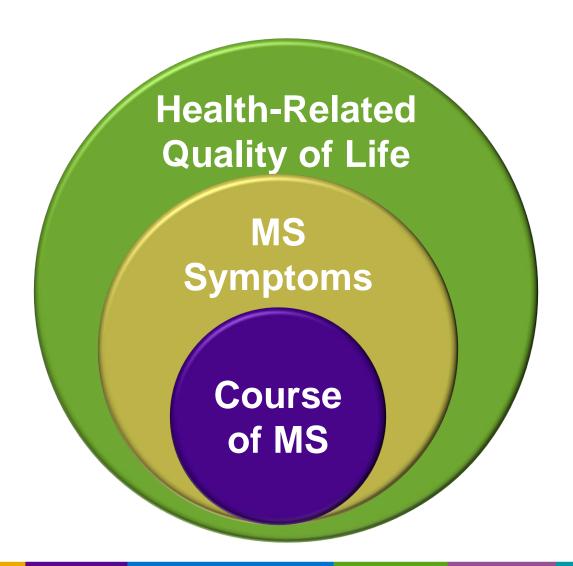
#### **Eating Well, Eating Easy:**

Nutrition and Kitchen Adaptation

Multiple Sclerosis Baldwin Sanders, RDN Stephanie D. Nolan, OTR/L

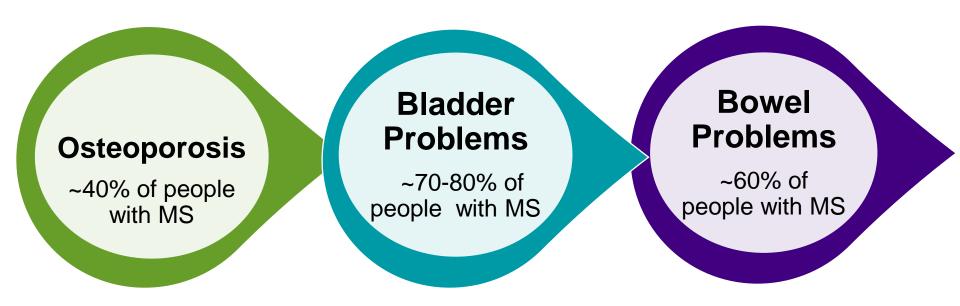


### Role of Nutrition: An Expanded View





# Role of Nutrition: Managing Symptoms



#### Healthy Eating Tip:



- Fit in fluids
- Give fiber a boost



# Fitting in Fluids

- Take medications with a full glass
- "Water down" your meals and snacks
- Refresh yourself with juice, milk or sparkling water.
- Travel with your own personal water supply.
  - •20% of our daily fluid intake comes from food



#### **Give Fiber a Boost**

Aim for 20-35 grams/day
Think in groups of 10:

10 grams at breakfast, lunch & dinner

- Switch to whole-grain breads & crackers (look for 3 grams of fiber/serving)
- Include more beans, peas and lentils
- Eat the skin
- Take advantage of ready-to-use vegetables
- Experiment with more whole
- Make snacks count—dried fruits, raw veggies



Start slowly. Too much fiber too fast can cause gas, cramps...& discouragement.

# What keeps you from eating well?



#### Symptoms Impact Nutritional Well-being



#### **Fatigue**

- Lack of motivation to eat
- Too tired to cook
- Tendency to skip meals
- Decreased activity/calorie expenditure

#### **Depression**

- Increased intake of high-fat foods, sweets
- Increased appetite due to antidepressants
- Eating out of boredom or food for solace
- Loss of appetite

#### **Swallowing Difficulties**

 May need feeding modifications to prevent weight loss and nutrient deficiencies

# Mobility & Activity Limitation

- Difficulty shopping & preparing meals
- Difficulty eating

#### **Malnutrition**



# Other Obstacles to Eating Well

# Physical Challenges

Muscle weakness
Hand tremors
Numbness
Sensory changes
Balance

# Cognitive Challenges

Difficulty with memory
Organization
Attention
Concentration

# Visual Challenges

Blurry vision Visual pain Contrast Sensitivity



# **Nutrition & Fatigue**





# Fight Fatigue!

# Food is your fuel!

- Be a savvy snacker
- Stock up for success
- Make meals quick & easy!
- Have a plan





# Be a Savvy Snacker



Veggies & hummus

- Keeps energy levels high
- Fights off hunger
- Helps you eat less at meals
- Fills you with nutrients you need
- Helps with concentration



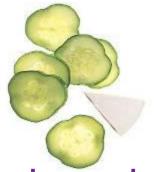
# Snacks Keep Energy Levels High

- Keep snacks on call
- Combine protein & carbohydrates
- Make it feel like a mini-meal (200-300 calories)

What snacks do you like that fit this "recipe?"



# Be a Savvy Snacker



Sliced cucumbers with low-fat cheese



Sliced turkey with a handful of grapes



Whole-grain muffin with peanut butter



Apple slices dipped in your favorite nut butter



Cracker with low-fat cream cheese & dried berries



Fat-free cottage cheese with veggies



# Making Meals Easy



### Plan Ahead



# Purchase Power



Pace Yourself



Pack it Up



#### **Plan Ahead**

# Sketch out your game plan

- For meals (day/week)
- Recipe ideas
- For shopping...make a list
- Focus your efforts
- Meals in minutes





#### **Plan Ahead**



# Make a shopping list

- Take stock
- Shop when you have energy
- Take advantage of sales
- Shop online



# **Making Meals Easy**



### Plan Ahead



# Purchase Power



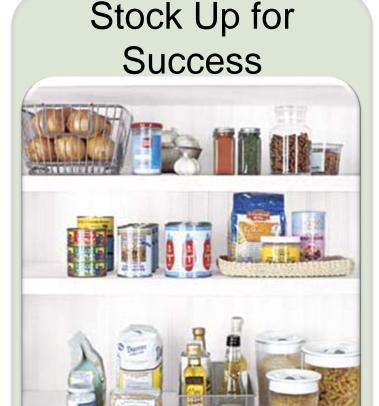
Pace Yourself



Pack it Up



- Canned beans
- Canned tuna & other meats
- Fast cooking grains & pasta
- Seeds, nuts, nut butters
- Salad dressings & sauces
- Prepared tomato products
- Whole-grain cereals & bread
- Low-sodium broths & soups



**Pantry** 

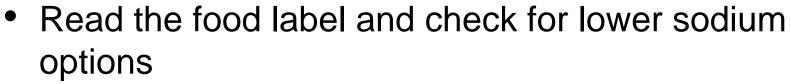


#### Salt & Sodium

#### Healthy Eating Tip:



- Shake the salt habit
- Reduce sodium in your diet



- Prepare your food when you can; use herbs and spices
- Opt for fresh (or frozen)
- Rinse sodium-containing canned foods
- Consider your condiments
- "Unsalt" your snacks





- Fish fillets/shrimp
- Chicken breasts/tenders
- Cooked meatballs
- Stuffed pastas
- Frozen pre-cooked rice/grains
- Frozen vegetables
- Healthy frozen dinners
- Frozen whole-grain breads/rolls

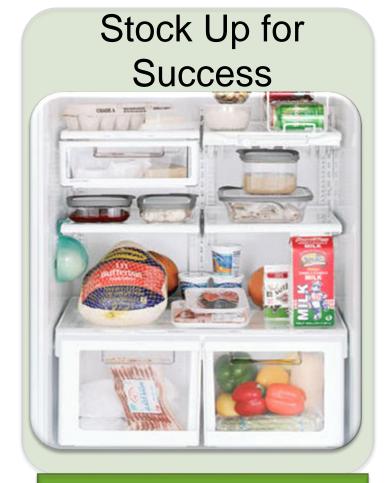
# Stock Up for Success



Freezer



- Vegetables (ready-to-use)
- Shredded cheese (low-fat)
- Eggs
- Yogurt (nonfat/low-fat)
- Minced garlic
- Skim or reduced-fat milk
- Salad in a bag/spinach
- Mustard & reduced-fat mayo



Refrigerator



- Buy ready-to use
  - √ Pre-cut produce
  - ✓ Shredded cheeses
  - ✓ Jar of minced garlic
  - ✓ Pre-made dips & sauces
- Cuts prep time; saves energy
- Know when you can opt out of cooking













# Putting your Power Pantry to work















#### Dinner S.O.S.: Putting your Power Pantry to work

- Lentil soup with chicken and pre-washed spinach
- Whole wheat pasta with canned or frozen shrimp in a marinara sauce and tossed salad
- Baked marinated chicken breasts on couscous with frozen vegetables
- Vegetable omelet with onions, chopped tomatoes, artichoke hearts, and shredded cheese served with a whole wheat roll
- Spinach salad with grilled chicken, mandarin oranges, and slivered almonds



# **Making Meals Easy**



# Plan Ahead



# Purchase Power



# Pace Yourself



# Pack it Up



#### Be realistic

- What can you comfortably accomplish?
- Decide what's most important to you
- Recruit a partner
- Share the load...ask others to help







### Make Meals Quick & Easy

- Arrange your kitchen
- Collect your stuff first
- Use tools to make the job easier
- Easy clean-up
- Identify healthy take-out options



# Arrange your kitchen

- •Get rid of clutter!
- Storage of food/appliances/ pots & pans—easy to reach
- Keep frequently used items on counter/stovetop

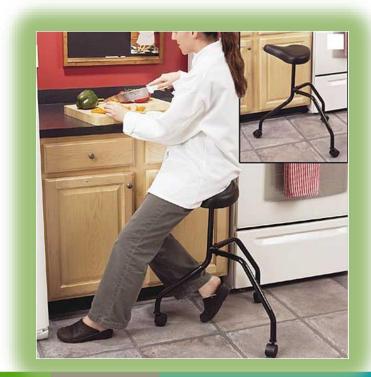




Collect your stuff:
 Use wheeled utility carts or walkers with trays.



Sit to prepare meals





#### **Tools to Make the Meals Easier**

Other ways to make the cut!

**Rocking Knives** 







Slicing



**Mandoline** 



**Egg Slicer** 

Dicing



**Food Chopper** 



# Tools to Make the Meals Swedish Cutting Easier

Swedish Cutting Boards









Built-up Handles

Steel mesh Gloves



# **Tools to Make the Meals**

# Opening Devices

- Electric or manual
- Dycem is a sticky substance used for stability
- Rubber shelf liners work well
- Rubber bands placed around containers, assist in gripping
- Rubber gloves











# Making Meals Easy





# Pack It Up!

- Plan one-dish meals
- Double up—cook once, eat twice
- Store in meal-size portions
  - -Freezer-Oven-Refrigerator
- Do a "Leftover Makeover"



#### **Cook Once...Eat Twice!**

#### Rotisserie Chicken





7-Layer Salad

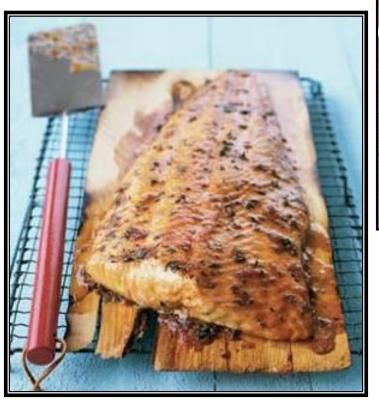
Chicken Tostadas



### Cook Once...Eat Twice!

#### Salmon







Salmon Fennel Salad

Salmon Pesto Pasta



### Make Clean-up Easy!



Use disposable plates



Paper towels, plastic wrap, aluminum foil in baking dishes



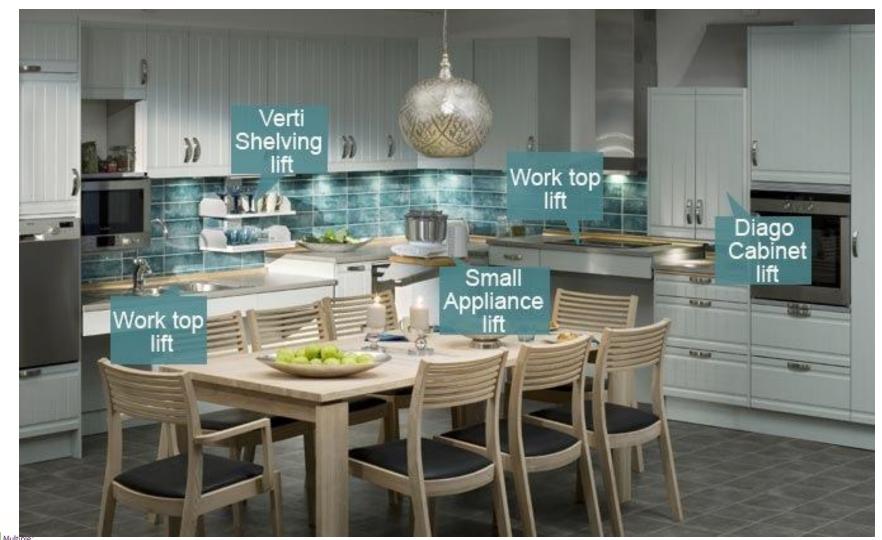
Soak pots, pans, dishes overnight



#### Making Your Kitchen Work for You

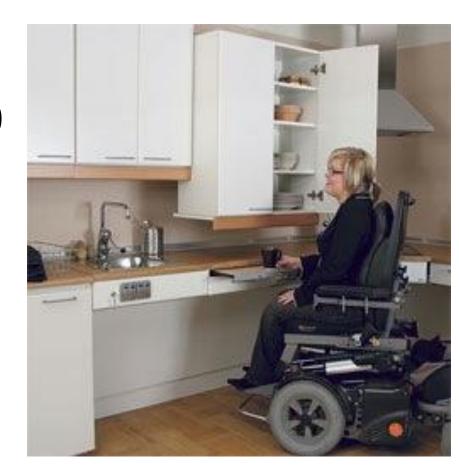








- Recommended countertop height is 29 inches to 34 inches.
- 32 inches considered ideal.
- Space for knees is 24 inches high and 30 inches wide.





Sink should be shallow, only 5-6 1/2 inches deep.
Loop or lever faucet. Drain at back of sink for knee
room and hot water pipes insulated to prevent
burns.





• Lowering cabinets to 15 inches versus regular 18 inches can make the 2<sup>nd</sup> shelf more accessible.





## www.accessibilitypro.com

Storage shelves









Stove cut-out

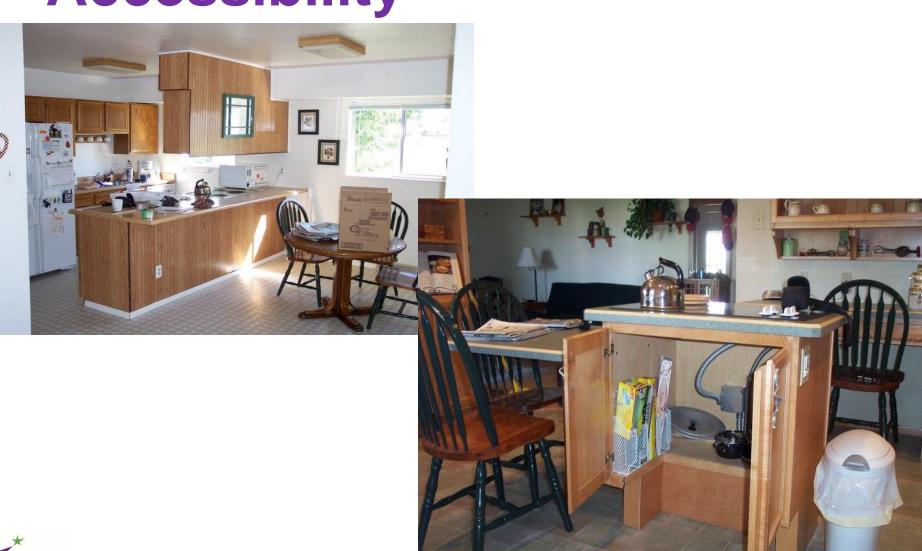




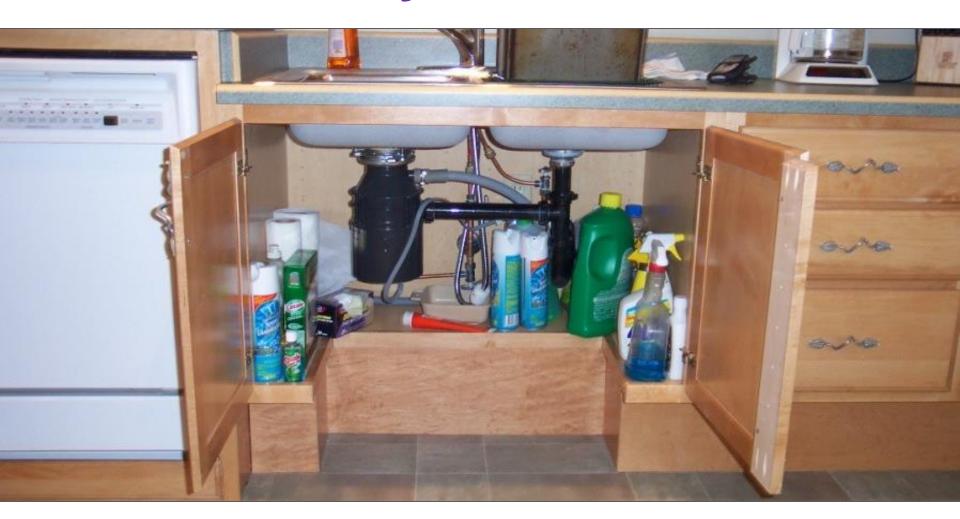
Sink cut-out



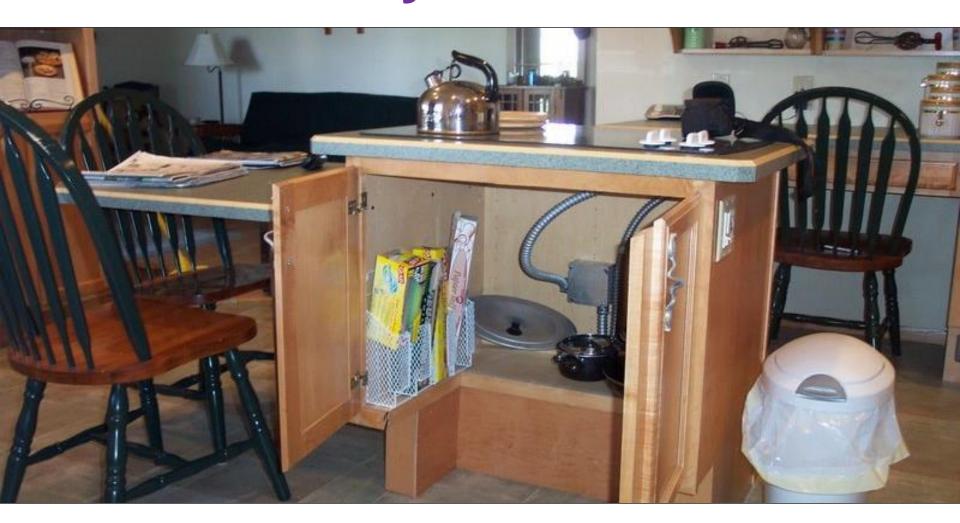














## Adapting existing kitchen

- Consider placing an angled mirror over the stove-top to see into cooking pots.
- Hinging refrigerator door to swing away from obstacles and allow easy transport to countertops.
- Removing cabinet doors under cook-top and sink and placing curtains to hide storage.
- Refrigerators with in-door water and ice dispensers.



#### **Questions/Comments**





## Make S.M.A.R.T. goals

- S specific
- M measurable
- A achievable
- R realistic
- T timely

I will TAKE CHARGE of my <u>nutrition and kitchen</u> <u>adaptation</u> by:



