# **Silver Award Project Utility**

Facility: National Renal Alliance-Frontenac Home Dialysis Center

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Project Status: Active ▼ Update Status

1. Description of Project:

Focus on increasing albumin levels through education and incentives. Educational handouts were given at lab appointments and prizes were given to those who experienced an increase in albumin level or remained in range.

#### 2. Outcomes Measured:

Albumin levels were measured by monthly labs. Education began in february so we examined trend in albumin levels in March and April.

#### 3. Summary of Outcomes/Results:

The percentage of patients meeting albumin goal increased for both PD and HHD programs over the last 2 months (see attached), and we expect albumin levels to continue to increase in May.

#### 4. Impact on Patients:

Patients were able to receive more focused, in depth education at clinic on the importance of monitoring their albumin level and were also given incentives.

#### 5. Lessons Learned:

Staff and patients learned the impact intensive education and monitoring can have on a specific focus area such as albumin.

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# **Albumin Challenge!**

February, March, April 2019



- Be sure to get your protein in over the next few months. The health benefits are incentive enough but we are adding prizes for those within range over the next few months!!
- You will be entered into a drawing based on your labs every time they come back with albumin within range
- Enjoy the samples and ask your dietitian if you are wondering what else you can eat to increase your albumin level
- Good luck and happy, healthy eating!



#### PROTEIN PACKS a POWERFUL PUNCH for YOUR HEALTH

### Why do I need PROTEIN?

- Protein is taken from your body every time you come to dialysis or have a treatment at home.
- Protein builds and repairs your body.
- Protein keeps your muscles strong and helps you keep your balance.



- Protein plays a role in fighting off infections.
- · Protein helps you fight swelling.
- Protein helps keep your blood pressure from falling at dialysis.
- Protein in your diet helps you make albumin.

#### What is ALBUMIN?

- Albumin is a major protein found in your blood.
- Albumin is the protein that helps you do some of the things listed above.

## What do I want my ALBUMIN level to be?

 A normal range for Albumin is 3.5-5.5 BUT an optimal level would be 4.0 or higher and that is the goal if you are on hemodialysis and 3.7 if you are on peritoneal dialysis.

### What will a good ALBUMIN level do for me?

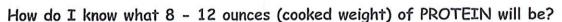
- It will help you have fewer infections.
- It will help you have hospitalizations.
- It will help you have less risk of mortality while on dialysis.
- It will help fight swelling.
- It will help you keep a good blood pressure at dialysis.

# How do I get a good ALBUMIN level (more than 3.7-4.0)?

- By eating enough calories to keep you from losing weight.
- By eating enough protein foods
- By eating protein that comes from animals: eggs, beef, pork, fish, shellfish, chicken, turkey and lamb.

### How Much PROTEIN Should I Eat Each Day?

 You USUALLY will need to eat about 8-12 ounces (cooked weight) of protein foods each day.



• Think about a deck of playing cards...if you eat that much you will be eating about 3 ounces of protein.



- A chicken breast is 3-4 ounces of protein.
- A chicken drumstick is about 1 ounce protein.
- A chicken thigh is about 2 ounces of protein.
- A chicken wing is about 1 ounce of protein.
- A pork chop is about 3 ounces of protein.
- · An egg is 1 ounce of protein.
- $A \frac{1}{4}$  cup egg substitute is about 1 ounce of protein.
- And \(\frac{1}{4}\) cup of tuna would also give you 1 ounce of protein.

# Why do I need to eat PROTEIN from animal sources?

 These proteins have all of the building blocks of what is known as a high quality protein. By eating animal sources of protein you will keep your self healthy.

### What if I do not like to eat PROTEIN from animal foods?

• Tell your dietitian and she (he) can figure out ways to fit in other foods that give you protein.

## What if I cannot eat the amount of PROTEIN I need each day?

• If you are not able to eat this much you may try eating or drinking a nutritional supplement. They will provide a powerful punch of protein. And they will have high quality protein in them and will count towards your protein needs.

Please Do Make Sure To Check With Your Dietitian Before Purchasing Any Supplements So They Can Determine The Best Protein Supplement Based On Your Lab Values.

Nutrition Drinks	Protein Powders/Liquids	Nutrition Bars
Standard Drinks	With Carbohydrate	Standard Bars
<ul> <li>Boost High Protein</li> <li>Boost Plus</li> <li>Ensure High Protein Ensure Plus</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Prosource</li> <li>Beneprotein</li> <li>Pro-Stat 101</li> <li>Pro-Stat 150</li> <li>Premier Powder</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Balance Bars</li> <li>Balance Gold Bars</li> <li>Zone Perfect Bars Detour Bars</li> </ul>
Diabetic Drinks  Boost Diabetic  Glucerna	Body Fortress     Powder  Without Carbohydrate	<ul> <li>Atkins Advantage</li> <li>Special K Protein</li> <li>Meal Bars</li> </ul>
Renal Drinks  Novasource Renal  Nepro	<ul> <li>Prosource</li> <li>No Carb</li> <li>ProCel</li> <li>Proteinex</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>South Beach Diet</li> <li>Bars</li> <li>Power Crunch</li> <li>Bars</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>Pro-Stat 64</li><li>Liquacel</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Aldi Millville Bars</li> <li>Diabetic Bars</li> <li>Glucerna Bars</li> <li>Extend Bars</li> </ul>



# Best Sources of High Quality Protein Foods

### Beef

- Hamburger
- Steak
- · Roast beef
- Ribs
- Liver
- Tripe



### Pork

- · Pork chop
- Pork steak
- · Pork roast
- · Pork ribs
- Liver
- Chitlins
- Neck bones

### Wild Game

- Rabbit
- Duck
- Pheasant

### Eggs

- · Hard boiled
- Scrambled
- Fried
- Poached



### Chicken

- Breast
- · Leg
- Wing
- Liver

#### Fish

- Catfish
- Buffalo
- · Cod
- Whiting
- Tuna
- Salmon
- Sardines
- Shrimp



### Turkey

- Breast
- Leg
- Wing
- Neck bones

