

Coping with Heartburn & Reflux

If you are one of the millions of people who suffer from heartburn, the most common symptom of reflux, there are things you can do to improve your health and enhance the quality of your life.

1. Avoid spicy, acidic, tomato-based, or fatty foods like chocolate, citrus fruits, and fruit juices.



5. Don't exercise too soon after eating.



2. Limit your intake of coffee, tea, alcohol, and colas.



6. Avoid bedtime snacks and eat meals at least 3 to 4 hours before lying down.



3. Watch your weight. Being overweight increases intra-abdominal pressure, which can aggravate reflux.



7. Stop (or at least cut down on) smoking.



4. Don't gorge yourself at mealtime. Eat moderate amounts of food.



8. Elevate the head of your bed with blocks..



See Your physician if you are taking antacids three or more times a week.