# NUTRITION IN GI DISORDERS

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### DISCLOSURE

I have no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose

## OBJECTIVES

- Discuss nutrition and types of assessment tools
- Discuss nutrition in multiple gastrointestinal disorders and review evidence-guided therapies

## INTRODUCTION

- In lean healthy people, death associated with weight loss >35%, protein storage loss >30%, and fat storage loss >70%
- Literature detailing nutrition as medical therapy has been controversial
- Overall, there is a lack of large, randomized, prospective studies comparing one nutritional therapy with another
- Thus, meta-analyses often are used to group small studies and allow reasonable conclusions

- Medical History and Physical Exam
  - Inquiry into patient's usual body weight (UBW) vs ideal body weight (IBW) or present body weight (PBW)
    - Predictors of morbidity and mortality in studies
    - Percentage deviation from UBW over last 3-6 months most sensitive marker of nutritional risk

- Anthropomorphic Measurements
  - Estimation of body composition or body stores of using relatively simple and inexpensive equipment such as handheld calipers and scales
    - Triceps skinfold (TSF): a marker of body fat stores, and mid-arm muscle circumference (MAMC)
  - Body Mass Index (BMI)
    - (Weight in kg)/(height in meters)<sup>2</sup>



#### Biochemical Measurements

- Plasma proteins: albumin, prealbumin, and transferrin
  - Albumin poor indicator of protein malnutrition
    - Half-life 21 days
    - Infections, medications, liver disease, and acute physiologic changes affect levels
  - Prealbumin better marker of nutritional status
    - Half-life 2 days

- Immunologic tests
  - Serum total lymphocyte count not study validated
- Muscle Function
  - Hand grip strength measures forearm lean muscle mass
    - Not reliable for acutely ill or patients with hand or arm motor abnormalities



- Global Assessments
  - No single tool that is an accurate predictor of nutritional status to date
  - Subjective Global Assessment (SGA)
    - Incorporates weight changes, dietary intake, functional capacity and preliminary medical diagnosis
    - Validated in oncology population

#### Caloric Assessment

- Mathematical equations
  - Harris-Benedict equation
    - Men: Energy needs (kcal/24hr)= 66+(13.7xW)(5xL)-(6.8xA)
    - Women: Energy needs (kcal/24hr)= 655+(9.6xW)+(1.7xL)-(4.7xA)
- Indirect Calorimetry by heat produced by oxidation
- Protein Assessment
  - Measured by calculation with assessing 24-hour urine urea nitrogen (UUN)



- Macronutrients
  - Carbohydrates
  - Fats
  - Proteins
- Macrominerals
  - Calcium
  - Phosphorus
  - Magnesium



- Micronutrients
  - Chromium
  - Copper
  - lodine
  - Iron
  - Manganese
  - Selenium
  - Zinc



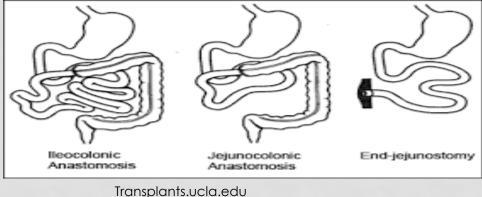
- Vitamins
  - Water-Soluble
    - Vitamin C
    - Thiamine (Vitamin B1)
    - Riboflavin
    - Niacin
    - Pantothenic Acid
    - Biotin
    - Folic Acid
    - Vitamin B12
    - Vitamin B6 (Pyridoxine)



- Vitamins
  - Fat-Soluble
    - Vitamin A
    - Vitamin D
    - Vitamin E
    - Vitamin K



- Intestinal Failure (Short Bowel Syndrome)
  - Results in loss or disease of the intestine, or both, that precludes adequate digestion and absorption
  - Crohn's disease, intestinal trauma, and intestinal infarction
    are most common causes
  - Nutritional management of short bowel syndrome depends on the amount and location of small bowel removed
  - Intestinal rehab more successful if colon and ileocecal valve preserved



- Intestinal Failure (Short Bowel Syndrome)
  - Proton pump inhibitors used to reduce gastric hypersecretion
  - Anticholinergics used to slow intestinal transit
  - Parenteral nutrition (PN) used to meet nutritional needs
  - Oral feeding gradually started while volume of PN reduced
  - Cholestyramine can be used for bile salt-induced diarrhea with partial ileal resection and preserved colon
  - Vitamin B12 given monthly
  - Trial of small-peptide, low-fat, enteral formula for significant small bowel resections (80-100 cm remaining)
  - PN-dependency for <80 cm small bowel remaining and no colon</li>
  - Somatostatin to reduce intestinal secretions and slow transit time remains controversial
  - Use of growth hormone, glutamin, and a rice-based diet to cause small bowel mucosal hypertrophy and better absorption is controversial
  - Glycoprotein (GL-2) postulated as a small intestine mucosal stimulator for improved absorption

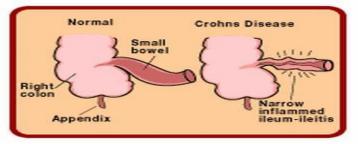
Pancreatitis



- Nutritional support imperative for severe pancreatitis and relapsing chronic pancreatitis
- Early enteral nutrition (EN) reduces complications and mortality than NPO regimen
- PN associated with central line catheter sepsis and hyperglycemia
- Intrajejunal feedings safe and well tolerated
  - Standard, fat-containing, polymeric enteral formula can be used
- Gastric feedings have been used successfully in severe acute pancreatitis but still topic of investigation

**STATES** 

- Crohn's Disease
  - Pts often hypermetabolic



- Anorexia possibly present due to nausea and abdominal pain
- Deficiencies of magnesium, selenium, potassium, and zinc common due to diarrhea and possible fistula tracts
- Dietary therapy important but no specific diet can be recommended
  - Fat restriction may be important with ileal disease and hx of ileal resection
  - EN may be important for those who cannot eat
  - EN not superior to PN for inducing remission, though less costly and fewer complications
  - PN restricted for pts failing conservative medical therapy (EN and medications), or in pts EN cannot be delivered

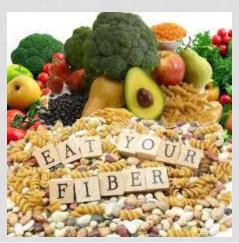
- Liver Disease
  - Nutritional deficiencies common due decreased dietary intake, altered metabolism, decreased nutrient storage, and increased nutrient requirements
  - Decreased dietary intake more common in cirrhosis
  - Decreased bile salt production results in intolerance to high-fat food
    and fat-soluble vitamin malabsorption
  - Hypoalbuminemia results in edema of small bowel mucosa leading to poor nutrient absorption
  - Depletion of muscle mass due to lack of glucose stores and dependency on protein stores for energy
    - Rise in aromatic amino acids, thought possibly making hepatic encephalopathy worse
  - Limiting protein intake not recommended
  - PN should be used with caution due to immune dysfunction places pts at risk for catheter related sepsis
  - Nutritional support beneficial for patients prior to liver transplantation



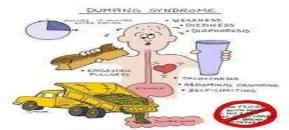
#### Diverticular Disease

- No clinical data to avoid nuts or foods with seeds
- Data suggests high-fiber diet will reduce occurrence of symptomatic disease
  - Fiber intake should be at least 25 g/day, as insoluble fiber such as wheat bran, bran muffins, and fiber-based cereals
- Probiotics with some success with treatment and prevention of diverticulitis





Dumping Syndrome



- Common after partial gastrectomy and vagotomy
- Hypertonic gastric contents empty rapidly into the small intestine, and consequently 25% of the plasma volume is transferred to small intestine
- Symptoms of nausea, cramping, diaphoresis, and palpitations
- Nutritional therapy
  - Lower osmolarity solution to the small intestine by frequent ingestion of small meals containing fat, protein, and complex carbohydrates, limited in simple sugars
  - Fluid intake restricted and separate from solid food intake to avoid rapid gastric transit

#### Celiac Disease

- Small intestinal injury resulting in malabsorption caused by gluten-containing foods, such as wheat, barley, rye, or oats
- Classic signs of malabsorption, especially in younger pts:
  - Diarrhea, cramping, marked weight loss, and often folate, iron, and fat-soluble vitamin deficiencies
- Treatment is gluten-free diet
  - Wheat starch free of gliadin is basis of gluten-free breads
  - Corn, rice, and buckwheat allowed
  - Most patients improve with dietary management, IF, compliant





#### Cancer

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- Protein calorie malnutrition common
- Cancer cachexia induced by tumor through multiple metabolic abnormalities
- Appetite stimulation effective in mild malnutrition
- Routine use of aggressive nutritional support in pts receiving chemotherapy and radiation is controversial
- PN beneficial for pts w/ gastrointestinal obstruction from primary or metastatic tumors
- EN effective for pts w/ head and neck cancer to prevent weight loss, reduce hospitalizations, and reduce interruptions in chemotherapy and radiotherapy
- In summary, nutritional support in the cancer pt should be restricted to those with a reasonable life expectancy

#### Obesity

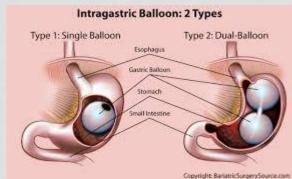
- GI doc traditionally involved in post-bariatric surgical complications, including stomal stenosis, gastrointestinal bleeding, and fistulization
- Obesity-related GI disease staple of practice, such as GERD



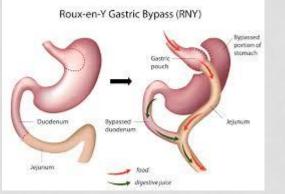
		Body Mass Index (kg/m2)			
TREATMENT	25-26.9	27-29.9	30-34.9	35-39.9	>40
Diet, physical activity, behavior therapy	With comorbidity	With comorbidity	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pharmotherapy	No	With comorbidity	Yes	Yes	Yes
Surgery	No	No	No	With comorbidity	Yes

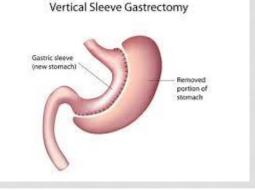
#### Obesity

- Surgical management in the United States:
  - Roux-en-Y gastric bypass
  - Vertical banded gastroplasty
  - Gastric banding
  - Most weight lost in first year
  - Mortality 0.5-2%

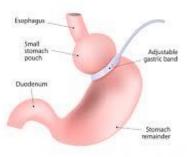


- Endoscopic management in United States:
  - Gastric balloon (Orbera, ReShape, Obalon)

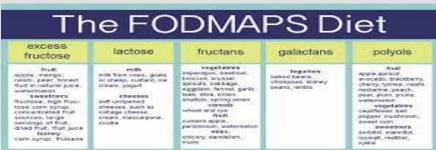




#### GASTRIC BAND



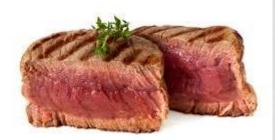
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
  - High fiber diet is of global benefit with NNT of 11
    - Fiber supplements better tolerated than dietary fiber
    - Wheat bran no better than placebo
    - Fiber not helpful for pain, but beneficial for constipation and firming up loose stools
    - Gradual increase of supplemental fiber to 10-15 g
  - Food intolerance
    - Lactose intolerance possible but usually symptoms persist despite elimination
    - Fructose consumption
    - Reducing fatty foods, gas-producing foods, caffeine, or alcohol may be helpful but no randomized controlled studies
  - Elimination diets can be useful in some cases
    - Systematic review shows 12-67% of patients with IBS will respond but most data uncontrolled
  - FODMAP diet





- Colorectal Cancer Risk
  - High fiber diet: may decrease
  - High intake of fruits and vegetables: unclear
  - Obesity: increases
  - Cigarette smoking: increases
  - Fish: decreases
  - Garlic: moderately decreases
  - Meat: red and processed meats increase risk
  - High folate intake: increases with caveats
  - Alcohol: increases with >30 g/day
  - Exercise: decreases
  - Mediterranean diet: probably decreases





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