Healthier Fat Cooking







Lifespan Cardiovascular Institute

Rhode Island Hospital • The Miriam Hospital Newport Hospital

Delivering health with care.®

The Center For Cardiac Fitness Cardiac Rehab Program The Miriam Hospital

Meat, Fish, Poultry

- Trim fat/Remove skin
- Use leaner cuts of protein & select meats with less visible fat
- If tuna in oil-rinse or buy in water
- Bake, broil, poach, roast, grill
- Place meat on rack so fat drips away
- Brown meat and drain well before adding to recipe
- Try a tuna steak rather than a burger
- Use tofu & lentils as a substitute for half meat in things like meatloaf, shepard's pie, etc
- Serve with low fat condiments cranberry relish, chili sauce, chutney, salsas
- Limit processed meats such as sausage, bacon, hot dogs
- Tenderize as leaner cuts can be drier
 - Use marinades w/lemon vinegar, juices and herbs
 - Tenderize simply by pounding out meat

Vegetables

- Stir "fry" in bouillon, tomato juice or broth rather than oil
- Measure oil rather than pouring you will use less
- Nonstick pan
- Boil potatoes first and spray lightly with oil and then crisp in oven
- Season mashed potatoes with garlic and/or broth instead of butter and milk
- Use light mayo or mustard in cole slaw, potato salads, etc
- Avoid high fat salad toppings, eg, bacon bits, croutons, etc
- Enhancing Flavor
 - Avoid overcooking vegetables as they will lose flavor
 - Spice it up
 - Use citrus juices, relishes, hot peppers
 - Toast nuts, spices or seeds first to enhance flavor

Soups and Cheese

- Cool after making and skim fat
- Creamed soups use 1 % milk or evaporated skim milk
- Use flour or cornstarch as thickener or even pureed potatoes!

- Use small amt of hard cheese rather than large amts of mild cheeses
- Chill reduced fat cheeses for easier grating
- Sprinkle bland dishes with small amounts of strong cheese such as feta, provolone

Miscellaneous

- Replace cream in recipes with low fat yogurt
- Good oil substitutes are low fat margarine, applesauce, pureed fruits or vegetables
- Substitute 1 egg with 2 egg whites
- Make your own salad dressings or use just balsamic vinegar
- Puree a cooked potato into gravy for fat free thickener
- Make your own taco shells by hanging fat free tortillas directly over an oven rack at 400 degrees
- Use fewer instant or packaged products

Adding Healthy Plant Based Fats

- Can add texture as well as taste
 - Nuts
 - Seeds
 - Avocado
 - Olive oil
 - Tofu
 - Soy
 - Beans, Legumes

REMEMBER....

- Low fat does not necessarily equal low calorie or low sodium
- Invest in a healthier fat/low fat cookbook