

# Medical Nutrition Therapy for Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Patients

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# **Definition of Cystic Fibrosis**

- Autosomal recessive genetic disorder causing systemic dysfunctions of exocrine glands.
- Production of thick mucus throughout the body
- Clogged airways
- Interfere with pancreatic enzyme production
- Related conditions: CF-related diabetes mellitus, liver and gall bladder disease

# **Nutrition Implication**

# **Increased Energy Needs**

- 130%-150% recommended caloric intake Increased Protein Needs
- 200% recommended dietary allowance

### Pancreatic Insufficiency

- Fat and fat soluble vitamin malabsorption
- Pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy

### **Bone Health**

• Vitamin D supplementation

### GI symptoms

Cramping might benefit from high fiber diet

### Acknowledgement

Site: Seattle Children's Hospital Advisor: Susan Casey RD, CD. Figure credited to Discover magazine



#### CDC Weight for Length: Boys, Birth to 36 months



Growth trajectory of Little J. His weight for length raised from 5<sup>th</sup> percentile to 14<sup>th</sup> percentile after appropriate management of Cystic Fibrosis.

# Nutrition Goals

- Higher weight relates to better lung function
- Weight for Length at 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for 2yrs. And under
- BMI percentile at or above 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for 2-20 yrs

# Case Study

**History Little J** 28 months old boy with Cystic Fibrosis

#### Other diagnosis MRSA Positive and Pancreatic Insufficiency

# Psychosocial

Lives with both parents. Mom is fearful about Little J getting a feeding tube. She pushed his feeding quite a lot, by using heavy whipping cream mixed with all his foods and feeding him 9 meals per day. Little J experienced some GI symptoms related to fat malabsorption, which dissolved after mom stopped feeding him excessive fat.

# Anthropometric Assessment

Weight: 12.9 kg (36<sup>th</sup> percentile, weight of 27 months)

Height: 92.45cm (69<sup>th</sup> percentile, height of 33 months)

BMI: 15.09 (14<sup>th</sup> percentile)

Ideal Body weight: 14.25 kg, Percent of Ideal Body Weight: 91% Gained 200 grams in the past 3 months

# **Diet and Medication Assessment**

- Mom overcompensated previous overfeeding by restricting snacks to non-fat products such as popsicles. Not sure whether enzymes worked after 45 minutes
- Creon 6000, 4 per meal and 3 per snack
- Multivitamin: AquADEK

# **Estimated Nutrient Needs**

Calories  $(1.3 \times RDA) = 1889$  kcal Protein  $(2 \times RDA) = 34$  g Fluid = 1145 ml

# **Nutrition Diagnosis**

Inadequate energy intake (NI-1.4) related to cystic fibrosis as evidenced by BMI below 20 percentile for age.

# **Nutrition Intervention**

- Education on enzyme use (effective for 2 hours)
- Revise food and nutrient delivery: stop restricting snacks to non-fat items
- Keep identifying and feeding high calorie, high protein food items
- Keep current pancreatic enzyme intake
- Keep supplementation of multivitamin

# **Monitor and Evaluation**

- Growth: Appropriate weight gain and height growth. Goal BMI at 50<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- Diet intake: 3meals and 3 snacks taken with pancreatic enzymes. Make sure adequate caloric and protein intake
- Biochemical: Check vitamin D status regularly