

The Modified Atkins Diet: An Update

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Disclosures



- Consultant for Nutricia North America as Keto Ambassador
- None pose any conflict of interest for this presentation

The opinions reflected in this presentation are those of the speaker and independent of Nutricia North

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Objectives



- Summarize the literature and various types of the Modified Atkins Diet (MAD).
- 2 Determine an appropriate candidate to place on a MAD ketogenic diet.
- Formulate an educational plan to instruct a family on the MAD.
- 4 Review a case study applying new knowledge from the MAD presentation.

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Summary of the literature and various types of the Modified Atkins Diet (MAD).

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Modified Atkins Diet (MAD): Definition



The Modified Atkins Diet can be defined as an "Alternative diet option for the medical ketogenic diet (KD) or novel form of the KD"

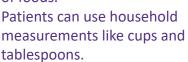


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Similar to the classic KD (CKD) in that it is **high fat/low carbohydrate**.



Less restrictive – does not require weighing of foods.







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First Studies and Results Using MAD



The Modified Atkins Diet (MAD) was created at Johns Hopkins Hospital in 2003



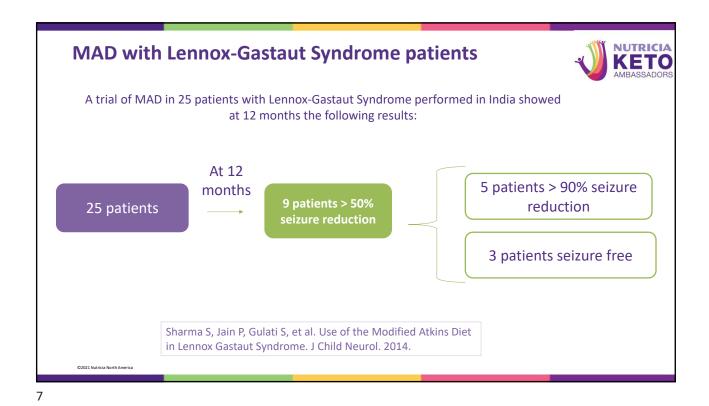
of patients will respond to MAD with greater than 50% seizure reduction

Kossoff EH, Doward JL. The Modified Atkins Diet. Epilepsia 2008; 49 (Suppl 8): 37-41

Some may still need the classical KD to achieve optimal results.

Kossoff EH, Borsarge JL, Miranda MJ, Wiemer-Kruel A, Kang HC, Kim HD. Will seizure control improve by switching from the modified Atkins diet to the traditional ketogenic diet. Epilepsia 1010; 51: 2496-2499

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MAD with Medical Ketogenic Formula 1st month 2nd month MAD diet MAD + 400 kcal ketogenic formula **Protocol** 30 children alone 80% > 50% seizure reduction There was no significant loss of efficacy during the second month after KetoCal was > 90% seizure reduction discontinued The use of this ketogenic supplement increased daily fat intake and thus the ketogenic ratio (1.8:1 versus 1.0:1 in the modified Atkins diet alone, P = 0.000214/30 patients chose to restart formula at the end of the study (2 month Kossoff EH, et al. Prospective study of the modified atkins diet in combination with a ketogenic liquid supplement during the initial month. J Child Neurol. 2011;26:147-51.

Results of MAD with patients 2-14 years old



A randomized trial using MAD in addition to medical treatment versus medical treatment alone described patients aged 2-14 years who had failed 3 AED medications.

% of seizure frequency reduction of > 90%	Patient group
30%	Patients on MAD in addition to medication
7.7%	Patients on medications only

Sharma S, Sankhyan N, Gulati S, et al. Use of the modified Atkins diet for the treatment of refractory childhood epilepsy; a randomized trial. Epilepsia 2013; 54: 481-6

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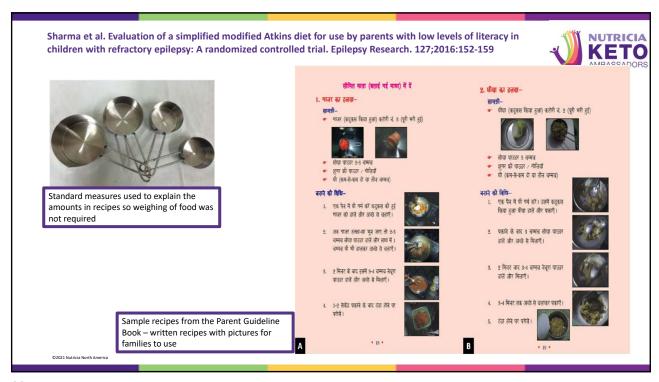
MAD with children 2-14 years old



- Randomized controlled trial in India
- Children age 2 to 14 years, with IE on 2 meds, randomized to simplified modified Atkins diet group or control group
- Primary outcome: reduction in seizures
- Pts with >50 % reduction in seizures
 56.1% diet group and 7.5% control group
- Pts with >90% seizure reduction
 19.5% diet group and 2% control group

Sharma et al. Evaluation of a simplified modified Atkins diet for use by parents with low levels of literacy in children with refractory epilepsy: A randomized controlled trial. Epilepsy Research. 127;2016:152-159

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Modified Ketogenic Diet



- Calculated at 1:1 or 2:1. Can use menus
- · Fat is encouraged
- 1 fat serving = 1 Tbsp. = 14 grams fat
- Protein is counted in servings (1 oz. = 7 grams) and is limited to daily needs based on weight

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Other MAD Diets



- Some institutions count total carbs (vs. Net carbs subtracting fiber)
- Limiting daily counts to 40- 60 grams- Chicago (Robyn Blackford)
- Ease of teaching
- Helps patients avoid the issues of sugar alcohols and "Net Carb" labeling
- Carbs are cut by 10 grams weekly until pt. unable to restrict further or 40-60 grams

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Modified Atkins Using Exchange Lists



- Unlimited protein
- High fat- Encourage fat with suggested servings
 Ex: 1 Tbsp. butter, 2 Tbsp. mayo
- Uses exchange lists for carb control
- List provides portions of foods that contain 1 to 2 net carbs and patients have choice of 1 to 2 servings/meal based on daily carb goals

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Exchange List Example



Oils/Fats

- 1 Tbsp. butter/oil with or used with meals
- 2 Tbsp. low-carb salad dressing/mayo

Protein

- Meat/Poultry/Fish 3 servings of 2-3 oz. minimum (or more if desired)
- Cheese -1 serving = 2 oz.

Carb Exchanges – Choose 2 servings per meal

- Strawberries or raspberries ¼ cup
- Peaches ¼ small
- Carrots raw = ½ medium
- Cooked = ¼ cup steamed
- Squash yellow or zucchini raw = ¾ cup
- Yellow cooked = ½ cup
- Zucchini cooked = ¾ cup

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Appropriate candidate to place on a MAD ketogenic diet.

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Starting the MAD



- Review patient info to determine best diet "fit" and/or physician request
- Dx., Tube-fed, picky eater, thickened liquids
- Literacy level, label reading ability
- Family support system, finances
- Sometimes a family may decide to do CKD

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Examples of patients who might do better on MAD Have difficulty tolerating the restrictiveness of the KD Beneficial for patients who Need quick dietary intervention Limited time/resources for the CKD MAD may help with initiation of the CKD or a bridge to CKD

Choosing the Right Patient

- History of CKD with response and could not maintain strictness
- Older kids that eat out (less social stress)
- Children over 5 that have big appetites
- Families that have carb counting knowledge



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Choosing the Right Patient: situations where MAD may not be beneficial for the patient





- Can be difficult for kids with food texture issues (meats)
- Children 5 and under, suggested better response to the CKD
- Hard for tube feedings
- Sometimes harder for picky eaters.
 Using CKD at a lower ratio is better

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Background Information



- How many seizures per day/week/month is the patient having? What do they look like? How long do they last?
- Any problems with weight (loss or gain?) Any GI issues (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or constipation)?
- Any other medical diagnoses? Note any history of reflux and/or kidney stones
- Medications which ones? Liquid or pill?
- How much do you know about the ketogenic/modified Atkins Diet?

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Diet Initiation



Start with



Nutrition evaluation and diet teaching Initiate in the outpatient setting with start of diet at home

Typically, 1 gram of fat per 1 gram of combined carbohydrate + protein (would probably calculate to a 1:1 to 2:1 ratio)

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Carbohydrates



- Allowed carbohydrate:
 - o 10-15 grams per day for children
 - o 15-20 grams per day for adolescents/adults
- Food portions are estimated no weighing required
- Focuses on limiting carbs and encouraging fats

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What labs should be done baseline? CMP (w/ electrolytes, bicarb, LFT, Albumin) CBC w/ Platelets Fasting Lipid Profile Magnesium, Phosphorus, Selenium, Vitamin D UA (Urinalysis) AEDs (if applicable) Carnitine (free and total) Kossoff, et al. Epilepsia Open. 2018;3:175-92.





Education plan to instruct a family on the MAD

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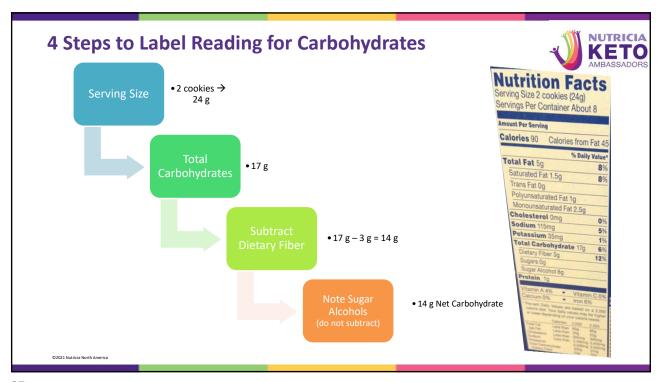
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Diet Instruction



- Explain the ketogenic and modified Atkins diets
 Side effects
 Risks of the diet(s)
- **Encourage** foods the patient is already consuming (based on the 24-hour recall) that will fit with the diet
- Provide handouts carb counter, high fiber vegetables, menus, shopping list
- Review label reading
- Give menu examples using food recall

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Teaching Label Reading



- 1. **Start with frozen veggies and fruits** since they have labels with serving sizes.
- 2. Teach patients to look for higher fat content (75% lean vs 85% lean meats).
- 3. If need be, families can use a scale.

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Sugar Alcohols



- Count towards daily carb goals
- "Net Carbs"

Malitol

Sorbitol

Isomalt

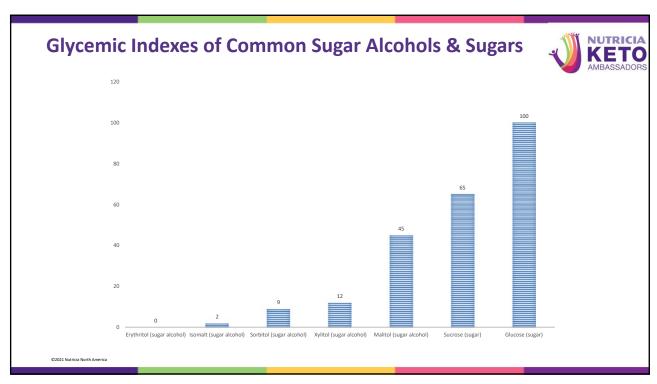
Erythritol

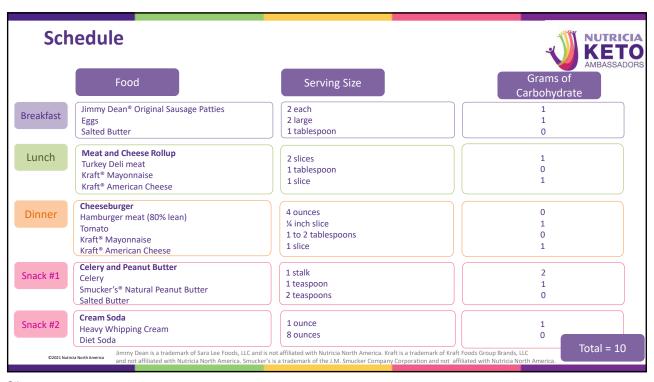
Xylitol

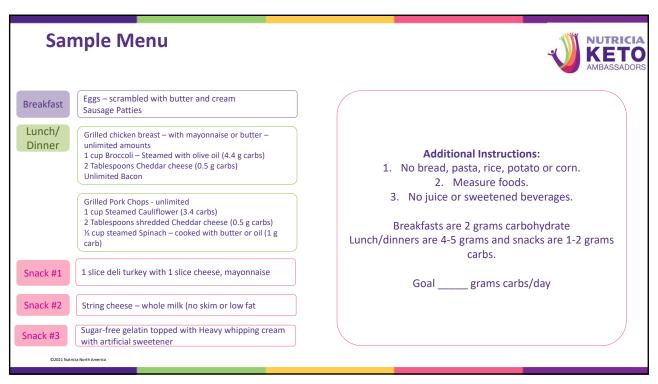
- May be possible to use these in very small amounts

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Resources



Websites

- Atkins® website
 - Carb Counter <u>– http://www.atkins.com/Program/Carb-Counter.aspx</u>
 - Sample Menu's http://www.atkins.com/Recipes.aspx
- www.atkinsforseizures.com
- www.charliefoundation.org
- www.ruled.me/ for recipes/recipe ideas
- www.recipes.sparkpeople.com search fat bombs
- · www.carleyeissmanfoundation.org
- www.ilae.org International League Against Epilepsy
- www.lowcarbmaven.com for recipes/recipe ideas
- <u>www.ibreatheimhungry.com</u> for recipes/recipe ideas
- www.netrition.com for purchase of low carb food
- Pinterest® search low-carb snacks, low-carb meals, ketogenic meals, ketogenic diet

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Resources



Books

- Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution. Atkins R. HarpPeren; 1998.
- Ketogenic Diet Therapies for Epilepsy and Other Conditions, Seventh Edition. Kossoff EH, Turner, Z.; Cervenka, MC.; Henry-Barron, B. NY, NY: Springer Publishing; 2020.

Smartphone Apps

- Calorie King
- Lose it!® (remember fiber needs to be subtracted)
- Carb Manager[®]
- Atkins®

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Ketogenic Formulas



KetoCal® (Nutricia North America)

- 2.5:1 LQ (Vanilla Flavored)
- 3:1 Powder (Unflavored)
- 4:1 Powder (Vanilla Flavored)
- 4:1 LQ (Flavored and Unflavored)

RCF® (Abbott) – Ross Carbohydrate Free Formula

- Soy formula

KetoVie® (Ajinomoto Cambrooke)

- 3:1 (Unflavored)
- 4:1 (Chocolate, vanilla, unflavored)
- 4:1 Peptide

Keto Peptide (Functional Formularies)

- 2.47:1 (Blended formula)

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Modular Products



Lipid

- Microlipid® (Nestlé) safflower oil emulsion at 4.5 kcal/mL
- MCT Oil® (Nestlé) fractionated coconut oil at 7.7 kcal/mL
- Liquigen® (Nutricia) MCT emulsion at 4.5 kcal/mL
- Retail Oils (Olive oil, coconut oil) variable caloric density

Carbohydrate

- Solcarb powder (Solace) carbohydrate powder – maltodextrin - 3.75 kcal/g
- Polycal[™] powder (Nutricia) carbohydrate powder – maltodextrin – 3.84 kcal/g

Protein

- Beneprotein® (Nestlé) whey protein powder –
 6 gm protein in 7 gm powder
- Complete Amino Acid Mix (Nutricia) 100% amino acid powder – 8.2 g protein in 10 g powder

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Fat Bombs



Can be helpful in increasing fat and calorie intake

Peanut Butter Fat Bombs

Makes 30 (0.5 grams carb each/87 calories)

34 cup Coconut oil

½ cup butter

2 Tbsp. Natural Peanut Butter

3 Tbsp. unsweetened Cocoa Powder

2 Tbsp. Sugar free flavored syrup (ex. Chocolate)

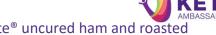
Melt in a saucepan on low. Divide into 30 portions and cool in molds or ice cube trays.

**Note: Total recipe provides 15 g carbohydrate and 2580 kcals. Can be divided by total number of servings made if you make less than 30 servings.

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Shopping Lists – Trader Joe's®



- Butter Lettuce mix
- Living lettuce (for burger/wraps)
- · Great organic spinach bags
- Mini avocados
- Fresh broccoli
- Cauliflower rice
- Hansen's® Diet Ginger Ale or Diet Root Beer
- Low Carb tortillas (4 grams net carb/45 calories)
- Genoa salami and provolone meat and cheese pack

- Applegate® uncured ham and roasted turkey
- Canadian bacon
- Hollandaise sauce
- Organic cauliflower rice (frozen)
- Kerrygold® butter
- Unsweetened vanilla almond milk
- Bacon
- Eggs
- Cheese



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Nutrition Facts

Bacon Cheeseburger

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Hints on Eating Out

Fast Food
 Salad (limit carrots/tomatoes), ranch or Cesar dressing
 Grilled Chicken sandwich with cheese, bacon and ranch
 Hamburger with cheese, no bun, Mayo

Dine-in Restaurants
 Steak with butter, broccoli with butter
 Meat/chicken or pork with green beans
 Grilled chicken Cesar salad with no croutons

- Most fast food and dine in restaurant chains have online nutrition facts.
- Patient should pick 2 meal options before they go out to eat

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Sample letter



____ is on a form of the ketogenic diet called the Modified Atkins Diet. This is a very low sugar/carbohydrate diet that can help reduce/control seizures and other symptoms. A dietitian and physician at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital monitor the diet.

Since the diet is a medical therapy, we are asking you to help _____ stay on the diet. All of his meals/snacks will be sent from home. The diet is very strict and does not include many types of foods, especially sweets/high carbohydrate foods. This includes NO soda, cakes, cookies, juices and candy. His total daily intake for carbohydrates is closely monitored.

Please do not feed ____ any of these items and only give him items sent in from his parents. Something as innocent as a tase of frosting or candy can result in a medical problem.

If _____ does receive something not allowed on the diet, please inform his parents.

Thank you for your help with this special situation. If any additional questions arise, please contact me at (727) 767-2106.

Sincerely,

Stacey K. Bessone, RD, LD/N Ketogenic Dietitian Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Cc: MD name

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Monitoring



- Urine Ketones
 - Test after 3 days on diet
 - Test 2 times/week or additional as needed





Weights: Weekly

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Carbohydrate Tracking Log



- Important to keep track of carbohydrate intake to determine effectiveness of diet
- Keep track of:
 - o Time food consumed
 - o Meal consumed
 - o Total carbohydrate intake
 - o Beverages consumed (in ounces/day)
- Use this in addition to seizure tracking log

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Seizure Tracking Log Seizure Description: B: C: D: Tuesday Wednesday Weight: Ketones: Carbs: Carbs: Carbs: Carbs: Carbs: Carbs: Hrs Sleep Ketones Date: Date: Date: Date: Date: Date: Weight: Date: Ketones: Hrs Sleep Ketones: Date: Date: Date: Date: Date: Date: Date: Weight: Ketones: Carbs: Hrs Sleep Ketones Date: Date: Date: Date: Date: Date: Date: Weight: Ketones: Carbs: Hrs Sleep Carbs: Hrs Sleep Carbs: Carbs: Carbs: Carbs: Carbs: Hrs Sleep Hrs Sleep Hrs Sleep Ketones:

Medications



- Take all medications as prescribed
- Review all medication formulations. Can something be tolerated as a tablet? Is a liquid med excessive in carbs?
- Review recommendation that any additional medication added during diet therapy should be tablet or lowest carb formulation. Example: antibiotics, OTC

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Follow Up



- Follow-up appointment → 1 month after diet initiation
- Most common follow-up issue: incorporating more fat for better ketosis
- Email can make it easier to provide recipes or other handouts
- School letter

 Facilitates compliance with diet at school/childcare.
 Typically, food is provided from home

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Additional Information



Patients and families go through 3 phases of initiating the Modified Atkins Diet:

- 1) Elimination of carbohydrate from the diet.
- 2) Incorporation of increased amounts of fat.
- 3) Fine tuning.

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Troubleshooting



- Provide menus if meal planning is difficult
- Address eating out
- Re-enforce limiting protein intake if necessary
- If strict menus needed, consider 1:1 or 2:1 ratio (or modified ketogenic diet) and recipes from a ketogenic recipe source.
- Consider adding MCT oil

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Discontinuing MAD in Children



- Can increase carbs by 5 grams/day weekly
- Contact Neuro/RD if seizures increase
- Start making substitutions of protein for fat For example more chicken and less mayo
- After several weeks begin switching to regular meals 1 meal at a time (example carb-controlled breakfast and lunch, and regular dinner)

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Review a case study applying new knowledge from the MAD presentation.

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Case Study 1



- 4-year-old male
- Dx: Intractable epilepsy, Doose Syndrome failed 3 medications
- No feeding difficulties eats by mouth
- Average weight
- Social:
 - o Shy, Timid
 - o 1 older brother
 - o Mom nervous to do CKD

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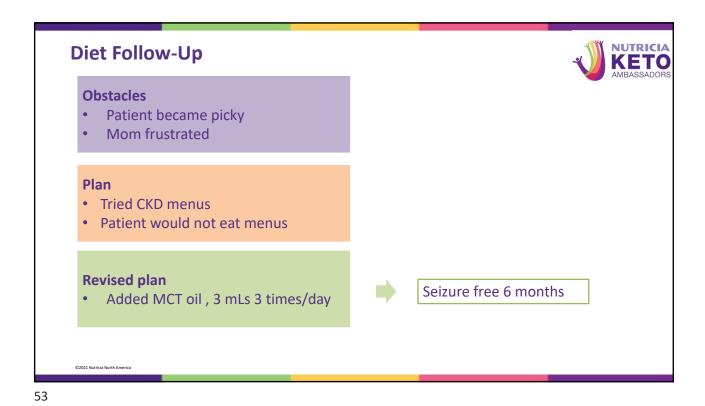
Diet Prescription



- Modified Atkins Diet 10g carbohydrate/day
- Feeding Schedule:
 - -4 meals daily (or divided as desired)
 - oMeal times can be adjusted pending schedule
 - o Encourage higher intake of fats and high-fiber vegetables (less sugar)
 - -Fluids minimum 46 oz. fluid daily
 - –Flintstones™ Complete, Calcium Carbonate powder, Vitamin D Drops, ½ brazil nut

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Case Study 2



- 3-year-old F, Lives in Ukraine, No access to center with CKD therapy
- Dx: Congenital Brain malformation, Sz failed 4 medications
- No feeding difficulties except must be pureed eats and drinks by mouth
- Developmentally delayed
- Underweight
- Social:
 - o Lives with Mom
 - o Good access to food

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Diet Prescription



- Modified Atkins Diet 12g carbohydrate/day
- Feeding Schedule:
 - -3 meals daily (or divided as desired)
 - -Meals consist of:
 - **OUnlimited Protein**
 - oHigher fat intake (suggested servings)
 - o2 portions of carb/meal (each portion for exchange list is 2 grams = 4 grams/meal
 - -Fluids minimum 43 fl. oz. fluid daily
 - -Multivitamin/mineral, Calcium/Vit D

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Food List



Unlimited Foods

Oils (olive, canola, coconut, vegetable, others)
Butter (regular butter – salted or unsalted)

Mayonnaise

Cheese (all except store-bought shredded)

Meat

Poultry/Pork

Fish/Seafood

Eggs – up to 4/day

Beverages

Water

Unsweetened tea (or sweetened with Stevia leaf extract)

Almond milk, unsweetened -2 cups = 1 carb serving

Carbs - Choose 2 servings/meal - 3 times/day

Plums - ¾ medium or ½ small

Strawberries – ¼ cup sliced

Raspberries – ¾ cup

Peaches – ¼ small

Banana – ¼ small (counts as both servings)

Salad – lettuces – Romaine, Bibb – 2 cups, Iceburg – 34 cup, mixed greens (Mesclun) 1 cup

Tomatoes – 1 small or 5 cherry

Cucumber − ½ cup sliced

Spinach − raw − 4 cups, cooked − 1 ½ cups

Carrots − raw − ½ medium, cooked − ¼ cup steamed

Squash – yellow or zucchini – raw – ¾ cup, cooked – yellow – ½ cup, zucchini – ¾ cup

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Summary



- MAD can be very effective for patients with IE, especially those that would do better on a less strict form of the diet
- MAD can be taught in several formats to increase effectiveness and compliance
- Handouts and shopping lists can be helpful to start patients on the diet

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Questions?





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