

Post-Op Diet Guidelines for Nissen (Reflux) Procedure

Helpful rules for success after surgery:

- Take your time eating. Chew very well and take small bites of food.
- For the first two days, take in liquids only & drink at least 1 Liter per day. (Soup, protein shakes, juices, etc.).
- For the first 4 weeks, take in a soft diet with moist foods.
- Avoid tough/sticky foods – pancakes, steak, fresh doughy breads or rolls, and abrasive foods. Well-toasted breads are generally well tolerated.
- Prevent aerophagia (gas bloating) by avoiding the use of straws, slurping foods, chewing gum, sucking on candy or ice cubes, and drinking carbonated beverages. Chew with mouth closed.
- Sit upright when eating. Remain in a sitting position for 45-60 minutes after eating. Avoid eating 3 hours before bedtime.
- Avoid dehydration by drinking plenty of fluids with & between meals (at least 1 Liter per day).
- Stop eating when starting to feel full or bloated.

Food Group	Generally Well-Tolerated	Not Well-Tolerated
Beverages	All (except those on opposite list)	Carbonated drinks, iced drinks
Milk / Milk Products	All	Any containing coconut, nuts, seeds, or dried fruit
Meats and alternatives	Tender or minced, moist meat; fish and poultry with gravy or sauces; moist casseroles; stews; soft-cooked eggs; cottage cheese; cheese sauces; smooth peanut butter; legumes & lentils	Dry, tough or stringy meats (eg spareribs); nuts, seeds; crunchy peanut butter; stringy, cooked cheese (eg, mozzarella)
Breads / Cereals	Hot cereals, well soaked cold cereals; pasta, rice; dry toast (well-chewed); crackers	Fresh or "doughy" bread; any containing coconut, nuts, seeds or dry fruit
Fruits	Canned / Cooked fruits; ripe, fresh fruit with skins (seeds removed); juices, nectars	Coarse, abrasive fresh or dried fruit, coconut
Vegetables	Well-Cooked, canned vegetables; use vegetable in soups, sauces, stews, etc	Coarse, abrasive, raw vegetables (eg carrot sticks); stingy or barely cooked vegetables (e.g. asparagus, spinach, "al dente" green beans)
Desserts & Snacks	Puddings; soft or well-chewed cookies	Popcorn, chips, tacos, etc; any containing coconut, nuts, seeds, or dried fruit
Fats & Oils	All	None