

# NON-DIABETIC HYPERGLYCAEMIA

## ACTION PACK



Thank you for picking up your non-diabetic hyperglycaemia (pre-diabetes) action pack.

This Pack includes the following leaflets for your information:

1. Non-diabetic hyperglycaemia information leaflet
2. How can I reduce my risk of Type 2 Diabetes
3. Moving more to reduce your risk of Type 2 Diabetes
4. Reduce your risk of Type 2 Diabetes by eating better.
5. Understanding food labels.
6. BMI calculation chart to work out your Body Mass Index

We hope you find this action pack helpful.

As mentioned in our non-diabetic hyperglycaemia information leaflet, we would also welcome you to make an appointment with a GP if you wish to discuss your risk factors and lifestyle changes further.

We also recommend that you have an **ANNUAL BLOOD TEST** to monitor your sugar levels.

Kind Regards

The team at Tamworth House Medical Centre



---

## WHAT IS NON-DIABETIC HYPERGLYCAEMIA?

Dear Patient,

**You have been identified as at risk of developing diabetes.** This may be a recent blood test or one you had a while ago. There have been some new guidelines about diabetes risk and we are contacting all of our patients who are affected by these changes.

### REASON

- Your blood tests indicated that your **blood glucose level is raised** and either your fasting blood glucose or Hba1c levels are a little higher than they should be.
- This is a **non-diabetic hyperglycaemia level**. The box below shows you where your readings lie compared with normal glucose readings and diabetic glucose readings.

<i>Test</i>	<i>Normal</i>	<i>Non-diabetic hyperglycaemia</i>	<i>Diabetes</i>
Fasting Glucose (mmol/L)	<5.5	5.5-6.9	≥ 7.0
Hba1c (mmol/mol)	<42	42-47	≥ 48

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

You have **non-diabetic hyperglycaemia** (sometimes also called pre-diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance or impaired fasting glycaemia) which means your blood glucose is raised beyond the normal range but it is not so high that you have diabetes. However, you are at risk of developing type 2 diabetes. You are also at risk of developing cardiovascular disease (heart disease, peripheral vascular disease and stroke).

### **What are the symptoms?**

Usually there are no symptoms at all and this is picked up on routine blood tests. It is not an illness itself and you do NOT have diabetes, but it is a **risk factor**.

## **What is type 2 diabetes?**

This is a condition where the amount of sugar (or glucose) circulating in the blood stream is too high, because the body can't use it properly. This may be because you are not producing enough of the hormone *insulin*, or because your cells are resistant to the actions of insulin; often it is a combination of the two. This can affect every part of the body and can cause particular problems with the heart, eyes, kidneys, nerves and feet. Unfortunately, once the disease is well established some complications are irreversible, so catching it early is the key.

## **WHY ME?**

We don't always know why some people develop diabetes, but there are a number of risk factors, the commonest of which are obesity, physical inactivity, having high blood pressure or a history of heart disease or stroke. People of South Asian, Black African, African Caribbean backgrounds and those with a family history of diabetes are also at increased risk.

## **WHAT CAN I DO?**

The good news is that if non-diabetic hyperglycaemia is treated it can help to **prevent the development of diabetes** and cardiovascular disease. The most effective treatment is **LIFESTYLE CHANGES**:

- **PHYSICAL EXERCISE**- 30 minutes of raising your heart rate, 5 times a week- this can be broken up over the course of the day e.g. two 15 minute jogs
- **LOSING WEIGHT** -if you are overweight
- **DIETARY CHANGES**- more fibre and less fat

**THIS IS YOUR OPORTUNITY TO MAKE A CHANGE AND STOP DIABETES**

**HOW CAN THE PRACTICE HELP?**

1. We are offering all of our patients with non-diabetic hyperglycaemia an **ACTION INFORMATION PACK**. Which you have collected.
2. You can make an appointment for a **GP REVIEW** to discuss the result, identify any other risk factors and put together a personalised action plan for you.
3. **MONITORING**-we recommend a repeat fasting blood glucose and Hba1c blood test at least once a year to monitor your glucose
4. There are some useful **websites** with more information about diabetes and pre-diabetes:  
[www.diabetes.org.uk](http://www.diabetes.org.uk), [www.diabetes.co.uk](http://www.diabetes.co.uk).

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment if you have any questions or wish to discuss matters further.

Yours Sincerely,

The team at Tamworth House Medical Centre



## **HOW CAN I REDUCE MY RISK OF TYPE 2 DIABETES?**

---

**You've just found out that you're at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes. But you don't have it yet.**

That's the really good news. It means that you now have the chance to make changes that can delay or prevent Type 2 diabetes.

More than half of all cases of Type 2 diabetes could be prevented or delayed.

Take action now and it will make all the difference to your health in the years ahead.

### **Where to start?**

You can reduce your risk of developing Type 2 diabetes by:

- eating well
- moving more
- losing weight, if you're overweight.

Simple, right? We know it's not that simple and we're here to help you get started. Most people know they need to make changes, but what can be difficult is knowing how to do it – especially long-lasting changes.

Remember, if you enjoy something, you're more likely to stick to it.

Here are some tips to get you inspired:

- Don't forget, you're not alone in this - there's lots of support out there to help you.
- Set goals which are realistic and work for you.
- Change one thing at a time and make the changes part of your everyday.

"I've always felt diabetes was inevitable for me and I'm learning that I have a say in this by the lifestyle choices I make. My goal is to fundraise and help Diabetes UK help others realise the same, so I started by taking part in Swim22."

Tracy, who has a family history of Type 2 diabetes

### **Get support**

Make the most of all the support and services available in your area. Ask your GP about:

- a weight-loss programme or group
- a registered dietitian or exercise specialist
- a Type 2 diabetes prevention programme
- other local services to help you move more and eat better.

It can also help to talk to family and friends – ask them to get involved too. It will help if they understand what you're doing and why it's so important. Plus, eating better and moving more is good for everyone, so you can do this together.

## **MOVING MORE TO REDUCE YOUR RISK OF TYPE 2 DIABETES**

---

**Spending less time sitting down and more time being active is key to preventing Type 2 diabetes.**

It could be an activity class, a sport, or it could be getting up from your seat and doing more around the house. Even moving a little more makes a big difference.

Moving more each day will help you lose weight and help to maintain a healthy weight. This is so important as being overweight is a key risk factor for Type 2 diabetes.

Moving more will also help you to:

- reduce your waist size
- reduce blood pressure
- manage stress and help you sleep.

### **How much activity?**

You should aim to do 30 minutes of moderate activity, five days a week. Or 15 minutes of vigorous activity five days a week.

- Moderate activity means your breathing is increased, but you're still able to talk. It's things like walking quickly, cycling on flat ground or a leisurely swim.
- Vigorous activity means your breathing is fast and you have difficulty talking. It's things like running, cycling fast or up hills, or fast swimming.

You should also try to fit in activities that improve your muscle strength two or more days a week. That's things like heavy gardening, carrying the shopping or a bit of yoga.

We know this can be a big challenge. So break the time into smaller chunks and build up to this amount. Walking can be a great way to start and it's something you can build into your everyday routine – it's also free.

Think about taking the stairs instead of the lift, get off the bus a stop earlier, or join a walking group.

## **GET UP AND MOVE**

**Here are some exercises you can do to get active:**

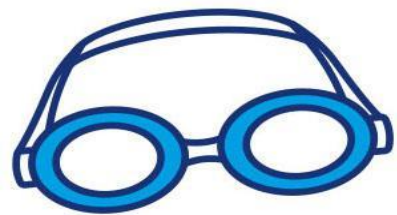
### **Get active with moderate exercises**



**Walk**



**Cycle**



**Swim**



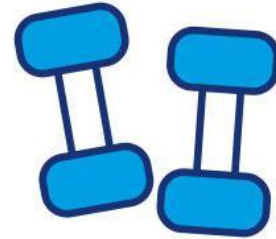
## Get active with vigorous exercise



Run

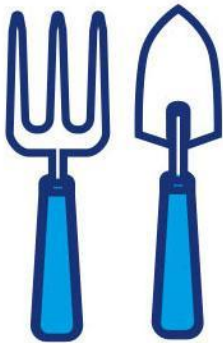


Sport

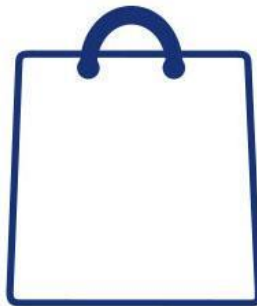


Fitness classes

## Improve muscle strength



Heavy gardening



Carrying groceries



Yoga

## **Where to start?**

Being more active often conjures up images of gym memberships, long-distance runs and intense aerobics. But the great news is that you can become more active by making small changes to your lifestyle – you can fit it around your daily life, in your budget. Follow our three top tips to help make your life more active:

### **1. Set clear goals to move more**

Setting goals can help you break down what you need to do and how to do it. Keep an activity diary to see how active you are at the moment and use it to gradually increase your activity levels. Our action plan can help you set some goals.

### **2. Plan ahead**

We all have busy lives, so try to plan what activity you're going to do this week and fit it around your social life. You could fit something in during your lunch hour or go for a walk to catch up with friends.

It's a good idea to think about anything that might stop you from doing what you've planned, like bad weather, and having plan B ready just in case.

### **3. Start by making small changes**

It's time to put your plan into action. Start small and do something you enjoy. Doing just a little bit more each day will still make a difference. It also means you're more likely to stick to it and the change won't be such a shock to your daily routine.

Each healthy choice you make is helping you to achieve your goal. If you find it hard, don't give up – start again tomorrow.

## **Get support**

You're not alone in this. Ask at your GP surgery about local services to help you move more. Here are some handy tools to help you get moving:

- Get running in no time with the Couch to 5K app.
- Up your game with this 12 week fitness plan.
- Don't have much time? Even 10 minutes of brisk walking can make a big difference to your health – get started with Active 10.

Getting active with others can often give you that extra bit of motivation you need. Whether that's friends and family, or a local walking group. You could even sign up to one of Diabetes UK fundraising events together, like Swim22 or take on Diabetes UK 1 million Step Challenge.

## **REDUCE YOUR RISK OF TYPE 2 DIABETES BY EATING BETTER**

---

It isn't always easy to get portion sizes right, and it can make managing your weight and blood glucose levels more difficult. It's good to stay clued up on carb portion sizes. We've created a guide with some tips and tricks to help you along the way.

### **Getting your portion sizes right**

Using everyday items and household utensils to get your portion sizes right can be really useful. It's an easy way to visualise what a portion should look like.

We've produced portion-size guides for popular foods from the five food groups that help to make up a healthy, balanced diet.

Remember, everybody's needs are different so the number of portion sizes you need is individual – and your weight, gender, body composition and activity levels all make a difference. Your dietitian will be able to advise you on the amount of portions that are right for you.

### **Starchy food**

Includes rice, pasta, bread and chapattis for energy. Choose wholegrain where possible. One portion is:

- Cooked rice = 2 heaped tablespoons
- Half a jacket potato = 1 computer mouse
- Breakfast cereal = 3 tablespoons
- Boiled pasta or cooked noodles = 3 heaped tablespoons

### **Dairy food**

Includes milk, cheese and yoghurt for calcium, which is essential for strong bones and teeth. One portion is:

- Semi or skimmed milk = one medium glass (200ml or 1/3 pint)
- Hard cheese = small matchbox (30g)
- Reduced or low-fat cream cheese = two small matchboxes (60g)
- Low-sugar, low-fat fromage frais/yoghurt = 125g pot

### **Meat, fish, eggs, pulses, beans and nuts**

These foods are high in protein, essential to build and replace muscle. One portion is:

- Cooked lean meat (eg chicken, beef or pork) = deck of playing cards (60–90g)
- Beans and pulses (eg red kidney beans, butter beans, chickpeas or lentils) = 4 tablespoons
- Nuts or peanut butter (unsalted) = golf ball (2 level tablespoons)
- Quorn, tofu or soya = snooker ball (120g)

### **Fruit**

Provides you with important vitamins, minerals and fibre that help protect you against stroke, high blood pressure, heart disease and certain cancers. Part of your five-a-day plan. One portion is:

- One handful of grapes
- One small glass (150ml) of fruit juice (limit to one portion a day)
- Two small satsumas, clementines or tangerines
- Two medium plums
- Two tinned pineapple rings or 12 chunks in natural juice
- One heaped tbsp raisins, sultanas, currants or dried cranberries
- Seven strawberries

### **Vegetables**

An important source of fibre, minerals and vitamins, and an important part of any five-a-day plan. One portion is:

- Three heaped tablespoons cooked veg (eg carrots, peas, sweetcorn, mixed veg)
- One medium onion
- One large sweet potato
- Two broccoli spears
- One heaped tablespoon tomato purée
- One piece of cucumber (5cm)
- Four large mushrooms or 14 button mushrooms
- Three heaped tablespoons beans or pulses (eg kidney beans, chickpeas or lentils)

### **Foods high in fat and sugar**

You can enjoy foods from this group as an occasional treat, but they will add extra calories so it's best to keep them to a minimum, especially if you are trying to lose weight. One portion is:

- Butter/margarine = one dice (5g)
- Low fat spread = two dice (10g)
- Unsaturated oil (eg sunflower, rapeseed, olive oil) = 1 teaspoon
- Chocolate = one fun size bar

### **Top tips for managing portion sizes**

- Use smaller plates and bowls to help make your portion sizes look bigger.
- Weigh food if you find it hard to gauge portion sizes. Foods like muesli, pasta and rice can be difficult to get right at first, so try using the same container to measure out certain foods.
- Be mindful of what you're eating. It takes about 20 minutes before your brain registers that you're full, so eat slowly, putting your knife and fork down in between mouthfuls.

## Healthy food swaps

---



Many hands make light work – that's certainly true when preparing food.

Cooking and eating together as a family does more than help you eat a healthy, balanced diet. It also helps you learn cookery skills that last a lifetime, whilst having fun with food.

You can always make what you eat that little bit healthier without losing out on flavour. Try some healthy swaps for meals, snacks and occasions and you'll notice the difference.

A healthy, satisfying breakfast can make a big difference. But some traditional breakfast foods are packed with sugar and fats. We've come up with some simple swaps so you can take charge of your diabetes and ensure you start your day the right way.



# Breakfast



## Cereal switches

Although the packaging may make some cereals - like granola and cereal clusters - appear healthy, they are often full of sugar and fat. Instead, why not switch to porridge? Porridge oats or the instant variety are both fine - just avoid those with added sugar, honey, golden syrup or cocoa powder. Wheat biscuits, shredded wheat or muesli (with no added sugar) are also great alternatives. For sweetness, add chopped fruit.

Yogurt can be a tasty alternative to cereal, but many low-fat yogurts are high in sugar. So why not try making your own flavoured yogurt? Buy low-fat plain, Greek natural yogurt, or fromage frais. You can add fresh fruit and a few nuts, or seeds for some extra flavour.

## Quick breakfast tips:

- Switch from white toast to wholegrain versions like seeded batch bread, multi-seed, granary, soya and linseed. These are better for your diabetes and digestive health. They're more filling, too.
- If you're making rotis and chapattis, use wholewheat flour.
- Instead of jam, try pure spreader, mashed banana. Other healthy choices are low-fat cheese, cottage cheese with a couple of fresh chopped dates, or almond butter and chopped banana
- Try to keep croissants, pastries and muffins as an occasional treat. Even skinny muffins are high in sugar and fat.
- Use as little oil as possible when cooking. Cook with unsaturated vegetable oils, such as sunflower, olive or rapeseed, instead of butter or ghee.



- Add extra fruit and veg to bump up your fibre intake wherever you can. Add half a banana to your cereal, or grilled tomatoes to a fried breakfast.
- Choose roasted mudhi or chuda (puffed rice) with vegetables, instead of chudha upma with oil.
- Try dry roasted methi paratha instead of aloo paratha.
- Try rice, besan or oat cheela with dry fried vegetables.



## **Savoury breakfasts**

If you prefer a savoury breakfast, grilling instead of frying bacon and sausages cuts down on calories and fat. Try and avoid red meat and instead use oily fish such as heart-protecting salmon or kippers. They're delicious served with scrambled egg, grilled tomatoes, mushrooms and wholegrain toast.

You could also try topping wholegrain toast with scrambled egg or egg bhurji, avocado, cottage cheese with edamame beans and tomatoes, or grilled tomatoes and mushrooms.

# Lunch



With a little planning you can look forward to your packed lunches and enjoy a tasty, nutritious meal rather than a dried out sandwich. By choosing something from the four main food groups at each meal you can be sure your meals are healthy and well balanced.

- starchy carbs (bread, pasta, rice, potatoes)
- fruit and veg
- protein-containing food (lean meat, fish, eggs and beans)
- milk and dairy food (low-fat yogurts).

## **Lunches on the go**

Whether you take your lunch to work or eat on the go, here are some top swaps and ideas for healthy, balanced lunches.

- Swap a canned drink for a diet version and save around six tsp sugar.
- Cut back on fat by choosing baked crisps as a healthier alternative to fried.
- Choose a two-finger chocolate wafer biscuit, rather than a standard chocolate bar, and save on both fat and calories.
- Try a ham salad sandwich instead of a club sandwich to save 135Kcal and 16g of fat. Make your own and cut out even more fat by using less spread.
- Open sandwiches reduce calories and fat by using half the amount of bread.
- Pop a variety of breads in the freezer so you can vary your lunchtime meals. Bulk out wraps, bagels and sandwiches with salad veg. To add crunch, add a few chopped nuts or seeds.

- Pack a few bread sticks, carrot batons, sticks of cucumber, peppers and reduced-fat hummus for a tasty snack. That way you won't be tempted to reach for the office biscuits.
- Fruit is always a good idea for desserts. Try different types to add variety to your lunch. Bring in a few and keep on your desk to help you meet your five a day.
- As an occasional treat malt loaf, a slice of fruit loaf, scone or teacake could be enjoyed particularly if you know you will be active and do not need to lose weight. These are healthier options compared to chocolate, biscuits and sweets. However if you want to lose weight take into account the extra calories they contain and adjust your diet during the rest of your day accordingly.

## **South Asian ideas**

Try these simple swaps for a healthier lunch.

- Choose brown basmati rice instead of pilau or fried rice.
- Stir-fry vegetables instead of cooking them in an oily curry.
- Whichever type of dhal or beans you cook, it's healthier if you cook them in a little bit of oil that's high in unsaturated fat – such as olive, sunflower or rapeseed oil – instead of cooking it in a lot of oil or ghee.
- Make khichdi with less rice and more mung – and add as little oil or ghee as possible.
- Measure out small amounts of oils high in unsaturated fat instead of ghee when making dough for rotis or leave out the fat altogether. Olive, sunflower and rapeseed oils are good choices.
- Use a vegetable-based spread on top of rotis instead of butter or ghee, and try spreading it on alternate ones only to cut back on the amount of fat you use.
- Keep butter off the table, so you're not tempted to add extra fat to daals, subjis, chapattis or parathas.

# Snacks



Everyone needs a snack in between meals occasionally – but, if you have diabetes, you’ll want something small that will satisfy your hunger, is low in fat and sugar, and will not have a big effect on your blood glucose level.

If you’re bored with the same old snacks, here are some quick and easy ideas you can put together from ingredients you have at home or can buy easily. They also don’t need any cooking.

We’ve divided them into snacks under 10g carbs and those containing 50, 100 and 150 calories.

If you’re trying to lose weight, opt for the snacks with the least amount of calories.

## **Snack guidance**

We don’t recommend snacks labelled ‘diabetic’, which tend to be expensive and don’t offer you any special health benefits. The key is to plan your favourite snacks so they fit into your overall diet and watch your portion sizes.

Swapping is an easy way to eat better while still enjoying the foods you like. Here's a few ideas to try to get you started.

---

### Savoury

Instead of  
crisps



try  
plain popcorn  
with added spices  
or cinnamon



Instead of  
bread and dips



try  
carrots and celery  
with salsa or low-  
fat hummus



### Sweet

Instead of  
milk chocolate



try  
dark chocolate  
rice cakes



Instead of  
ice cream



try  
frozen banana  
or frozen low-  
fat yogurt



**Drinks**

Instead of  
fizzy sugary drinks



try  
water flavoured  
with mint or  
fresh fruit



## Snacks under 50 calories

- 1 small apple: 38 calories
- 2 satsumas: 50 calories
- 4 heaped tbsp blueberries: 44 calories
- 1 handful of grapes: 45 calories
- 1 kiwi fruit: 42 calories
- 1 peach: 30 calories
- 3 rings pineapple: 50 calories
- 1 light cheese triangle (25 calories) and 8 cherry tomatoes (24 calories): 49 calories
- 30g ready-to-eat partially rehydrated prunes: 48 calories
- 1 rice cake (27 calories) and 1 teaspoon (10g) pure fruit spread (22 calories): 49 calories
- 1 x 14g mini box of raisins: 45 calories
- 1 lighter cheese slice (34 calories) with ¼ cucumber (11 calories): 45 calories
- 1 x 115g pot sugar-free jelly: 8 calories

## **Snacks under 100 calories**

- 4 bread sticks: 92 calories
- 80g defrosted frozen cherries (38 calories) with 50g 0% fat Greek-style yogurt (55 calories) whizzed together with ice: 93 calories
- 10 almonds: 69 calories
- 100g carrot batons (42 calories), ¼ cucumber (11 calories) and 50g (¼ pot of 200g pot) salsa (27 calories): 80 calories
- Half a pot (300g) of shop-bought fresh tomato soup: 93 calories

---

## **Snacks under 150 calories**

- 1 tsp (15g) almond butter (97 calories) spread onto slices of a chopped apple (50 calories): 147 calories
- 100g 0% fat Greek-style yogurt (57 calories) plus 100g blueberries (68 calories): 125 calories
- 4 small (9g) crispbreads (108 calories) and 60g 0% fat cottage cheese (39 calories) and): 147 calories
- 25g toasted seed mix: 132 calories
- 1 (25g) slice Edam cheese (78 calories) and 1 apple (50 calories): 128 calories
- 2 small crispbreads (78 calories) and 1 x (30g) slice chicken breast (38 calories): 116 calories
- 25g raisin, nut, goji berry and seed mix: 124 calories
- 2 rice cakes (54 calories) and ¼ pot (50g) tzatziki dip (61 calories): 115 calories

## Understanding food labels

---



If you buy pre-packed foods and drinks, deciphering the information on the labels can help you make healthier choices that will help you and your family to eat well.

Labels on foods and drinks give essential information, such as:

- the ingredients
- the nutrients (such as fats, calories, fibre)
- how much they contribute to what an average adult needs each day.

### On the back

Information on the back of a pack is compulsory and gives details about the ingredients, nutritional composition, known allergens, 'best before' or 'use-by' dates and the weight of the product. The ingredients are listed in order, starting with the highest-quantity ingredient first, down to the lowest- quantity ingredient last. So, if you find sugar at the top of the list, the food is likely to be high in sugar.

### On the front

The traffic light system for 'front of pack' labeling, while still voluntary, has been around for a while now and is an easy way to check at a glance how healthy a food is. The labels show



how many calories are in the food or drink and are also colour coded to show whether the food is low (green), medium (amber) or high (red) in fat, saturated fat, sugar and salt. The information on the front of the pack also tells you how the portion of the food contributes to the Reference Intake (RI) of an adult. Try to choose foods with more greens and ambers and fewer reds. And, if the traffic lights aren't available, check the 'per 100g' column on the 'back of pack' nutritional label.

Note: portion size criteria apply to portions/serving sizes greater than 100g

This table shows the cut-offs for what is considered as low (green), medium (amber) and high (red). Whether a food is green, amber or red is decided by the amount of fats, sugars or salt in 100g of the food. If the portion of the food is bigger than 100g, then the per portion cut-offs for high (red) are used. The per portion criteria does not apply to the green and amber colour codings. The table only applies to solid foods because liquids have lower cut-offs.

## **Why aren't carbs included on the 'front of pack' label?**

The 'front of pack' labelling is voluntary and only an addition to the 'back of pack' labelling, which is mandatory. Diabetes UK and other organisations campaigned for supermarkets and food manufacturers to have clear consistent information on the front of pre-packaged food. The objective of this campaign was to make it easier for people to make informed choices based on how healthy a particular food is.

The information included in the 'front of pack' labelling is meant to help people, at a glance, quickly decide which foods are healthier based on the amounts of fats, sugars and salt. These nutrients are colour coded based on EU set criteria for low, medium and high amounts. Carbohydrates are not included in the 'front of pack' information partly because there is no set criteria for determining what the amount of low, medium or high carb is in a particular food.

The 'back of pack' labelling provides detailed information on other nutrients including carbohydrates. These are expressed in per 100g so that people can easily compare two similar products. In addition to the per 100g info, many products also provide nutrient

contents in per portions so this can be useful for people who want to know the amount of carb they are eating.

## **Portion size**

A manufacturer's definition of a portion or serving size may be different from yours. In general, the portion sizes given are suitable for adults over the age of 18. Younger children and teenagers may need different amounts. Even with healthier choices, if you eat large portions you may end up consuming more calories, fats and sugars than you need. How much you eat of any food influences your nutrient and calorie intake, so think about the portion size when you're buying food and don't always eat the amount the manufacturer recommends if you think you need less.

## **What else?**

Many of the claims made on food packaging, such as fat free or low fat, can be confusing. Here's the difference:

- Fat free: has to have no fat, but check the ingredients list for added sugar, which are often used to replace the fat.
- Sugar free: check the ingredients list for fats which may replace the sugar.
- Low fat: the product has 3g or less of fat per 100g.
- Low sugar: has less than 5g of sugar per 100g.
- No added sugar: although no sugar is added, there may be naturally occurring sugar in the food.
- Reduced fat or sugar: contains at least 30 per cent less fat or sugar than the standard version of the product. This doesn't necessarily mean it's healthy and in some cases the lite version of, say, crisps, can contain the same amount of calories and fat as the standard version of another brand.

## **And if there's no nutritional info?**

Not everything you buy will have nutritional information, but that doesn't mean the rest of the pack doesn't give you clues to help you make a healthier choice. It's important to check

the ingredients list or back of pack label so you can compare two products like for like per 100g.

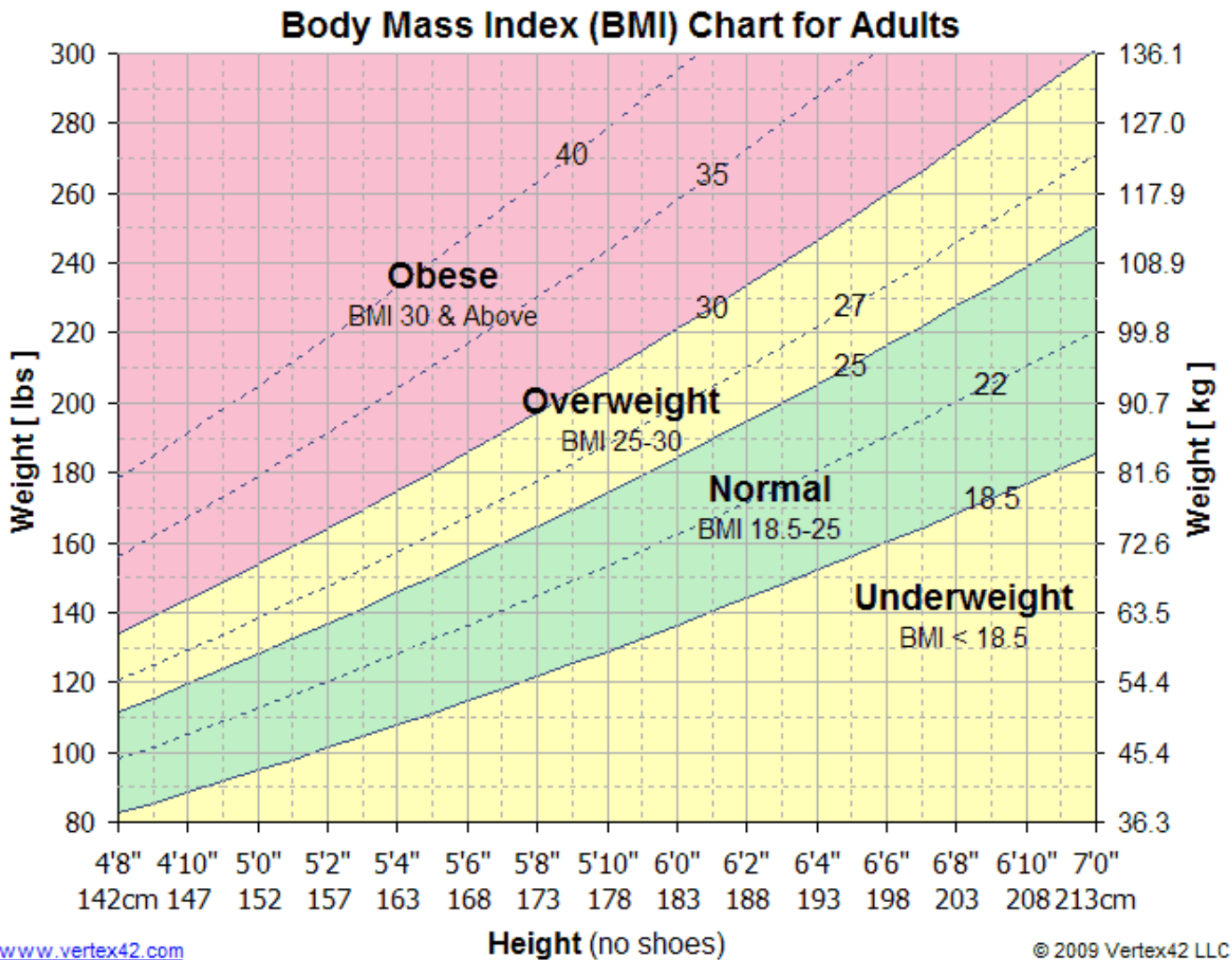
## **6 ways to be label savvy**

Follow these tips to become expert at deciphering labels in minutes:

1. With traffic light labels, go for green, occasionally amber, and red only as a treat.
2. Reference intake (RI) percentages are given per portion, and indicate how much the portion contributes to the amount of calories, fat, sugars and salt an average adult should have each day. Check how much of the pack counts as a portion to avoid consuming more calories, fat and sugar than you need.
3. All carbohydrates raise blood glucose levels. Labels on the front don't include the amount of carbs, so check the label on the pack for the total carbohydrate, which includes carbohydrates from starchy food as well as sugars.
4. The figures for sugars on traffic lights are for total sugars, which doesn't tell you how much of the sugar comes from natural sources, such as fructose and how much is added, such as sucrose or glucose. Check the ingredients list – if syrup, invert syrup, cane sugar, molasses or anything ending in 'ose' is within the first three ingredients, this suggests the food contains more added sugar. Choose an alternative if possible, or be mindful of the portion you eat.
5. Check the fibre content on the back of pack label. If you're choosing between two similar products and one has more fibre, choose that, as we should all be consuming more fibre as part of our daily diet.
6. Check the manufacturer's definition of a portion size. It may differ from yours and be smaller than you would like! However, if you are trying to lose weight or maintain a healthy weight, it's a good idea to reduce your portions.



## Body Mass Index Chart for Adults



## Patient information



You have taken an important first step and found out you are at high risk of Type 2 diabetes. The NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme will help you take control of your health, supporting you to make changes to your diet, weight and the amount of exercise you do.

Taking this kind of action now is very important as it can reduce your risk of, or even stop you, developing Type 2 diabetes.



### What are the stages of the Healthier You: NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme?



#### Stage 1:

Initial one-to-one assessment:

- Anthropometric measurements (height, weight & waist measurement)
- HbA1c testing
- Lifestyle score
- Goal setting
- Signposting onto other services



#### Stage 2:

Weekly two hour Healthy Foundations group over seven weeks:

- **Session 1** - What is pre-diabetes & diabetes
- **Session 2** - Chair-based physical activity session
- **Session 3** - Energy balance and fat awareness
- **Session 4** - Carbohydrate awareness
- **Session 5** - Food labels
- **Session 6** - Long-term health problems related to impaired glucose regulation
- **Session 7** - Physical activity and 3 month review measurements



#### Stage 3:

Two hour monthly Prevention Plus group sessions over four months:

- **Session 1** - Barriers to change, health values, habits and goals
- **Session 2** - Stress, emotional eating and mindfulness
- **Session 3** - Habitual thoughts, triggers, inner critic and self compassion
- **Session 4** - Gaining control of your health, willpower and review



#### Stage 4:

During the six and nine month reviews:

- Re-test of anthropometric measurements and lifestyle scores
- Re-test of HbA1c
- Evaluation of progress
- Evaluation of service
- Signposting of other services
- Goal review and setting

### How to join

If you have been told you are at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes and haven't already been referred to our service: Ask your GP, nurse or NHS Health Check professional to refer you to your local Healthier You programme or self refer on our website or by contacting us:

[info@preventing-diabetes.co.uk](mailto:info@preventing-diabetes.co.uk) 0333 577 3010

[preventing-diabetes.co.uk](http://preventing-diabetes.co.uk)

**HEALTHIER YOU**  
NHS DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAMME

Service provided by

