

Health and wellness tips for your work and life, presented by:



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Foodborne Illness is on the Rise: Protect Yourself

It's scary, but it's the truth. You've likely seen the news reports this year, announcing recall after recall of produce, eggs and other foods. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the overall number of diagnosed cases of listeria and salmonella, among others, increased 96 percent in 2017 alone.

Foodborne illness is no joke—1 in 6 Americans get sick and 3,000 die every year from one of 31 known pathogens. Globally, this number increases drastically.

To avoid contracting a foodborne illness, be sure to prepare your food safely and monitor the CDC's outbreak [webpage](#). If an outbreak is reported or a recall is issued, don't risk it! Follow the CDC's advice so you don't get sick.

HBP Guidelines Have Changed: Do You Know Your Risk?

The American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology redefined what is considered high blood pressure (HBP) in November 2017, based on new evidence supporting a lower threshold. Stage 1 high blood pressure, also known as hypertension 1, is consistently measured at 130 over 80 or greater. The previous threshold was 140 over 90.

HBP is a serious condition that, if left untreated, can lead to coronary heart disease, heart failure, stroke, kidney failure and other health problems.

The New Guidelines & You

Under these new guidelines, nearly 46 percent of American adults are considered to have high blood pressure. Over one-third of Americans would be recommended for high blood pressure medication.

Your Next Steps

HBP is referred to as the "silent killer" because those who have it don't typically experience symptoms. The best way to find out if you have HBP is to get your blood pressure checked every two years and speak with your doctor.

In some cases, HBP can be prevented by living a healthy lifestyle that includes exercising regularly, eating a healthy diet low in salt, fat and alcohol, avoiding smoking and managing stress.

For more information, speak with your doctor.



Corn and Pepper Cups

5 green peppers (halved lengthwise)
1/2 small onion (chopped)
1 ½ garlic cloves (chopped)
Olive oil
3 cups brown rice (cooked)
1 10 ½-ounce can diced tomatoes with chiles (undrained)
12-ounce can whole kernel corn (drained)
1/2 cup cheddar cheese (shredded)
Nonstick cooking spray

PREPARATIONS

1. In a large pot, bring water to a boil.
2. Heat oven to 350 F.
3. Remove seeds from peppers. Cook peppers in boiling water for 2-3 minutes.
4. Heat a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add enough olive oil to coat the bottom of the skillet.
5. Add onion and garlic to the skillet and cook for 3 minutes.
6. Combine rice, tomatoes, corn and onion.
7. Coat baking sheets with nonstick cooking spray.
8. Spoon rice mixture into pepper halves and place on baking sheets.
9. Bake peppers for 10 minutes, or until hot. Sprinkle with cheese.
10. Bake again for five minutes or until cheese melts. Serve hot.

Makes: 10 servings

Nutritional Information (per serving)

Total Calories	114
Total Fat	2 g
Protein	4 g
Carbohydrates	22 g
Dietary Fiber	2 g
Saturated Fat	1 g
Sodium	211 mg
Total Sugars	6 g

Source: USDA



Fruits and Veggies: How Much is Enough?

If you're like the majority of Americans, you're most likely not eating enough fruits and vegetables. Fruits & Veggies – More Matters, a national health observance that occurs every September, wants to change that.

Fruits and vegetables contain essential vitamins, minerals, fiber and other naturally occurring substances that may help prevent chronic diseases.

How Much is Enough?

According to [MyPlate](#), the U.S. Department of Agriculture's symbol for healthy eating, the recommended adult daily serving for fruits and vegetables are:

- Fruits
 - Women: 2 cups (ages 19-30), 1 ½ cups (ages 31+)
 - Men: 2 cups (ages 19+)
- Vegetables
 - Women: 2 ½ cups (ages 19-50), 2 cups (ages 51+)
 - Men: 3 cups (ages 19-50), 2 ½ cups (ages 51+)

What counts as a cup?

Fruits
In general, 1 cup of fruit of 100% fruit juice, or 1/2 cup of dried fruit can be considered as 1 cup.

Vegetables
In general, 1 cup of raw or cooked vegetables or vegetable juice, or 2 cups of raw leafy greens can be considered as 1 cup from the vegetable group.