

# **Helpful Hints for Fluid Control**

Translations available in: <u>Arabic, Chinese, French, Korean, Russian, Spanish</u>

### What are some helpful hints for fluid control?

- 1. Drink to satisfy thirst only. If you avoid high sodium (salty) foods, you will be less thirsty.
- 2. Ice cold liquids and ice may satisfy your thirst better than a warm or hot beverage.
- 3. Try a lemon slice to moisten "dry" mouth.
- 4. Rinse your mouth with water or mouthwash, but do not swallow it.
- 5. Take your medications with mealtime liquids.
- 6. Use very small cups and glasses for beverages. A full, small cup looks more appealing than a half-filled large cup.
- 7. Measure the ice allowed for the day and store in a special container in your freezer.
- 8. Try putting a small amount of lemon juice in the ice cubes; you'll use fewer.
- 9. Freeze allowed fruit juices in ice cube trays to reduce how much you drink and to increase your caloric intake.
- 10. Try to use allowed fluids that contain calories (pop, lemonade) rather than ice or water.
- 11. Suck on sour candies to moisten your mouth and to help satisfy your thirst. These are a good source of calories too.
- 12. When you are thirsty, try eating something like bread with margarine and jelly before taking any liquids.
- 13. Be sure to eat well-balanced meals and you will have less desire for excess fluids.

14. Weigh yourself in the morning and evening and adjust your fluid intake so you don't gain more than a pound a day.

## What are my directions for fluid restriction?

Fluid Allowed Each Day = \_\_\_\_\_ cups = \_\_\_\_\_ cc

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Measure in standard measuring cups.
- 2. Medications must be taken with allowed fluids.
- 3. Drain liquids from fruits and vegetables.
- 4. Any beverage or the following count as fluid:
  - Jello
  - Sherbet
  - Ice
  - Popsicles
  - Soup

**Note:** 1 cup = 8 ounces (240 cc)

 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup = 4 ounces (120 cc)

 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup = 2 ounces (60 cc)

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> Patient Food & Nutrition Services Helpful Hints for Fluid Control

