Uncommon Foods

Douglas Jones, MD, FAAAAI, FACAAI FAST 2023



What are common vs uncommon foods

Common foods

Milk, egg, peanut, soy, wheat, tree nuts, sesame, chickpea

Uncommon foods

- Seeds
 - Sunflower
 - Pumpkin
 - Flaxseed (linseed)
- Grains
 - Barley, Oat, Rye

- Vegetables
 - Beans
 - Peas
 - Lentil
- Fruits
 - Coconut

- Spices and Herbs
 - Garlic
 - Mustard
- Protein rich foods
 - Meat and poultry
 - Fin fish and Shellfish



Prior to doing uncommon foods, consider...

- Food allergy must be confirmed
- Ensure it is not oral allergy syndrome
- HDM, cockroach, and shellfish relationship
- Cost/benefit and ROI for both the patient and the clinic
 - What is the importance of the food to the family's diet
 - Patients must fully understand the duration of maintenance
 - What is the ROI for the clinic considering associated costs
- Sourcing the food(s) for OIT may be a challenge
 - Having more than one food form is helpful
 - Patients may be the best source of information



Guide—Think and use science

- Extrapolate from similar foods
 - Peanuts for tree nuts and seeds
 - Wheat for vegetables
 - For dilutions can use microcrystalline cellulose powder for dry foods and rice cereal for hydrated foods
 - This may not be magic, but it helps if you have a Magic Bullet blender to refine the foods
- Apply routine escalation protocols
- Establish goals
 - Free eating versus bite proofing
 - How much can a person be reasonably expected to eat



Buckwheat and Oat

- Buckwheat
 - Bob's Redmill organic buckwheat flour with 1 mg (about 1 mcg of protein) as the starting dose, and 18.5 gm for target dose (approximately 2 grams of protein)
 - Buckwheat pancake is the most popular food for maintenance, although one patient preferred buckwheat cookies:
 - Easy Buckwheat Cookies (Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free) - Dish by Dish
- Oat
 - Quaker Oats old fashioned whole grain oatmeal
 - Start with 1 mg, and the maintenance dose was 50 gm



Corn: several options

- Bob red mill medium grind organic corn meal
 - Starting dose 1mg, progressing to one serving of polenta
 - Basic Polenta Recipe NYT Cooking (nytimes.com)
- Started with 1mg of corn meal as above, but transition to Kellogg's corn flakes when the dose increases to 100mg. Maintenance dose of 1/2 cup of corn flakes (15grams)
- Can also used canned corn calculating the same protein values
- Target dose 1 gm of protein (typical dose for all grain OIT)



Chickpea and lentils

- In this protocol, pressure cook the lentils for 10 minutes, and then generate a fine slurry
- Start with 1 mg of each lentil, and our maintenance dose is 10 gm of each lentil



Coconut and Peas

- Coconut
 - Goya coconut milk
 - Follow milk OIT protocol and increase to 1/2 cup milk as the final dose
- Peas
 - Ripple pea-protein milk
 - Follow milk protocol
 - Maintenance of 1/2 cup of milk



Garlic

- Dr. Ruchir Agrawal
 - There are several IgE binding proteins in garlic:
 - Diallyl disulfide contact dermatitis
 - Alliin lyase major influence/cross reaction
 - Heat labile with ingestion
 - Initial dose 0.1mg garlic granules or 6.5ug garlic protein
 - Maintenance 900mg of garlic granules (~3/8 tsp) or 58.5mg of garlic protein
- Powder is fine, dried garlic similar to flour
- Granules are coarse dried garlic similar to a meal
- Both powder and granules weigh 1.58g/tsp
- Powder and granules are ~6.5% protein



Pork, beef, chicken

- Assess for or consider alpha-gal
- Same protocol as the one used for fish
- Started off by mixing ground meat with rice cereal, but then transitioned to lightly grilled meat when reached 1 gm of meat.
- Maintenance is 10 gm of each meat



Fish and shellfish

Fish

- Start with 1 mg of each fish treated, and progress to 10 gm each as the final dose
- Initially blend them with rice cereal and add 2.5% lemon juice as a preservative
- The shelf life is still one week, and fresh mix has to be prepared every week
- Once the dose goes up to 0.25 gm, can stop this blending with rice cereal, and transition to real fish
- Typically boil all seafood without further cooking or grilling
- Compliance is abysmal as you can imagine again ask the ROI

Shellfish

- The protocol and concepts are the same as the fish protocol
- Compliance is better than fish

Shrimp







FOLLOW UP: BAT to shrimp 2 years post OIT graduation

BASOPHIL PHENOTYPING	% positive CD63	CD63 Reference Range		CD203c Reference Range
CD45/CD123/CD193/IgE/CD63/CD203c	8.0		N/A	•
Antigen KLH: CD63+CD203c+	8.0		0.9	
Antigen IgE: CD63+CD203c+	0.3		1.1	
Antigen fMLP: CD63+CD203c+	19.6		1.6	
Antigen 1:Shrimp				
Basophil Phenotype 10,000 ng/ml	1.0	<1.60	1.11 H	<1.1
Basophil Phenotype 1000 ng/ml	1.5	<1.60	0.93	<1.1
Basophil Phenotype 100 ng/ml	1.0	<1.60	0.90	<1.1
Basophil Phenotype 10 ng/ml	0.8	<1.60	0.99	<1.1
Basophil Phenotype 1 ng/ml	2.0 H	<1.60	1.03	<1.1
Basophil Phenotype 0.1 ng/ml	8.0	<1.60	1.06	<1.1



Special considerations for uncommon foods

- Is their ROI worth it?
- Taste is often dose-limiting
- Low protein content may require rethinking dosing
- Unexpected risks
 - Brazil Nuts are high in selenium limiting the maintenance dose



Pearls for Uncommon foods

- OIT can be done with almost any food
- Clarify patient goals
- Educate the patient about the duration of maintenance
- Enlist patient support to identify food sources
- Learn about the food (e.g. Brazil nut)
- Extrapolate the protocol from similar, known OIT foods