

WELLNESS UPDATES

Heart Health

Heart-to-Heart with your Doctor

Anyone can develop heart disease, but your risk increases if you have certain conditions such

as obesity, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, or diabetes. It's important to talk with your doctor about your personal risk – and the best ways



and the best ways to keep your heart healthy.

6 questions to ask at your next checkup:

- What should my blood pressure be? How often should it be checked?
- What should my cholesterol and triglyceride levels be? How often should they be checked?
- What's a healthy weight for me?
- Should I be screened for diabetes? What should my blood sugar level be?
- What lifestyle changes would you recommend for me?
- Can you suggest any resources that could help me lose weight or stop smoking?

Source: UnitedHealthcare, <u>https://</u> www.uhc.com/content/dam/uhcdotcom/ en/HealthAndWellness/PDF/

Take Steps to be Heart Healthy

Source: UnitedHealthcare, <u>https://www.uhc.com/health-and-wellness/</u> <u>health-topics/heart-health</u>

Your heart is the hardest-working muscle in your body and deserves your time and attention. It's responsible for a variety of jobs that help keep you healthy — from delivering oxygen and nutrients to your cells to keeping your blood pressure at the right level. If your heart isn't healthy and strong, your risk increases for developing heart disease, including:

- * Coronary artery disease
- Congenital heart disease

- # Heart attack
- Stroke
- * Congestive heart failure

Take steps to protect your heart by making heart-healthy choices:

- Exercise regularly by aiming for 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most days of the week
- * Eat a heart-healthy diet rich in whole grains, fruits and vegetables
- * Maintain a healthy weight
- * Manage your blood pressure
- * Take control of your cholesterol
- * Keep blood sugar at healthy levels
- # Don't smoke
- Manage stress
- Establish a relationship with a primary care physician, know your health numbers (BMI, blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose) and follow your doctor's advice





Eat More Color

Source: American Heart Association, https://www.heart.org/en/healthy-living/healthy-eating/add-color/eat-more-color



BLUE & PURPLE

plums

prunes

raisins

purple figs

blackberries blueberries black currants dates eggplants grapes **RED** & **PINK**

beets cherries cranberries pink grapefruit

pomegranates radicchio red radishes red apples red grapes red poppers red potatoes rhubarbs strawberries tomatoes watermelons

The best way to get all of the vitamins, minerals and nutrients you need is to eat a variety of colorful fruits and veggies. Add color to your plate each day with the five main color groups.

GREEN

artichokes asparagus avocados bok choy broccoli Brussels sprouts celery collard greens cucumbers green beans green beans green grapes green onions green peppers kale kiwis leeks limes mustard greens okra pears peas romaine lettuce snow peas spinach sugar snap peas watercress zucchini

WHITE bananas mushra

cauliflower garlic Jerusalem artichokes mushrooms onions potatoes parsnips shallots acorn squash butternut squash cantaloupes carrots corn grapefruit lemons mangoes nectarines oranges orange peppers papayas peaches pineapples pumpkins summer squash sweet potatoes tangerines yams

ORANGE

& YELLOW

yams yellow apples yellow peppers yellow squash

This information is for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for the advice of a doctor. Consult your doctor prior to beginning an exercise program or making changes to your lifestyle or health care routine.

