

Well Leg Service

A service for patients who have been treated for leg ulcers, by the Lower Limb Therapy Service, to help maintain healthy legs.

Exeter



ARE YOU EATING AS HEALTHILY AS YOU CAN?

The Eatwell Guide

The Eatwell Guide shows how much of what we eat overall should come from each food group to achieve a healthy, balanced diet.

Fruit and Vegetables

Most of us are not eating enough fruit and vegetables. They should make up a third of the food we eat each day. Aim for at least 5 portions a day and choose from fresh, frozen, tinned and dried.

A portion is roughly what can be fitted into the palm of your hand. Fruit and vegetables are a good source of vitamins, minerals and fibre.



Starchy foods

Starchy foods should make up just over a third of the food we eat. Choose higher fibre, wholegrain varieties, such as wholewheat pasta and brown rice, or simply leave the skins on potatoes. Starchy foods are a good source of energy and the main source of a range of nutrients in our diet.



Proteins

Eat some beans, pulses, fish, eggs, lean meat and other protein, e.g nuts each day. These foods are also good sources of vitamins and minerals. Pulses are good alternatives to meat as they are lower in fat and higher in protein and fibre. If you can, eat 2 portions of fish a week, 1 of which should be oily like salmon or mackerel.



Milk and Dairy Foods

Milk, cheese, yoghurts and fromage frais are good sources of protein, some vitamins and calcium. Try to choose lower fat and sugar options and choose some non-dairy alternatives too like soya drinks and yoghurts.



Fats and Spreads



Choose unsaturated options, eg vegetable, sunflower, rapeseed and olive oil and use sparingly.

Foods high in fat and sugar



Foods such as sweets, cakes, biscuits, crisps, fizzy drinks are not needed in our diet so try to eat less often and in small amounts.

Fluids



Try to drink 6-8 glasses a day. Water, low fat and low sugar drinks count as do tea and coffee.

Exeter Community Opportunities

Current as of May 2022

Exeter Stepping Out

At Stepping Out our aim is to encourage people to become more active through walking, especially those who haven't been active for a while, or who are recovering from illness. A gentle way to get some fresh air and meet people.

For more information contact Claire Ridge
Phone: 01392 824752 or 07923205787

Men in Sheds - The Workshop

The Men in Sheds workshop is specifically for men over 50. At Men in Sheds you can make and mend all sorts of things in a relaxed and welcoming workshop environment. Come on gents - join our gang!

If this appeals to you, please contact us for a chat

Phone: 01392 202092

Email: meninsheds@ageukexeter.org.uk

Exeter U3A

U3A is a nationwide network of learning groups aimed at encouraging older people to share their knowledge, skills and interests in a friendly environment. There is a monthly meeting with a speaker and a wide variety of groups run by members, for members. Membership is £20 per year and this includes a monthly newsletter by email and as many groups as you wish to join.

Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/exeter/welcome

How to keep my legs healthy:

- Keep wearing your compression hosiery.
- Check your legs and feet regularly and get in touch if you notice any changes. Phone 01404 540556.
- Walk regularly to exercise your calves.
- Rotate your ankles while you are sitting to stimulate the circulation to your legs.
- Put your feet up.

- Wash your legs in warm water and apply emollient daily.
- Get out outside when you can to soak up Vitamin D, enjoy your surroundings and feel part of the world.
- Eat a healthy balanced diet.
- Investigate local opportunities for joining a group/club.
- Plan your days so you have a good routine to your week.

Sources:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/leg-ulcer/prevention

www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/the-eatwell-guide

Is there anything in this leaflet you would like to discuss?

Ask yourself:

What matters to me?

What do I want to do more of to live well?

Connect with other people

Be physically active

Learn new skills

Give to others

Pay attention to the present moment

Contact:

Julia Hammond

Health and Wellbeing Coach

Well Leg Service

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julia.hammond4@nhs.net

The Trust cannot accept any responsibility for the accuracy of the information given if the leaflet is not used by Royal Devon staff undertaking procedures at the Royal Devon hospitals.

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Designed by Graphics (Print & Design), RD&E (Heavitree)