13 WAYS
TO
PREVENT CANCER
by
Dr Ben Kim
http://www.drbenkim.com
(2005)
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This material also includes:
The Anti-Cancer Diet
by
Dr Ben Kim
http://www.drbenkim.com

CMG Archives
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IMPORTANT

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The purpose of this article is to outline 13 ways that you can decrease your risk of developing any type of cancer. The following 13 ways to prevent cancer are presented in no particular order:

1) If you are going to be sexually active, be in a mutually monogamous relationship with a partner who is not infected by human papilloma virus (HPV)

Genital HPV infection is a sexually transmitted disease that is caused by the human papilloma virus. There are actually more than 100 strains of the human papilloma virus, some of which can lead to cancer of the cervix, vagina, vulva, anus, or penis.

If you are sexually active and are not in a mutually monogamous relationship, I recommend that you learn more about HPV through various online resources. A clear and simple outline on HPV can be found at the Centres For Disease Control And Prevention website.
I encourage women who belong in this category to have a Pap test on an annual basis. I believe that Pap tests can be extremely useful for sexually active women who have had multiple partners or a partner who has had multiple partners because surgical excision of pre-cancerous and cancerous cells of the cervix is one of the safest and most effective procedures performed by the medical profession. I have worked with dozens of women over the years who have benefited from this procedure.

2) Eat lots of plant foods, mainly organic vegetables, legumes, whole grains, and fruits

Plant foods provide an abundance of antioxidants and fibre, both of which are known to reduce the risk of developing several different types of cancer.

Vegetables and fruits reduce the risk of developing cancers of the lung, stomach, esophagus, and larynx, while legumes and grains may help to reduce the risk of developing cancers of the stomach and pancreas.

There are five major groups of cancer-fighting compounds in fruits and vegetables: isothiocyanates, indols, cumines, phenols, and flavones.

The most powerful cancer-fighting vegetables belong to the cruciferous family, the most common of which are:

- Broccoli
- Cabbage
- Brussels sprouts
- Mustard greens
- Kale
- Cauliflower.

A perfect cancer-fighting salad looks something like this:

- Romaine lettuce
- Tomatoes
- Bell peppers
- Broccoli
- Chick peas
- Kidney beans
- Avocado
- Carrots

3) Stay away from sugar

A study published in the February 2004 edition of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute points to a strong association between a diet high in sugar and the risk of colorectal cancer in women.

There are too many published studies on the relationship between sugar intake and cancer to list them all in this article. If you want to learn more about sugar and cancer, a good place to start is here: Glycemic Modulation of Tumour Tolerance.

4) Learn how to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy oils
The healthiest oils are extra virgin olive oil and coconut oil. Oils that should be avoided whenever possible include corn, cottonseed, sunflower, and safflower oils. To learn more about healthy vs. unhealthy oils, view: A Guide To Choose Healthy Oils.

5) Beware of electromagnetic fields and ionizing radiation

In an early draft of a report issued in the spring of 1990, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the United States recommended that electromagnetic fields (EMFs) be classified as a class B carcinogen - a probable human carcinogen. Unfortunately, by the time that the EPA released the final draft of this report, the words "class B carcinogen" were nowhere to be found.

Despite their change of heart on electromagnetic fields, the EPA did include the following in their report:

"In conclusion, several studies showing leukaemia, lymphoma and cancer of the nervous system in children exposed to EMF's, supported by similar findings in adults in several occupational studies also involving electrical power frequency exposures, show a consistent pattern of response that suggest a causal link."

There is plenty of evidence in the scientific literature that has me convinced that electromagnetic fields can be a significant cause of cancer.

X-rays, mammograms, and other forms of ionizing radiation are also capable of causing cancer. Dr. Jon Gofman's findings on ionizing radiation are summarized here: "Points to Consider Before Taking Another X-Ray".

6) Don't use oral contraceptives or hormone replacement therapies

Oral contraceptives (combinations of oestrogen and progestin used to prevent ovulation) increase a woman's risk of developing breast and liver cancer. Oral contraceptives also increase a woman's risk of experiencing a heart attack or stroke and developing a serious blood clot.

Oestrogen-based drugs that are used for symptoms of menopause are associated with an increased risk of developing cancer of the endometrium and possibly the breast.

7) Strive to maintain your optimal weight

Obesity is an established cause of both endometrial and post menopausal breast cancer. Obesity is also strongly associated with cancers of the kidney, colon, and rectum.

Reaching and maintaining your optimal weight is a simple matter of balancing the calories you consume and use each day. What's not so simple is overcoming any emotional stressors that may be getting in the way of you balancing these factors. This is a topic that we will look at in greater detail in future newsletters.

8) Be physically active

Daily exercise can help to prevent cancer through the following mechanisms:

- Boosting your immune system
- Preventing obesity
- Decreasing oestrogen levels
- Decreasing insulin growth factor (IGF) levels - high IGF levels can increase your risk of developing cancer of the breast, colon, and rectum

9) Minimize your exposure to environmental toxins
Thanks to the industrial revolution, environmental toxins can be found in every part of our world. A clinical review in the February 2004 issue of the British Medical Journal suggests that up to 75 percent of all cases of cancer are caused by environmental and lifestyle factors.

It's impossible to avoid exposure to environmental toxins entirely, but you can strive to avoid the following everyday toxins through simple lifestyle choices:

- **Heavy metals** - found in mercury fillings, treated wood, antiperspirants, vaccines, and factory farmed fish
- **Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)** - found in factory farmed fish
- **Asbestos** - found in many building materials made before the mid to late 1970s
- **Dioxins** - found in fat of animals that are factory farmed
- **Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)** - found in cosmetics, clothing that has been dry cleaned, air fresheners, paints, deodorants, and bug repellents
- **Pesticides** - non-organic fruits and vegetables, factory farmed meats, and bug repellents

10) **Strive to sleep soundly for 8-10 hours per day in darkness**

Sound and regular sleep is essential to promoting a healthy circadian rhythm, which is intimately interconnected with your endocrine system and ability to prevent cancer. Recent studies have indicated that sleeping in complete darkness is essential to supporting an endocrine system that can suppress cancer development. For guidelines on how to promote deep, restful sleep, view: Nine Steps To Better Sleep.

11) **Don't smoke tobacco, drink alcohol, or use any other recreational drugs**

According to the Harvard Centre For Cancer Prevention, approximately 30 percent of all deaths due to cancer in the United States can be attributed to tobacco use. And every day, we are learning more about how harmful second hand tobacco smoke is to human health. It's been more than 12 years since the Environmental Protection Agency classified tobacco smoke as a **Group A carcinogen**, for which there is no safe level of exposure.

Heavy alcohol use is strongly associated with cancer of the liver. Alcohol can interact with tobacco smoking to cause various cancers of the upper respiratory and gastrointestinal tracts. Finally, alcohol consumption is also associated with an increased risk of developing breast cancer. There's no way around it: alcohol should be avoided whenever possible.

Marijuana and cocaine use have been shown to increase one's risk of developing lung cancer.

12) **Go easy on the salt**

Heavy salt intake is associated with cancer of the stomach. All salt - including mineral dense sea salt - should be used sparingly.

13) **Strive to be emotionally balanced**

This last point may be the most important factor that determines your risk of developing cancer. Emotional stress is highly capable of causing every single health condition that we know of, all types of cancer included. I've said it before and I'll say it again: you can have the healthiest diet in the world and still develop cancer if you are not emotionally balanced.

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In response to an article on ways to prevent cancer that I (Dr Ben Kim) wrote a few weeks ago, several subscribers sent in letters asking for a specific anti-cancer diet, one that can be followed after receiving chemotherapy.

I recommend the following guidelines to people who visit our clinic looking to get stronger and healthier after a bout with chemotherapy:

- Set up a support system among family and friends that ensures that you have access to freshly pressed vegetable juices every day
- All juices should contain at least 50 percent green vegetables by volume, the best choices being dark green, leafy vegetables like romaine lettuce, kale, Swiss chard, and collard greens
- If your life circumstances are such that you cannot arrange to have daily access to fresh vegetable juices, take 3 heaping tablespoons of a high quality green food product every day, mixed with water
- Until you crave animal products, stick to eating fresh vegetables, their juices, and fruits only
- Eat fruits and vegetables that are naturally rich in antioxidants
- Take 1 teaspoon of a high quality cod liver oil per 40-50 pounds of body weight on a daily basis
- Eat only when you are hungry and chew well when you do

A typical day would look something like the following:

Breakfast

Blueberries, mango, apple, avocado, celery sticks, and romaine lettuce
Mid-morning snack
Glass of freshly pressed vegetable juice - 8 leaves of romaine lettuce, handful of parsley, 2 ribs of celery, 2 carrots

Lunch
Large vegetable salad made with romaine lettuce, tomatoes, celery, bell peppers, carrots, avocado, and raw walnuts
Dressing, if desired: freshly pressed juice of 1/2 an orange

Mid-afternoon snack
Glass of freshly pressed vegetable juice - 4 large leaves of Swiss chard, 4 leaves of romaine lettuce, small piece of raw red beet, 3 ribs of celery

Dinner
Large plate of steamed vegetables - Chinese cabbage, broccoli, green beans, sweet potatoes
1 whole avocado on the side

Evening snack
Any ripe fruit in season or a handful of raw walnuts and organic raisins

I have found that this type of diet satisfies most chemotherapy recipients for at least a month, sometimes for as long as a year.

When cravings for animal foods surface, I recommend eating small amounts of organic eggs, wild fish such as wild salmon or anchovies, and any flesh meats that are raised with organic feed and in a free-range environment. Small amounts of raw dairy products that are obtained from organic and hygienic sources are also fine for people who can tolerate dairy. When eating animal foods, I recommend striving to make them no more than 30 percent of each meal. Vegetables should always be the biggest portion of every meal.

Beyond dietary guidelines to fight cancer, here are a few critical lifestyle recommendations:

- Be in the presence of fresh air as much as possible
- Without getting burned, let your skin see sunshine for at least 15 minutes every day
- Spend your emotional energy on things that make you feel loved, loving, and peaceful
- Get as much physical rest as you possibly can - if you've been abusing your body for years, then taking a year off from work and other major responsibilities may be just what you need to restore your health

Most importantly, an anticancer regimen must include constant reminders about why you want to be healthy again. Think about your reasons for wanting to be at your best. Take as much time as is necessary to become crystal clear on your reasons. Then, write your reasons down on paper and review them every day.

Remember: no one in this world can accurately tell you what your prognosis is. Your life is not a statistic. Your thoughts and daily choices are the most significant determinants of your health today and in the future.

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