



Tips for Avoiding Your Allergen

- All FDA-regulated manufactured food products that contain a “major food allergen” (milk, wheat, egg, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, crustacean shellfish, and soy) as an ingredient are required by U.S. law to list that allergen on the product label. For tree nuts, fish and crustacean shellfish, the specific type of nut or fish must be listed.
- Read all product labels carefully before purchasing and consuming any item.
- Be aware of unexpected sources of allergens, such as the ingredients listed below.
- *Note: This list does not imply that the allergen is always present in these foods; it is intended to serve as a reminder to always read the label and ask questions about ingredients.



For a Milk-Free Diet

Avoid foods that contain milk or any of these ingredients:

butter, butter fat, butter oil, butter acid, butter ester(s)	lactalbumin, lactalbumin phosphate	<i>solids, whole</i>
butter milk	lactoferrin	milk protein hydrolysate pudding
casein	lactose	Recaldent®
casein hydrolysate	lactulose	rennet casein
caseinates (<i>in all forms</i>)	milk (<i>in all forms, including condensed, derivative, dry, evaporated, goat's milk and milk from other animals, lowfat, malted, milkfat, nonfat, powder, protein, skimmed,</i>	sour cream, sour cream solids
cheese		sour milk solids
cottage cheese		tagatose
cream		whey (<i>in all forms</i>)
curds		whey protein
custard		hydrolysate
diacetyl		yogurt
ghee		
half-and-half		

Milk is sometimes found in the following:

artificial butter flavor	culture and other bacterial cultures	nisin
baked goods	luncheon meat, hot dogs, sausages	non dairy products
caramel candies	margarine	nougat
chocolate		
lactic acid starter		

Keep the following in mind:

- Individuals who are allergic to cow's milk are often advised to also avoid milk from other domestic animals. For example, goat's milk protein is similar to cow's milk protein and may, therefore, cause a reaction in individuals who have a milk allergy.



For a Wheat-Free Diet

Avoid foods that contain wheat or any of these ingredients:

bread crumbs	<i>protein, instant, pastry, self-rising, soft wheat, steel ground, stone ground, whole wheat</i>	semolina
bulgur	hydrolyzed wheat protein	spelt
cereal extract	Kamut®	sprouted wheat
club wheat	matzoh, matzoh meal (<i>also spelled as matzo, matzah, or matza</i>)	triticale
couscous	pasta	vital wheat gluten
cracker meal	seitan	wheat (<i>bran, durum, germ, gluten, grass, malt, sprouts, starch</i>)
durum		wheat bran hydrolysate
einkorn		wheat germ oil
emmer		wheat grass
farina		wheat protein isolate
flour (<i>all purpose, bread, cake, durum, enriched, graham, high gluten, high</i>		whole wheat berries

Wheat is sometimes found in the following:

glucose syrup	soy sauce	surimi
oats	starch (<i>gelatinized starch, modified starch, modified food starch, vegetable starch</i>)	



For an Egg-Free Diet

Avoid foods that contain eggs or any of these ingredients:

albumin (<i>also spelled albumen</i>)	livetin	vitellin
egg (<i>dried, powdered, solids, white, yolk</i>)	lysozyme	words starting with “ovo” or “ova” (<i>such as ovalbumin</i>)
egg nog	mayonnaise	
globulin	meringue (<i>meringue powder</i>)	
	surimi	

Egg is sometimes found in the following:

baked goods	fried rice	meatloaf or meatballs
breaded items	ice cream	nougat
drink foam (<i>alcoholic, specialty coffee</i>)	lecithin	pasta
egg substitutes	marzipan	
	marshmallows	

Keep the following in mind:

- Individuals with egg allergy should also avoid eggs from duck, turkey, goose, quail, etc., as these are known to be cross-reactive with chicken egg.
- While the whites of an egg contain the allergenic proteins, patients with an egg allergy must avoid all eggs completely.



For a Soy-Free Diet

Avoid foods that contain soy or any of these ingredients:

edamame	soy protein (<i>concentrate, hydrolyzed, isolate</i>)
miso	shoyu
natto	soy sauce
soy (<i>soy albumin, soy cheese, soy fiber, soy flour, soy grits, soy ice cream, soy milk, soy nuts, soy sprouts, soy yogurt</i>)	tamari
soya	tempeh
soybean (<i>curd, granules</i>)	textured vegetable protein (<i>TVP</i>)
	tofu

Soy is sometimes found in the following:

Asian cuisine	vegetable gum
vegetable broth	vegetable starch

Keep the following in mind:

- The FDA exempts highly refined soybean oil from being labeled as an allergen. Studies show most allergic individuals can safely eat soy oil that has been highly refined (not cold pressed, expeller pressed, or extruded soybean oil).
- Most individuals allergic to soy can safely eat soy lecithin.
- Follow your doctor's advice regarding these ingredients.





For a Shellfish-Free Diet

Avoid foods that contain shellfish or any of these ingredients:

barnacle	lobster (<i>langouste, langoustine, Moreton bay bugs, scampi, tomalley</i>)	prawns
crab		shrimp (<i>crevette, scampi</i>)
crawfish (<i>crawdad, crayfish, ecrevisse</i>)		
krill		

! Mollusks are not considered major allergens under food labeling laws and may not be fully disclosed on a product label.

Your doctor may advise you to avoid mollusks or these ingredients:

abalone	limpet (<i>lapas, opihi</i>)	sea cucumber
clams (<i>cherrystone, geoduck, littleneck, pismo, quahog</i>)	mussels	sea urchin
cockle	octopus	snails (<i>escargot</i>)
cuttlefish	oysters	squid (<i>calamari</i>)
	periwinkle	whelk (<i>Turban shell</i>)
	scallops	

Shellfish are sometimes found in the following:

bouillabaisse	fish stock	surimi
cuttlefish ink	seafood flavoring (<i>e.g., crab or clam extract</i>)	
glucosamine		

Keep the following in mind:

- Any food served in a seafood restaurant may contain shellfish protein due to cross-contact.
- For some individuals, a reaction may occur from inhaling cooking vapors or from handling fish or shellfish.



For a Peanut-Free Diet

Avoid foods that contain peanuts or any of these ingredients:

artificial nuts	goobers	nut meat
beer nuts	ground nuts	peanut butter
cold pressed, expeller pressed, or extruded peanut oil	mixed nuts	peanut flour
	monkey nuts	peanut protein hydrolysate
	nut pieces	

Peanut is sometimes found in the following:

African, Asian (<i>especially Chinese, Indian, Indonesian, Thai, and Vietnamese</i>), and Mexican dishes	baked goods (<i>e.g., pastries, cookies</i>)	enchilada sauce
	candy (<i>including chocolate candy</i>)	marzipan
	chili	mole sauce
	egg rolls	nougat

Keep the following in mind:

- Mandelonas are peanuts soaked in almond flavoring.
- The FDA exempts highly refined peanut oil from being labeled as an allergen. Studies show that most allergic individuals can safely eat peanut oil that has been highly refined (not cold pressed, expeller pressed, or extruded peanut oil). Follow your doctor's advice.
- A study showed that unlike other legumes, there is a strong possibility of cross-reaction between peanuts and lupine (or lupin). Flour derived from lupine is becoming a common substitute for gluten-containing flours. The law requires that a food product's ingredients must be listed on the label, such as "lupin" or "lupine".
- Arachis oil is peanut oil.
- Many experts advise patients allergic to peanuts to avoid tree nuts as well.
- Sunflower seeds are often produced on equipment shared with peanuts.
- Some alternative nut butters, such as soy nut butter or sunflower seed butter, are produced on equipment shared with other tree nuts and, in some cases, peanuts. Contact the manufacturer before eating these products.



For a Tree-Nut-Free Diet

Avoid foods that contain nuts or any of these ingredients:

almond	litchi/lichee/lychee nut	pecan
artificial nuts	macadamia nut	pesto
beechnut	marzipan/almond paste	pili nut
Brazil nut	Nangai nut	pine nut (<i>also referred to as Indian, pignoli, pignolia, pignon, piñon, and pinyon nut</i>)
butternut	natural nut extract (<i>e.g., almond, walnut</i>)	
cashew	nut butters (<i>e.g., cashew butter</i>)	
chestnut	nut meal	
chinquapin nut	nut meat	
filbert/hazelnut	nut paste (<i>e.g., almond paste</i>)	
gianduja (<i>a chocolate-nut mixture</i>)	nut pieces	
ginkgo nut		
hickory nut		

Tree nuts are sometimes found in the following:

black walnut hull extract (<i>flavoring</i>)	nut distillates/alcoholic extracts	walnut hull extract (<i>flavoring</i>)
natural nut extract	nut oils (<i>e.g., walnut oil, almond oil</i>)	

Keep the following in mind:

- Mortadella may contain pistachios.
- There is no evidence that coconut oil and shea nut oil/butter are allergenic.
- Many experts advise patients allergic to tree nuts to avoid peanuts as well.
- Talk to your doctor if you find other nuts not listed here.
- Coconut, the seed of a drupaceous fruit, has typically not been restricted in the diets of people with tree nut allergy. However, in October of 2006, the FDA began identifying coconut as a tree nut. Medical literature documents a small number of allergic reactions to coconut; most occurred in people who were not allergic to other tree nuts. Ask your doctor if you need to avoid coconut.



For a Fish-Free Diet

Fish is sometimes found in the following:

barbecue sauce	fish oil	pizza (<i>anchovy topping</i>)
bouillabaisse	fish sauce imitation fish or shellfish isinglass	roe
Caesar salad	lutefisk maw, maws (<i>fish maw</i>)	salad dressing
caviar	fish stock	seafood flavoring
deep fried items	fishmeal	shark cartilage
fish flavoring	nuoc mam (<i>Vietnamese name for fish sauce; beware of other ethnic names</i>)	shark fin
fish flour		surimi
fish fume		sushi, sashimi
fish gelatin (<i>kosher gelatin, marine gelatin</i>)		Worcestershire sauce

Keep the following in mind:

- If you have fish allergy, avoid seafood restaurants. Even if you order a non-fish item off of the menu, cross-contact of fish protein is possible.
- Asian cookery often uses fish sauce as a flavoring base. Exercise caution when eating this type of cuisine.
- Fish protein can become airborne in the steam released during cooking and may cause an allergic reaction. Stay away from cooking areas when fish is being prepared.

