

# Welcome!

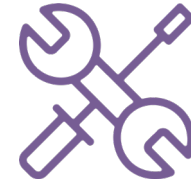
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# Benefits of Plants for Chronic Kidney Disease

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# Benefits of Plants for Chronic Kidney Disease

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## Event Materials

Visit the **event page** to download a copy of the presentation slides and any additional resources.



## Continuing Education

This webinar has been approved to offer continuing education credit. Please stay tuned for more information!



# OneOp

**Readiness. Knowledge. Network.**

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U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Military Family Readiness Policy,  
U.S. Department of Defense under Award Number 2019-48770-30366.

# Melanie Betz

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**Melanie Betz MS, RD, CSR, CSG, FAND**

Founder & CEO  
The Kidney Dietitian

[www.thekidneydietitian.org](http://www.thekidneydietitian.org)  
Instagram: @the.kidney.dietitian

# Outline

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- General info about CKD
- Benefits of plant-based diets in kidney disease
  - Delayed progression CKD
  - Acidosis
  - Gut health
  - Phosphorus
  - Potassium
  - Dialysis & mortality

# Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Stats

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- Affects 37 million people (1 in 7 adults) in US
- 80 million people (1 in 3 adults) in US *at risk* of kidney disease
- 90% of people with kidney disease *don't know they have it*
- 9th leading cause of death in U.S
- \$120 billion annual Medicare dollars for all stages CKD (~15% total budget)
  - \$84 billion on ESRD

# Nutrition in CKD

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Nutrition plays a role in:

- Delayed progression of CKD
- Improved symptoms
  - *Edema*
  - *Acidosis*
- Management of common co-morbidities
  - *Hypertension*
  - *Diabetes*
  - *Heart Disease*

88% of people never see a RD prior to dialysis 😞

- Over 90% covered by Medicare for entire CKD diagnosis
- 83% were interested in making dietary changes
- 50% feel confident they know how to eat to manage CKD



# Kidney Disease Outcomes & Quality Initiative (KDOQI) Updates

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## Joint Clinical Practice Guideline

- National Kidney Foundation (KDOQI)
- Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics

## Officially Released August 2020

- Restricted to controlled intervention studies for intervention recommendations
  - Also used observational studies for assessment recommendations
- Now includes CKD and transplant patients & micronutrients/electrolytes!

# Protein

	2000 KDOQI Guideline	2020 KDOQI/AND Guideline
Protein	<p>Without Dialysis GFR&lt;25ml/min: 0.6g/kg (up to 0.75g/kg if unable to maintain energy intake)</p> <p>Dialysis (clinically stable) Hemodialysis: 1.2g/kg; ≥50% high biological value Peritoneal Dialysis: 1.2-1.3g/kg; ≥50% high biological value</p>	<p>Without Dialysis CKD stage 3-5: 0.55-0.60g/kg IBW OR 0.28-0.43g/kg with keto analog supplementation to reduce risk of ESRD/death (1A) and improve QoL (1C)</p> <p>Without Dialysis - Diabetes CKD 3-5: 0.8-0.9g/kg IBW</p> <p>Dialysis (clinically stable) Hemodialysis: 1.2g/kg (1C) Peritoneal Dialysis: 1.2g/kg (OPINION) People with diabetes: 1.2g/kg (OPINION)</p> <p>Protein Type Insufficient evidence to make conclusion about the effects of protein type (plant vs animal) on nutritional status, calcium or phosphate levels, or blood lipid profile (OPINION)</p>

# Energy

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	2000 KDOQI Guideline	2020 KDOQI/AND Guideline
Energy	Without Dialysis (GFR<25ml/min) & Dialysis Patients ≤60 years old: 35kcal/kg >60 years old: 30-35kcal/kg	CKD1-5D (1C) & Post-Transplant (OPINION) 25-35kcal/kg IBW based on age, gender, physical activity, body composition, weight status, CKD stage, concurrent illness, and inflammation to maintain nutritional status

# Sodium

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	2020 KDOQI/AND Guideline
Sodium	<p>Blood Pressure Control: CKD 3-5 without dialysis (1B), dialysis (1C) &amp; post-transplant (1C) Goal: &lt;2300mg/day</p> <p>Proteinuria: CKD 3-5 without dialysis (2A) Goal: &lt;2300mg/day</p> <p>Dry Body Weight: CKD 3-5D (2B) Reduced sodium intake to improve better volume control</p>

# Potassium

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	2020 KDOQI/AND Guideline
Potassium	<p>CKD 3-5D &amp; Post-Transplant Adjust dietary potassium to maintain serum potassium within normal range (OPINION) Hyperkalemia: consider lowering dietary potassium intake (OPINION)</p> <p>CKD3-5 on Hemodialysis (2D) &amp; Post-Transplant (OPINION) with hyperkalemia or hypokalemia Base dietary adjustments or supplemental potassium on clinician judgement</p>

# Phosphorus

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	2020 KDOQI/AND Guideline
Phosphorus	<p>CKD 3-5 &amp; Hemodialysis Adjust dietary phosphorus to maintain serum phosphate levels in the normal range (1B)</p> <p>Dietary Phosphorus Source: CKD 1-5D &amp; Post-Transplant Consider the bioavailability of phosphorus sources (OPINION)</p> <p>Hypophosphatemia in Post-Transplant Consider prescribing a high-phosphorus intake (diet or supplements) in order to replete serum phosphorus (OPINION)</p>

# Mediterranean Diet

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	2020 KDOQI/AND Guideline
Mediterranean Diet	CKD 1-5 without dialysis and post-transplant With or without dyslipidemia, suggest prescribing a Mediterranean Diet to improve lipid profile (2C)

# Fruits & Vegetables

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	2020 KDOQI/AND Guideline
Fruits & Vegetables	CKD 1-4 Suggest prescribing increased fruit and vegetable intake may decrease body weight, blood pressure and net acid production (NEAP) (2C)



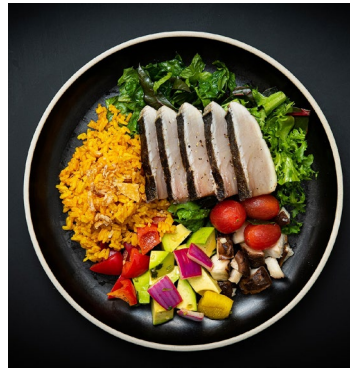
# Traditional “Renal Diet” Approach:

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What I Was Taught in School



What I Recommend



- Tends to be non-individualized & generic
- Reduces food to nutrients
  - Sodium
  - Potassium
  - Phosphorus
- Resulted in diet drastically reduced in generally healthy things!
  - Fiber
  - Most vitamins & minerals
  - Antioxidants
- Maybe not the best for our patients?

# Benefits of PlantBased Diets & CKD

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- Delayed decline of kidney function
- Improved acid-base balance
- Improved gut health
- Reduced bioavailability of phosphorus
- Better potassium control?
- Reduced mortality in dialysis?
- In line with recommendations for common co-morbid conditions
  - *Diabetes*
  - *Hypertension*
  - *Hypercholesterolemia*
  - *Heart Failure*
  - = *Improved control CKD!*

Potentially improved adherence, quality of life and food satisfaction!

# Plant-Based Diet Definition

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No formal definition

Just eat more plants!

- Average US Intake: 0.9 servings fruits & 1.4 servings vegetables

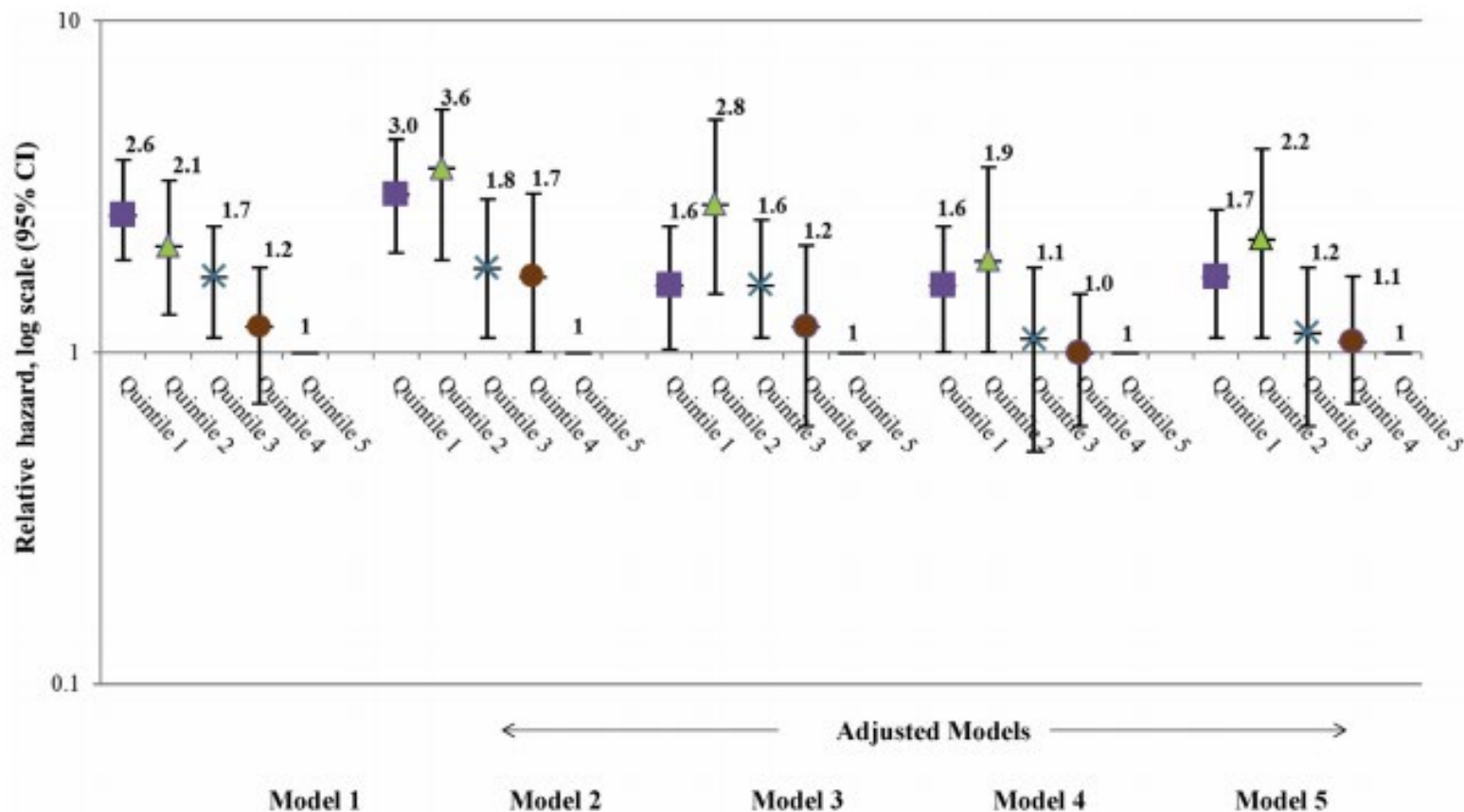
Examples:

- Vegan or Vegetarian Diet
- Mediterranean Diet
- DASH Diet
- MIND Diet

# Delayed Decline of Kidney Function

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# Lower Risk of ESRD with DASH in CKD Patients



Model 1 – Unadjusted  
 Model 2 – Model 1+ adjusted for socio-demographics  
 Model 3 – Model 2+ adjusted for diabetes, systolic BP, serum K  
 Model 4 – Model 3+ adjusted for total caloric intake, body mass index  
 Model 5 – Model 4+ adjusted for eGFR, ACR

# Less GFR Decline with “Prudent” and DASH Eating Patterns

**Table 5.** Odds Ratios for eGFR Decline  $\geq 30\%$  by Quartiles of Diet Pattern Scores

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Western</b>				
Age and energy intake adjusted	1.00 (reference)	1.37 (0.98-1.93)	1.84 (1.29-2.64)	1.95 (1.27-2.97)
Multivariable <sup>a</sup>	1.00 (reference)	1.22 (0.87-1.73)	1.57 (1.08-2.28)	1.48 (0.95-2.30)
Multivariable + analgesic medication use <sup>b</sup>	1.00 (reference)	1.22 (0.86-1.72)	1.52 (1.04-2.20)	1.40 (0.90-2.19)
Multivariable + high cholesterol or lipid-lowering drug	1.00 (reference)	1.23 (0.87-1.73)	1.57 (1.08-2.26)	1.46 (0.94-2.28)
Multivariable + diabetes duration	1.00 (reference)	1.22 (0.86-1.72)	1.58 (1.09-2.29)	1.46 (0.94-2.28)
<b>Prudent</b>				
Age and energy intake adjusted	1.00 (reference)	1.44 (1.05-1.97)	1.06 (0.76-1.48)	0.78 (0.53-1.13)
Multivariable <sup>a</sup>	1.00 (reference)	1.43 (1.04-1.98)	1.07 (0.76-1.51)	0.81 (0.55-1.19)
Multivariable + analgesic medication use <sup>b</sup>	1.00 (reference)	1.44 (1.04-1.98)	1.10 (0.78-1.56)	0.82 (0.56-1.21)
Multivariable + high cholesterol or lipid-lowering drug	1.00 (reference)	1.45 (1.05-2.00)	1.09 (0.77-1.54)	0.84 (0.57-1.23)
Multivariable + diabetes duration	1.00 (reference)	1.44 (1.04-1.98)	1.07 (0.76-1.51)	0.81 (0.55-1.19)
<b>DASH-style</b>				
Age and energy intake adjusted	1.00 (reference)	0.87 (0.64-1.18)	0.79 (0.58-1.09)	0.51 (0.36-0.72)
Multivariable <sup>a</sup>	1.00 (reference)	0.86 (0.63-1.17)	0.79 (0.57-1.09)	0.55 (0.38-0.80)
Multivariable + analgesic medication use <sup>b</sup>	1.00 (reference)	0.88 (0.65-1.21)	0.82 (0.60-1.13)	0.57 (0.39-0.83)
Multivariable + high cholesterol or lipid lowering drug	1.00 (reference)	0.86 (0.63-1.18)	0.79 (0.58-1.09)	0.55 (0.38-0.79)
Multivariable + diabetes duration	1.00 (reference)	0.87 (0.64-1.18)	0.79 (0.58-1.09)	0.55 (0.38-0.80)



Abbreviations: eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; DASH, Dietary Approach to Hypertension; NSAIDs, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs; Q, quartile.

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for age, hypertension, body mass index, physical activity (METs/week), energy intake, cigarette smoking, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and angiotensin-converting enzyme-inhibitor/angiotensin receptor blocker medication use (alcohol intake and

# Reduced Risk Death in CKD

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*Gutierrez et al.*

Reduced all cause mortality in CKD

- Plant based diet scores associated with reduced risk mortality (0.77: 95% CI: 0.61-0.97)
- Southern diet scores associated with increased risk mortality (1.51: 95% CI: 1.19-1.95)
- No significant difference in CKD progression

*Chen et al.*

Reduced risk of death in PD patients

- 10% increase in plant-based protein =
  - 71% in all cause mortality
  - 89% reduction CVD mortality

# Improve Acid/Base Balance

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# Metabolic Acidosis in CKD

Definition: Serum Bicarbonate (CO<sub>2</sub>) <22mEq/L

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## Prevalence

- 13% CKD stage 3
- 40% by CKD stage 4
- Acid retention early in CKD

## Causes in CKD

- Impaired ammonia excretion
- Reduced bicarbonate reabsorption
- Reduced bicarbonate production

# Metabolic Acidosis in CKD

Definition: Serum Bicarbonate (CO<sub>2</sub>) <22mEq/L

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## Consequences:

- Increased bone resorption
- Increased muscle catabolism
- Aggravation secondary hyperparathyroidism
- Systemic inflammation
- Impaired myocardial contractility
- Increased mortality
- Progression of CKD

# Dietary Acid Production

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Diet is the main contributor to acid that must be excreted by the kidney

Balance of:

- Endogenous acid production (H<sup>+</sup>)
- Alkali intestinal absorption

Measuring Acid Load

- Net Acid Excretion (NAE, requires 24-hour urine test)
- Potential Renal Acid Load (PRAL)
- Net Endogenous Acid Production (NEAP)
- GI alkali absorption

# Potential Renal Acid Load (PRAL)

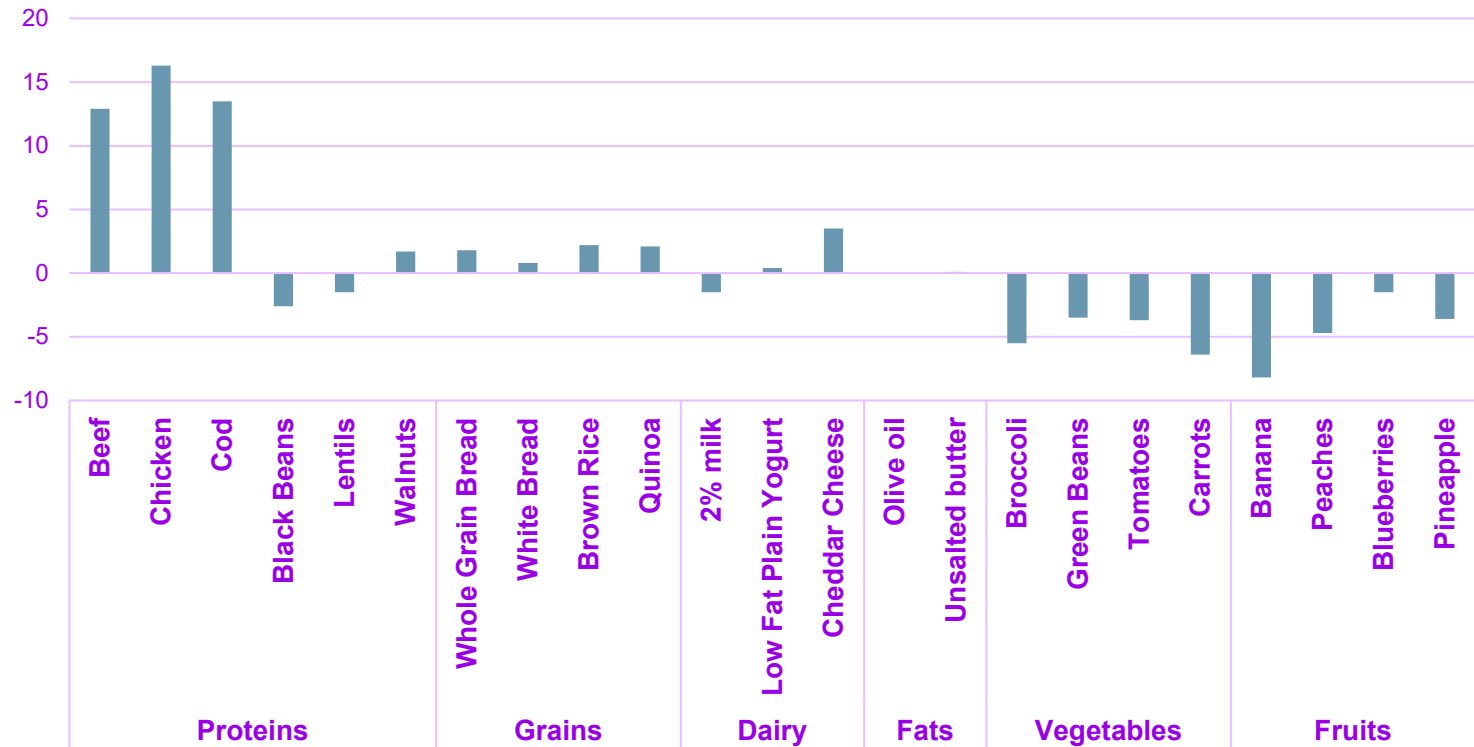
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High acid load in typical US Diet  
50-75 mEq/day

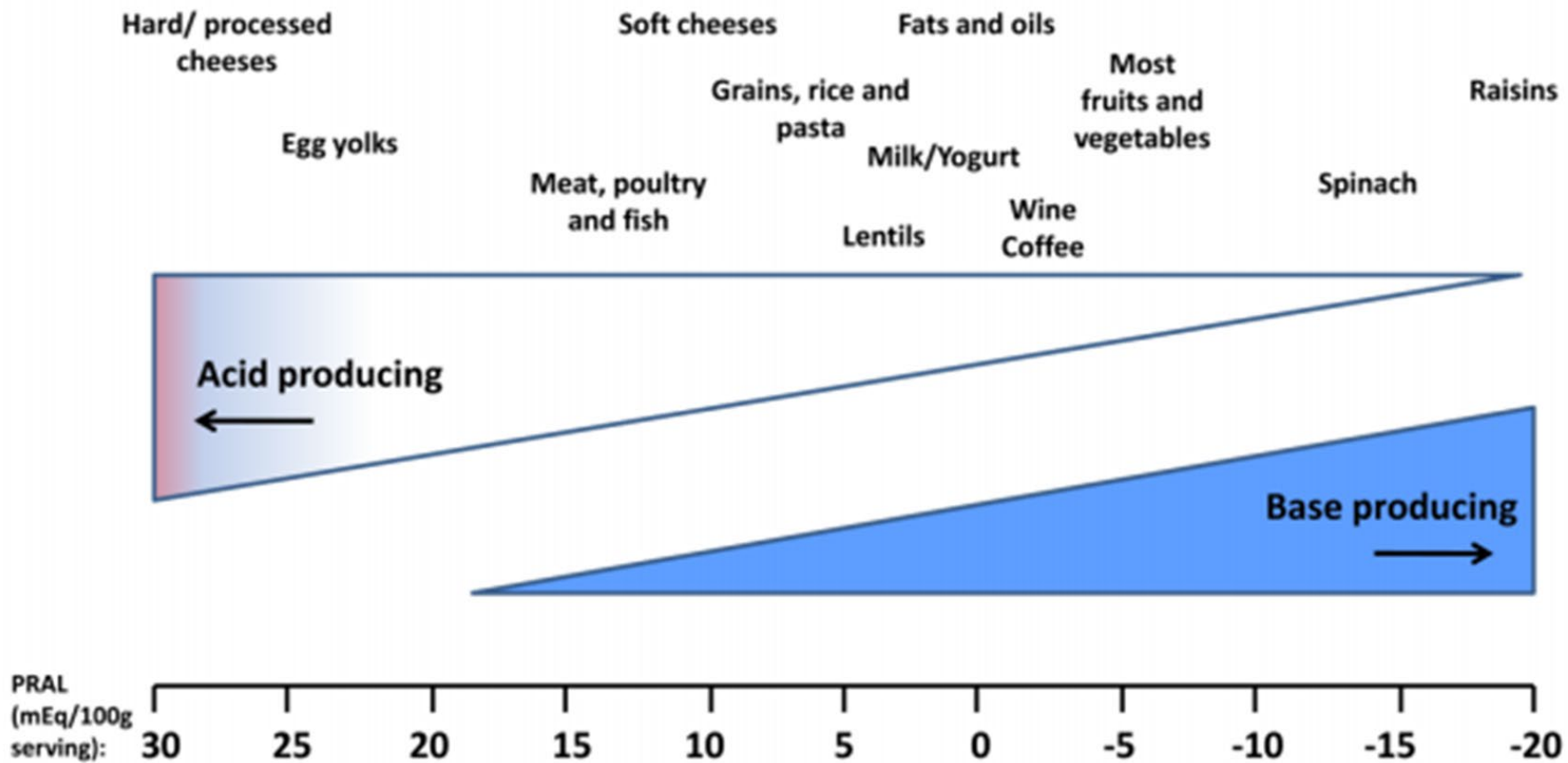
Vegan (or near vegan) diet: -43.5 - -39.0 mEq/day



# Potential Renal Acid Load (per standard portion)



High acid load in typical US Diet: 50-75 mEq/day  
 Vegan (or near vegan) diet: -43.5 - -39.0 mEq/day



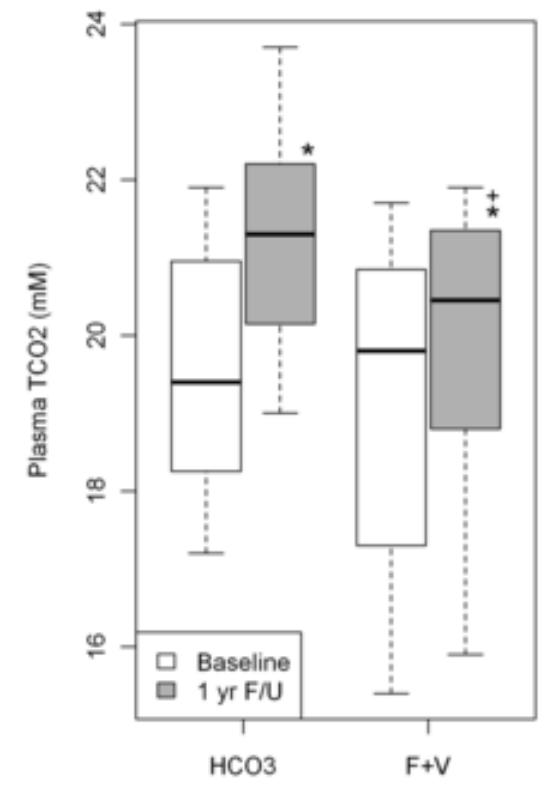
# Treat Acidosis with Fruits & Veggies!

CKD stage 4 patients randomized to receive bicarbonate or fruits & veggies

- Fruits & vegetables group were given free produce
- Prescribed by RD to lower PRAL by ½
- *Enough produce for all people in household!*

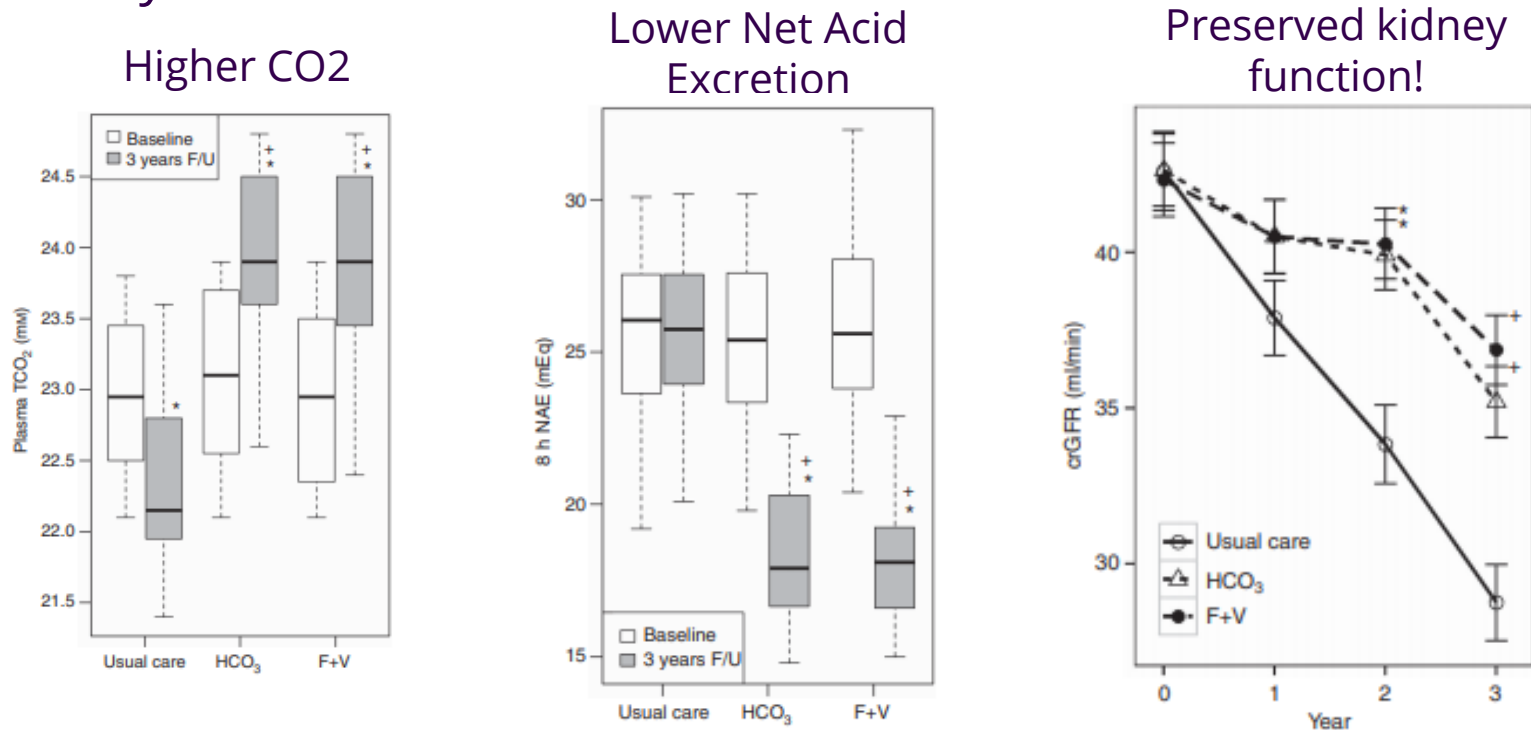
After 1 year, fruit & vegetable group:

- Lower body weight (78 vs 84kg)
- Lower Systolic blood pressure (131.7 vs. 136.0 mmHg)
- Lower PRAL (39.6 vs. 59.3 mEq/day)
- Lower CO<sub>2</sub> in both groups
- NO difference in plasma potassium or GFR



# Treat Acidosis EARLY with Fruits & Veggies!

108 CKD stage 3 patients randomized to usual care, fruits & veggies OR bicarbonate (not necessarily  $\text{CO}_2 < 22$ )  
After 3 years...





# Lower PRAL May Benefit Many Health Conditions

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Chronic Kidney Disease

Kidney Stones

Diabetes/Insulin Resistance

Bone health

# Reduced Absorption of Phosphorus

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# 2020 KDOQI/AND Guidelines

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Dietary Phosphorus Source: CKD 1-5D & Post-Transplant  
“Consider the bioavailability of phosphorus sources” (OPINION)

CKD 3-5 & Hemodialysis

“Adjust dietary phosphorus to maintain serum phosphate levels in the normal range” (1B)

No absolute amount of phosphorus recommended.

4oz. cooked chicken breast



Calories: 182  
Protein: 34g  
Potassium: 408mg  
Phosphorus: 260mg

½ cup black beans



Calories: 57  
Protein: 8g  
Potassium: 306mg  
Phosphorus: 121mg

## Amount of Phosphorus Absorbed



4oz, cooked chicken breast



Calories: 182  
Protein: 34g  
Potassium: 408mg  
Phosphorus: 260mg **234mg**

½ cup black beans



Calories: 57  
Protein: 8g  
Potassium: 306mg  
Phosphorus: 121mg **61mg**

# Phosphorus Food Additives

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Contribute 300-1000mg phosphorus per day

Can increase phosphate content of food up to 70%

Are becoming more common in food supply

➤ 37% of foods consumed

Common in many OTC and prescribed medications in CKD

➤ Norvasc, Amiloride, Januvia, Epogen, Tums, Crestor, Zoloft

Often not reflected in dietary analysis nutrient databases

# Common Sources Phosphorus Food Additives

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Snack Foods

Processed cheese or dairy (non-dairy creamer)

Frozen prepared foods

Beverages (more than just cola!)

Cereals

Sauces & dressings

Shelf stable prepared foods (canned meals, convenience foods)

Non-dairy creamer

RESTAURANTS & FAST FOOD



# Possible Better Potassium Control?

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# Potassium

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## Hyperkalemia in kidney disease

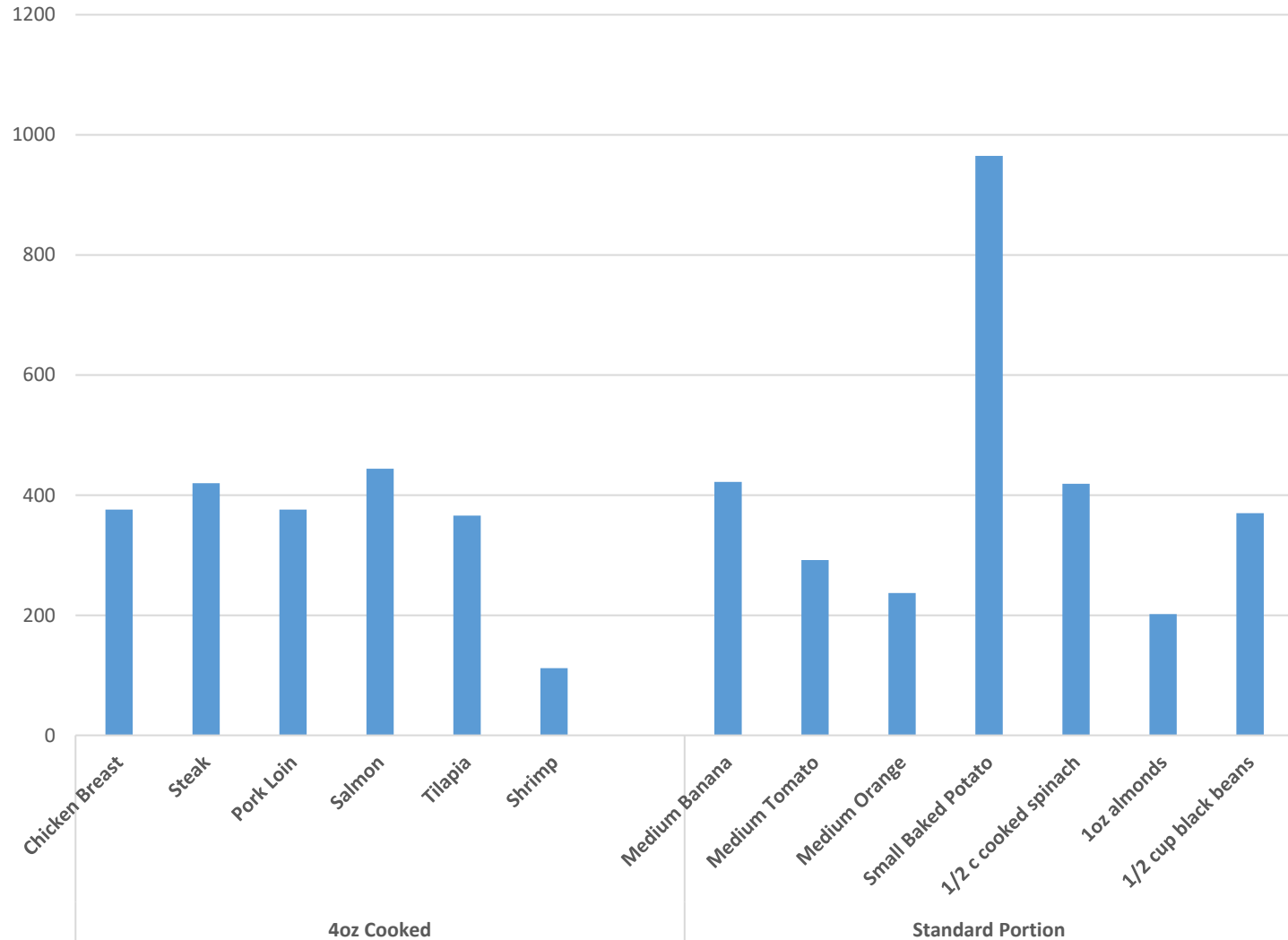
- Accounts for 25% of emergent dialysis treatments
- Leads to abdominal cramping, weakness, paresthesia, cardiac arrhythmias and cardiac arrest

Little to no research to support a low potassium diet for CKD or ESRD

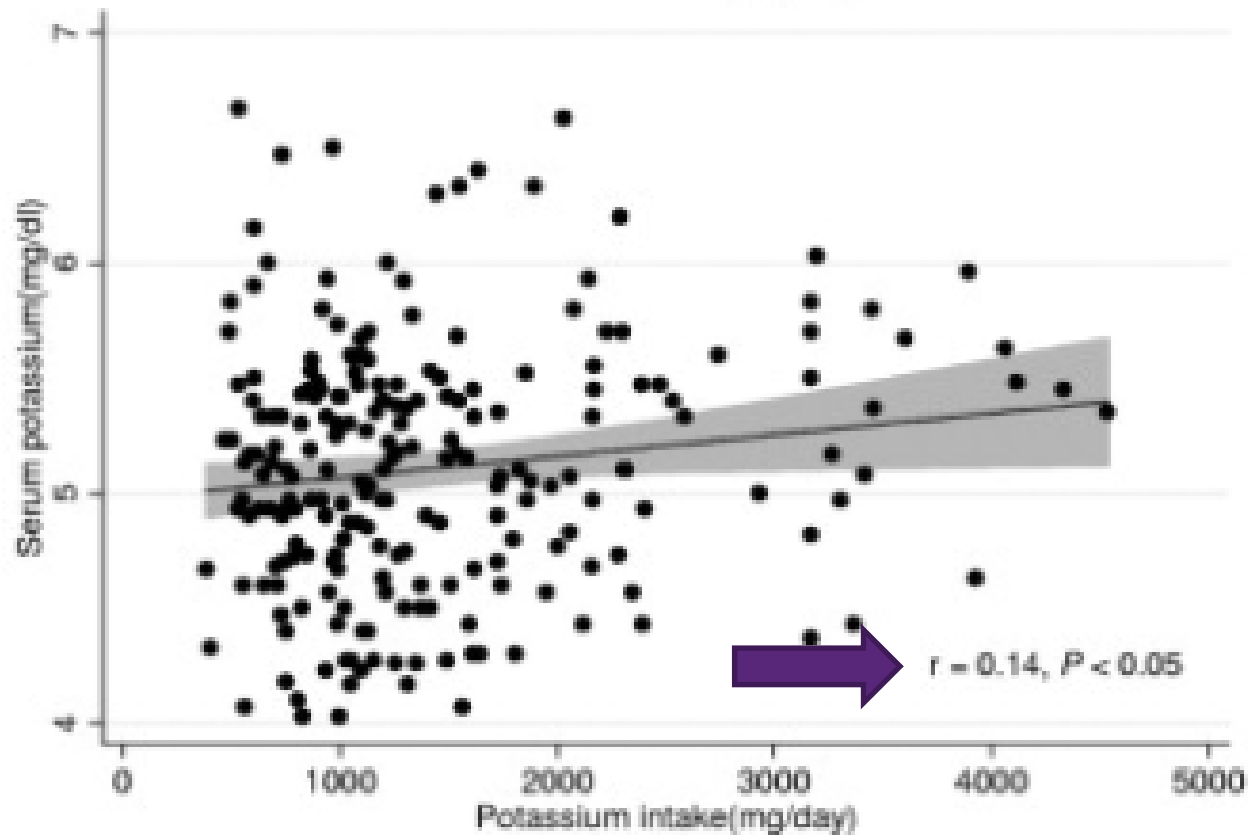
## Other factors that can impact potassium

- Medications
- Residual kidney function
- Hydration status
- Acid-base status
- Glycemic control
- Adrenal function
- Catabolism
- GI (vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, bleeding)

# Potassium Content of Foods

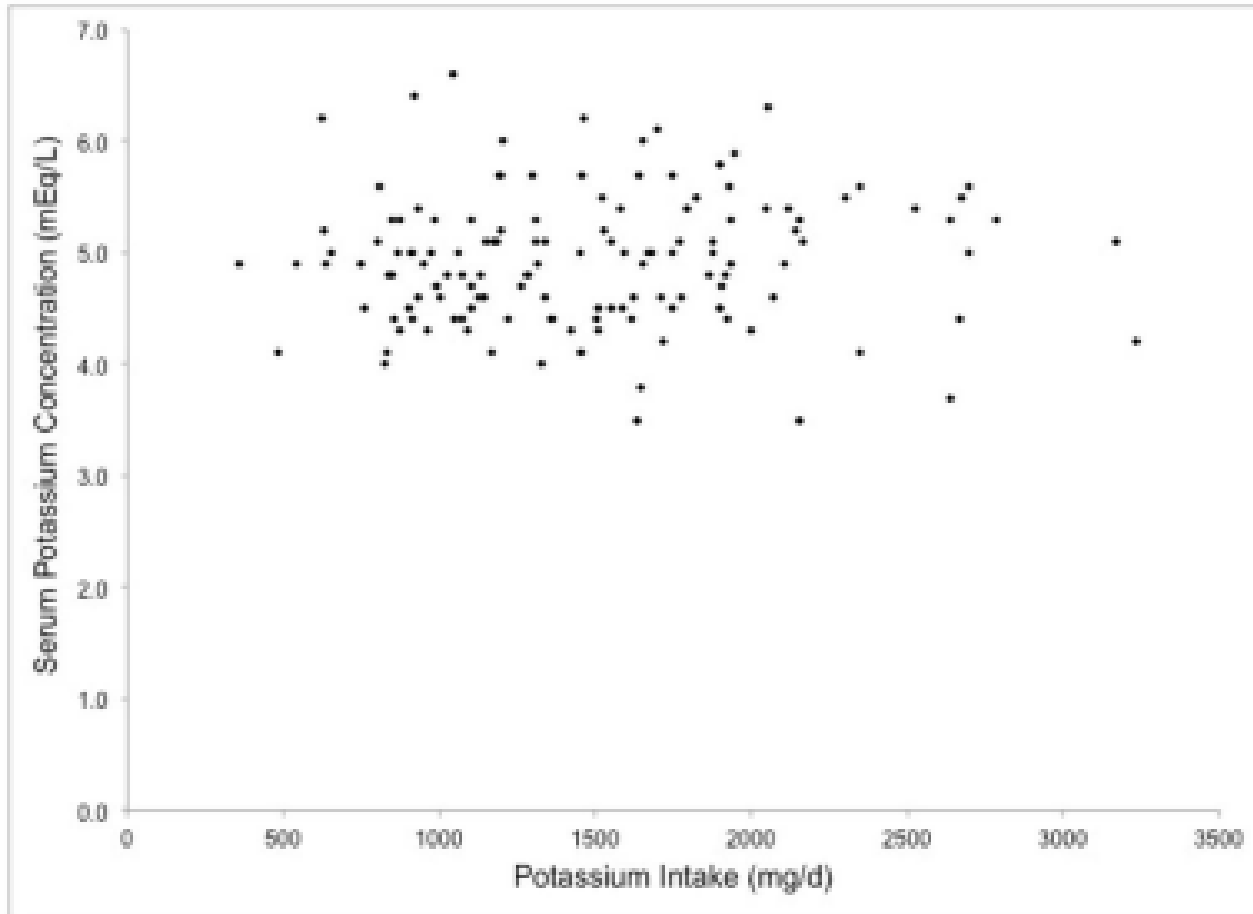


# Potassium Intake $\neq$ Serum Potassium



# Potassium Intake & Potassium Diet Density $\neq$ Serum Potassium

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# Potassium & Acid-Base Balance

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In acidic environments, more potassium shifts to extracellular compartments (↑ serum potassium)

Higher bicarbonate dialysate results in faster lowering of serum potassium, despite removing less potassium

Remember:

- Meat has a HUGE acid load (PRAL)

- Adding fruits and veggies reduced acidosis

# Potassium & Insulin Resistance

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## Insulin helps shift potassium into cells

Lower peak in serum potassium if glucose is provided with meal <sup>2,3</sup>  
In fasted state, see higher peak in serum potassium with potassium challenge <sup>3</sup>

High prevalence of insulin resistance in CKD (diabetes 2<sup>nd</sup> cause of CKD)

Plant based diets associated with improved insulin sensitivity

1. St-Jules D, Goldfarb D, Sevick M. Nutrient non-equivalence: Does restricting high-potassium plant foods help to prevent hyperkalemia in hemodialysis patients? *J Ren Nutr.* 2016;26(5):282-287. doi:10.1053/j.jrn.2016.02.005
2. Hc G, Cr K, Me R, Mh M. Functional impairment in chronic renal disease. 3. Studies of potassium excretion. *Am J Med Sci.* 1971;261(5):281-290. doi:10.1097/00000441-197105000-00007
3. Allon M, Dansby L, Shanklin N. Glucose modulation of the disposal of an acute potassium load in patients with end-stage renal disease. *Am J Med.* 1993;94(5):475-482. doi:10.1016/0002-9343(93)90081-Y

# Excretion of Potassium in Stool

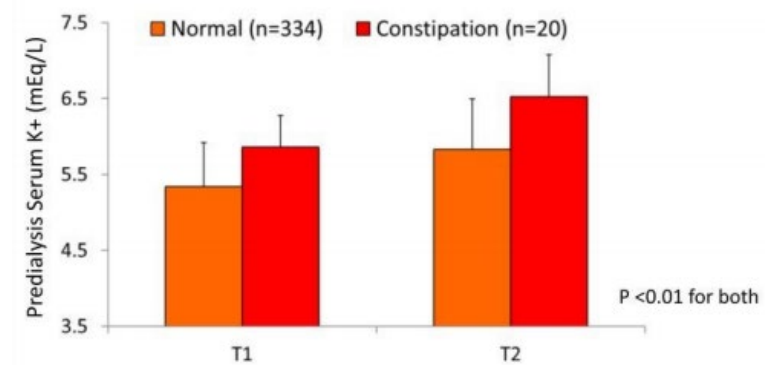
Eventually, potassium must be removed from body

➤ 90% of potassium removed by kidneys in healthy people<sup>1</sup>

3x higher stool potassium excretion in dialysis (37% vs. 12%)<sup>2</sup>

➤ Stool potassium excretion directly related to potassium intake<sup>2</sup>

- About half of HD patients report constipation<sup>3</sup>
- Up to 19% in CKD (need more studies)<sup>4</sup>
- Constipation associated with higher serum potassium in HD patients<sup>5</sup>



1. St-Jules D, Goldfarb D, Sevvick M. Nutrient non-equivalence: Does restricting high-potassium plant foods help to prevent hyperkalemia in hemodialysis patients? *J Ren Nutr.* 2016;26(5):282-287.
2. Hayes CP, McLeod ME, Robinson RR. An extravenal mechanism for the maintenance of potassium balance in severe chronic renal failure. *Trans Assoc Am Physicians.* 1967;80:207-216.
3. Murtagh FEM, Addington-Hall J, Higginson JJ. The prevalence of symptoms in end-stage renal disease: a systematic review. *Adv Chronic Kidney Dis.* 2007;14(1):82-99.
4. Sumida K, Yamagata K, Kovesdy CP. Constipation in CKD. *Kidney Int Rep.* 2019;5(2):121-134.
5. El-Sharkawy M, Khedr E, Abdelwhab S, Ali M, Said KE. Prevalence of Hyperkalemia among Hemodialysis Patients in Egypt. *Renal Failure.* 2009;31(10):891-898.



# Potassium Food Additives

Prevalence in food supply is growing

- 9% of foods consumed in dialysis patients
- Known to be high in meats – especially processed meats
- *2-3X higher potassium in enhanced meats*

Often used in “low sodium” products

- 44% more potassium

Likely more bioavailable than naturally occurring potassium (~90-100% vs. 50-60%)

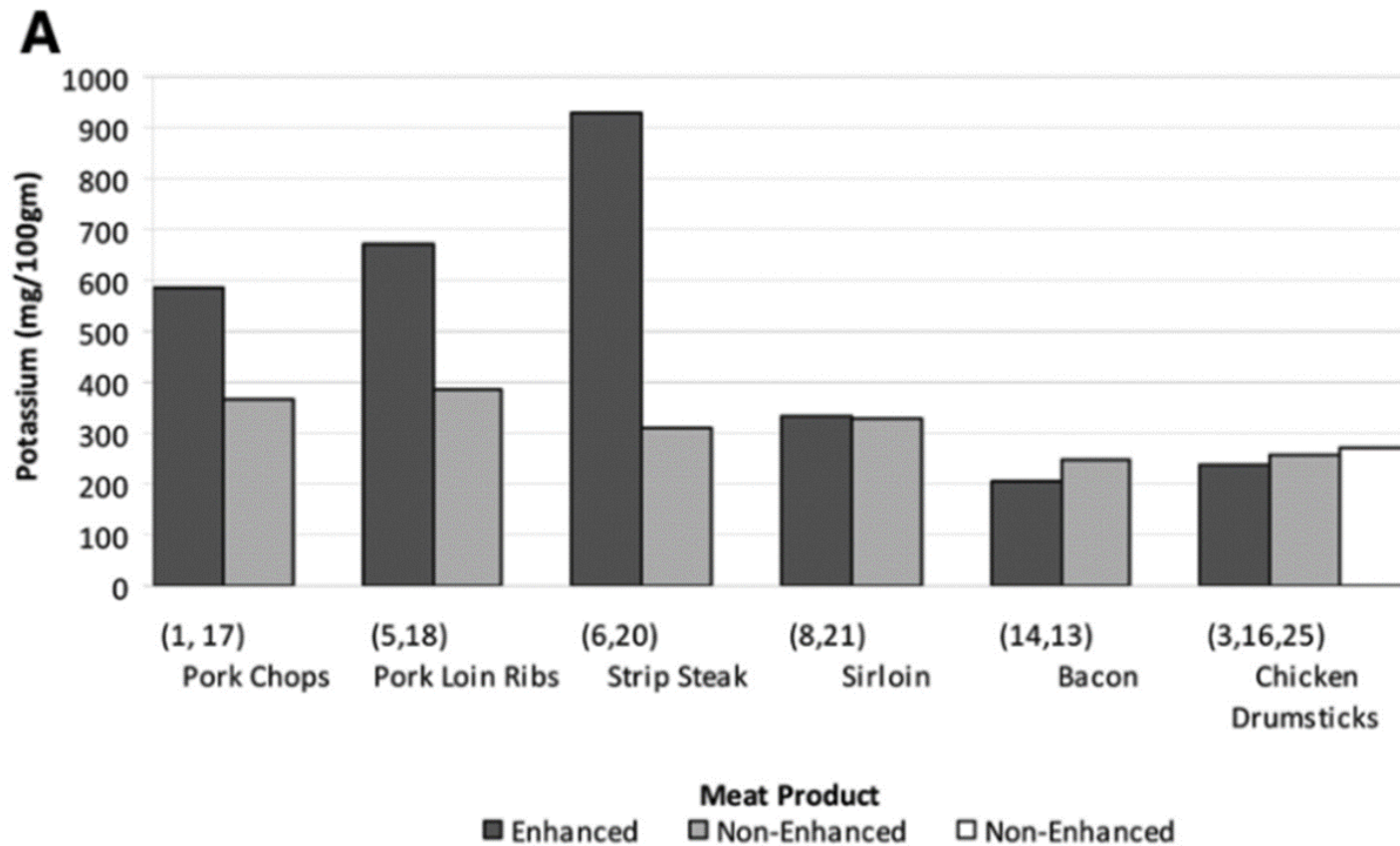


**INGREDIENTS:** CITRIC ACID, POTASSIUM CITRATE, SODIUM CITRATE, ASPARTAME†, MAGNESIUM OXIDE, MALTODEXTRIN, CONTAINS LESS THAN 2% OF NATURAL FLAVOR, ACESULFAME POTASSIUM, SOY LECITHIN, YELLOW 5, ARTIFICIAL COLOR.

Crystal Light label:

<https://www.myfoodandfamily.com/>

# Potassium Food Additives

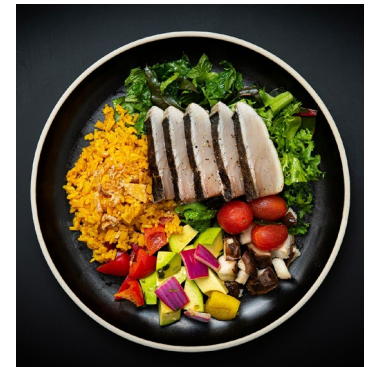
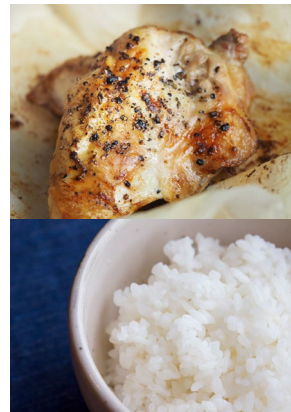
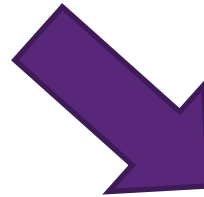


# Summary

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Perhaps more absolute potassium & phosphorus, BUT:

- Higher in protein & lower in alkali
  - Faster CKD progression
- More bioavailable phosphorus
- More difficult to control potassium?
  - Likely potassium additives
  - Lacking benefits for:
    - Constipation (control?)
    - Glucose Control
    - Acidosis
- No benefits for blood pressure
- Impact on gut microbiota?
- More Restrictive
  - Reduced food satisfaction and adherence?



# Need More Research!

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- Large scale intervention trials
- Get more professionals on board & further update guidelines
- Understand actual impact of diet on potassium & phosphorus control
- Adequate protein intake/malnutrition? Especially for dialysis populations
- MUCH more to understand effects of diet and/or probiotics on CKD outcomes
- Is this do-able for patients?

# Questions?

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Thank you!

Melanie Betz

[melanie@thekidneydietitian.org](mailto:melanie@thekidneydietitian.org)

[@the.kidney.dietitian](https://www.instagram.com/the.kidney.dietitian)

[www.thekidneydietitian.org](http://www.thekidneydietitian.org)

# Upcoming Event

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## **Vitamin D in Health and Performance: Evidence, Strategies, and Misinformation**

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 1:00-2:00PM EST

This webinar will explore recent research on the health and performance benefits of Vitamin D, discuss strategies for appropriately assessing Vitamin D status and provide practical solutions for achieving and maintaining optimal vitamin D levels.

**Continuing education credit will be available for this session!**

# Military Family Readiness Academy

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## June 2023



MILITARY FAMILY READINESS  
ACADEMY

The 90s-minute asynchronous course will equip service providers with the skills to discuss, identify, and connect families to resources to reduce the prevalence of food insecurity among military families

**June 7:** This panel discussion will provide service providers with program eligibility information and resources on accessing food security programs.

**June 28:** Facilitators will guide service providers through finding and assessing existing food security programs and partnerships, identifying gaps, making connections with other providers, and leveraging local Extension offices and programs, to create an actionable strategy to improve the food security of military families.

# Continuing Education

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This webinar has been approved for the following continuing education (CE) credits:

- 1.0 CPEU for RDNs and NDTRs
- Certificate of attendance

## Evaluation Link

Go to the event page for the evaluation and post-test link.

[Continuing Education](#)

## Questions?

Email Bethany Daugherty:  
OneOpNutritionWellness@gmail.com



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# Icons to Use Throughout

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