red wine
Beer & Ale
Lager & cider
Coffee, cappuccino

Dry, sparkling wine & sherry are lower in potassium, but still need to be taken in moderation.

Mix spirits with fizzy drinks or water.

Traditional Afro-Caribbean punch – better with Jamaican lemonade

Festive drinks lower in Potassium

Flavoured water
Lemonade,
Cola*, Bitter Lemon*
Tonic water, Soda Water
Ginger beer/ ale*
Cordial/ squash*
Spirits eg. brandy, whisky, vodka
Gin, Rum, Bailey's
Martini/ Vermouth

^{*} If you have Diabetes, choose lower sugar varieties

Fluid

Try to keep to your daily fluid allowance as best as possible over the festive period and remember that gravy, soups, sauces and custard are also considered as fluids. Some foods are very salty eg. Crisps, bacon, salt fish, savoury snacks and could make you feel thirsty. Try to limit these foods or you'll want to drink too much and you could run the risk of fluid overload.

Phosphate

If you need to watch your phosphate intake you should limit the intake of cheese, milk, nuts and chocolate over Christmas. But most important – do not forget to take your phosphate binders! Your eating pattern may change during the festive period and you might need to split the dose differently. When eating out remember to take your phosphate binders with you.

Suggested Menu



Starters

Prawn Cocktail
Pate with toast or crackers
Caesar Salad
Egg Mayonnaise
Smoked Salmon

Main courses

Roast Turkey/ Beef/ Chicken/ Lamb/ Goose or Duck served with accompaniments eg. Small portion of sage & onion stuffing and one of the following: mint sauce/ horseradish sauce/ cranberry sauce/ apple sauce/ bread sauce

3 Small boiled potatoes or 2 small Roast potatoes(parboiled)
Small portion of high potassium vegetable eg. Brussel sprouts/ parsnips/sweet corn
Portion of lower potassium Vegetables eg. Carrots/cabbage/turnip/broccoli/cauliflower
Sausage or bacon roll or Yorkshire pudding

Small portion of gravy

Desserts

Small portion of Christmas pudding(without nuts) – 2 tablespoons only as high in potassium

Brandy sauce, butter or cream
Apple Pie & Custard, ice cream or cream
Brandy snaps & Cream/ Ice cream
Meringue/ cream with small amount of fruit
Gateaux – avoid excess chocolate & nuts
Trifle
Ice Cream

Cheese & biscuits Tea & Mince Pie

Asian: Tandoori Meat/ Fish/ Chicken Curry & Chapattis/ Rice/ Noodles

Afro-Caribbean: Traditional roast dinner or rice/ peas etc – limit beans and boil vegetables well



FESTIVE OPTIONS

The foods below are high in potassium so you need to swap them for your usual vegetable or fruit portions as advised by your dietitian

REMEMBER

You may have up to 4 portions daily, which may be made up of fruit, vegetables or festive options

Each food below can be swapped for 1 portion of potassium:

(eg swap 1 apple for 1 small cup of coffee)

Christmas cake – 1 small piece (50g)
Christmas pudding – 2 tablespoons (40g)
Coffee – 1 small cup
Cream filled chocolates – 8
Chocolate covered caramels – 6
Milk/ plain/ white chocolate – 6 squares of a small bar
Mince pies – 1 medium
Stollen cake – depending on dried fruit & marzipan content- 1 slice



Chestnuts, walnuts, pecan nuts, macadamia nuts – 30g
Potato crisps, potato rings, Pringles, twiglets –20g
Sunflower, sesame or pumpkin seeds – 1 tablespoon
Peanuts, cashew nuts, pistachio nuts – 1 dessertspoon
Sev, ganthia, or Bombay mix – 2 tablespoons
Burfi or phendha – 1 small piece

Sweet sherry, red wine, sweet white wine, port – 1 small glass (100mls) Dry white wine, sparkling white wine, Rose wine – 1 medium glass (125mls) Beer, lager – $\frac{1}{2}$ pint glass (300mls) Pale ale, stout, Bitter, low alcohol lager – $\frac{1}{3}$ pint glass (200mls) Cider – small glass (150mls)





PARTY FOOD for those on DIALYSIS

Savouries:

Quiche – eg: cheese & ham, onion (avoid excess mushrooms, spinach, tomatoes)

Sausage rolls, pork pie, bacon wrapped sausages

Bread sticks, cheese sticks, cheese spirals

Cocktail sausages, cream cheese, pineapple, cheese on sticks

Chicken drumsticks, chicken vol-au-vents (avoid mushrooms)

Satay sticks, samosas (boil vegetables & potatoes first) – avoid peanut dips

Ham cornets with cream cheese & chives/herbs/pineapple

Sandwiches – any type of bread – white, brown, granary,

Pitta, ciabatta, naan, etc

Fillings: chicken & mayo, ham & mustard, cheese & pickle, chicken tikka, tuna & cucumber, pork & stuffing, egg & cress, beef

Salad – lettuce, cucumber, cress, thinly sliced red or green pepper - limit tomato

Crackers - cream, water biscuits, Cornish waifers, Tuc etc (avoid oatcakes & Ryvita)

Wheat, corn snacks - Sunbites, Doritos, Skips, Wotsits, Nik Naks

Dips - cream cheese & chives, cheddar, mint, garlic, cucumber, yoghurt

Pizza, Popcorn, puffed rice

Pakoras, Bhadji – use wheat or rice flour instead of gram flour, boil vegetables first Kachori (no Sultanas) / Puri – made from plain flour

Crusty bread + butter

Desserts - (NB: People with diabetes should limit sugary foods)

Ice cream, brandy snaps, meringue & cream (with Baileys if you like!)

Trifle (limit the sherry!)

Cheesecake, Gateau - fruit type, Sponge, Madeira cake

Treacle tart & cream, Lemon meringue pie, Profiteroles, Apple pies, cream or custard

Donuts, jam tarts, egg custard, cream cakes, Iced fondant cakes, Battenburg

Assorted cream, jam filled biscuits, waifers, iced biscuits, Shortbreads

Halwa, Jellabi, Gulab jamen

Boiled sweets, fruit pastilles, fruit jellies, Turkish Delight (no nuts), marshmallows, peppermints,

sherbert sweets, jelly babies, jelly slices, butterscotch, mints



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