# Men's Hormone Balancing Diets

## Healthy Fats

Heart-healthy fats are added to this plan by foods like olive oil, avocados, nuts, and seeds to support healthy <u>leptin and ghrelin levels</u> for hunger and appetite control, as well as testosterone levels. <u>Erectile dysfunction</u> appears to lessen in men adhering to the Mediterranean diet which contains plenty of omega-3 and omega-6 fats. These types of fats influence sperm maturation, motility, and acrosome reaction. <u>Omega-3 fats</u> can also assist with stress reduction by lowering <u>cortisol concentrations</u> and are found in fatty fish such as mackerel and plant-based oils.

#### Protein

Protein is considered to be the most <u>satiating</u> macronutrient as it induces prolonged <u>ghrelin suppression</u>. Eating protein regularly, especially at breakfast, can help lower <u>ghrelin levels</u> and may reduce overeating later in the day. Getting enough daily protein also helps to balance <u>blood sugars</u> and maintain muscle mass.

# Complex Carbohydrates & Fiber

Dietary fiber intake is associated with several health benefits including lower blood pressure, improved <u>blood glucose control</u>, and weight loss. Soluble fiber found in foods like oats and legumes has been shown to delay hunger and increase satiety through effects on certain <u>gut hormones</u>. Complex carbohydrate sources are incorporated in this plan from whole grains, fruits, and vegetables.

#### Zinc

Zinc plays an essential role in the immune system, <u>male fertility</u> and in maintaining the lining of reproductive organs. A deficiency in this mineral can cause sperm abnormalities and lower testosterone concentration, growth impairment, <u>hypogonadism</u>, and some endocrine diseases. Zinc is also important for the metabolism and synthesis of <u>thyroid hormones</u> which help maintain body homeostasis. Zinc is included in this plan from seafood, legumes, dairy, and oats.

### Magnesium & Vitamin B6

Research shows magnesium plays a role in managing <u>testosterone levels</u>, <u>anxiety</u>, <u>and depression</u>. Vitamin B6 is effective when combined with magnesium in adults with <u>severe stress</u>. This meal plan provides adequate magnesium and vitamin B6 from seeds, nuts, spinach, chicken, potatoes, and bananas.