## **NUTRITION TIPS WHEN EXPERIENCING AN INJURY**

FOODS TO CONSUME	FOODS TO REDUCE/AVOID
<ul> <li>Wild Salmon: high in Omega 3's (very strong natural anti-inflammatory)</li> <li>Kelp: high in fibre and has anti-inflammatory qualities</li> <li>Extra Virgin Olive Oil: a healthy fat that fights inflammation in the body</li> <li>Vegetables: broccoli, brussel sprouts, kale, and cauliflower naturally detoxify the body; they also have significant amounts of antioxidants which help fight bad cells in the body</li> <li>Blueberries: high in antioxidants (attack bad cells), reduce inflammation in the body, protect the brain from aging type diseases (e.g., dementia)</li> <li>Turmeric: a natural inflammatory and pain reliever; found in curries</li> <li>Ginger: helps reduce inflammation and also controls blood sugar</li> <li>Garlic: helps fight inflammation and infection</li> <li>Sweet Potato: contains anti-inflammatory properties</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Excess alcohol: excess alcohol causes substantial inflammation in the organs; if you are to have alcohol red wine is the best choice as long as it is in moderation, no more than 2 glasses</li> <li>Sugar and wheat consumption: reduce intake dramatically; they cause inflammation (refined carbohydrates such as most snack foods cause inflammation)</li> <li>Red Meat: causes inflammation → fish or chicken are better protein choices when it comes to decreasing inflammation</li> <li>Dairy Products: generally they are inflammatory; real cheese and real Greek yogurt are exceptions → studies have shown that they may help decrease inflammation</li> <li>Common Cooking Oils: (soy, sunflower, corn, cottonseed) are high in Omega 6's which causes inflammation</li> <li>Trans Fats: processed fats, commonly found in deep fried or baked goods</li> <li>Artificial Food Additives: aspartame and MSG are the two most common additives and trigger inflammatory responses in the body</li> <li>Do not consume too many calories (i.e., do not overeat); if you do, it causes inflammation</li> </ul>

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## Steps to Decrease Inflammation in the Body:

- ✓ Eat fruits and vegetables → the more colourful the better; broccoli, cabbage, brussel sprouts, kelp and cauliflower are extremely high in anti-inflammatory compounds
  - ✓ Consume healthy fats (Omega 3-rich options such as salmon, extra virgin olive oil, avocados, nuts and seeds), as they decrease inflammation
    - ✓ Add spice to your diet especially ginger and/or turmeric (strong antiinflammatories)
    - Consume tea especially green, oolong, or black (very strong anti-inflammatory fighting drinks)
  - ✓ Some studies suggest that dark chocolate (72% and above) in moderation is a good fighter against inflammation
  - ✓ Avoid and/or reduce the foods listed above, as they cause inflammation and slow down the healing of tissues
  - ✓ Avoid foods that you are sensitive to; you may have a food allergy and not know it → signs could include: chronic fatigue, frequent headaches, etc.



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