

## **Reflux Precautions**

- 1. Sit upright (90 degrees) when eating.
- 2. Stay upright for at least 30 minutes after eating.
- 3. Avoid large meals. Eat 5 to 6 small meals rather than 3 large meals.
- 4. Avoid eating 2-3 hours before going to bed.
- 5. Sleep with your head at 30 degrees elevation or greater. Elevate your upper body, not just your head. You can purchase a wedge pillow or create a wedge with pillows.
- 6. Sleep on your left side if possible.
- 7. Avoid and/or limit the following foods/liquids:
  - Spicy foods
  - Fatty fried foods
  - Acidic foods (examples: tomato-based foods such as pizza/lasagna, citrus such as oranges/orange juice, vinegar, bottles iced tea, etc.)
  - Soda
  - Coffee (both caffeinated and decaffeinated)
  - Alcohol (especially red wine and beer)
  - Chocolate
  - Garlic and onion
  - Peppermint flavored candy, gum and food
- 8. Do not take antihistamines.
- 9. Do not smoke.
- 10. Take medication (if recommended by your doctor) at the designated time.