

# Advanced Respiratory & Sleep Medicine SKAND Corporation

Pulmonary/Critical Care/Neurocritical Care/Sleep Medicine 105 N. Bascom Ave. Suite. 202 San Jose, CA 95128

P: (408) 993-1500 F: (408) 993-1521

# **Healthy Lifestyle Plan**

### 1. Prioritize Nutritious Breakfasts

Begin each day with a wholesome breakfast. Options include:

- A green smoothie (e.g., spinach, celery, parsley, apple, or pineapple)
- Natural oatmeal (avoid instant or flavored varieties)
- Fresh fruit with nuts
  Aim for 3–5 small meals per day, spaced approximately three hours apart. Avoid eating at least four hours before bedtime.

### 2. Limit High-Starch Foods

Reduce consumption of starchy foods, including rice, bread, wheat/flour products, potatoes, pasta, and both corn and flour tortillas.

### 3. Moderate Oil and Animal Protein Intake

Decrease consumption of oils and animal-based proteins, including turkey, chicken, pork, beef, fish, cheese, and cow's milk. Opt for healthier plant-based alternatives when possible.

### 4. Avoid Fried Foods

Eliminate fried foods from your diet. When using oil, opt for healthier choices such as olive oil.

### 5. Increase Fiber Intake

Support digestive health by incorporating more insoluble fiber into your diet. Excellent sources include:

- Lentils, beans, quinoa, buckwheat, seeds, nuts, oatmeal, and psyllium husk (e.g., Metamucil)
- Begin with small portions (¼ cup daily) and gradually increase over time.
- Beans are particularly beneficial, providing fiber, prebiotics, probiotics, and protein.

# 6. Emphasize Vegetables, Nuts, and Legumes

Incorporate a variety of vegetables, nuts, and beans into your meals to enhance nutrient intake and overall health.

## 7. Eliminate Sugary and Caffeinated Beverages

Avoid caffeine, juice, and soda. Instead, focus on increasing water intake to 1–3 liters per day for optimal hydration.

### 8. Establish a Sustainable Exercise Routine

• If new to exercise, begin with five minutes of daily walking and gradually increase both duration and intensity.

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- Each week, add five minutes and explore additional activities such as yoga,
  Pilates, tai chi, cycling, swimming, hiking, dancing, or aerobics.
- Make physical activity enjoyable by involving friends or family to stay motivated.

## 9. Prioritize Restful Sleep

- Establish healthy sleep habits by allowing at least 7–9 hours of rest per night.
- Reduce screen time and exposure to bright light **1–2 hours** before bedtime.
- Create a calming bedtime routine, such as stretching, taking a warm bath, or practicing deep breathing exercises.
- Manage stress effectively, as chronic stress can hinder metabolism and weight loss.