## Texture classification of SOLIDS



Stage	Stage name	Description of texture	Consistency to aim for
С	Pureed Diet	<ul> <li>No chewing required.</li> <li>A thick, smooth, uniform consistency, pureed/sieved to remove particles.</li> <li>Cannot be eaten with a fork.</li> <li>A thickener (natural, such as potato, or a commercial thickener) may be added to maintain stability.</li> <li>Must not separate into liquid and solid components during swallow.</li> <li>It should be moist, not sticky.</li> <li>It will hold its own shape on a plate and can be moulded, layered or piped.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mousse</li> <li>Thick smooth yoghurt</li> </ul>
D*	Finely Mashed Diet, *SLT prescription only	<ul> <li>Very little chewing required.</li> <li>A suitable food could be easily mashed with a fork.</li> <li>Meats (beef, pork, lamb, chicken, turkey, etc.) pureed as per Stage C.</li> <li>Sandwiches are not allowed.</li> <li>Avoid foods which pose a choking hazard: <ul> <li>Dry and crispy foods: muesli, crisps, battered or breaded foods, hard confectionery.</li> <li>Sticky foods: white bread/rolls, peanut butter.</li> <li>Stringy foods: gristle, celery, lettuce.</li> <li>Fruit and vegetable skins: peas, sweetcorn, grapes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Moist pasta in sauce e.g. macaroni</li> <li>Flaked fish in sauce</li> <li>Mashed banana</li> </ul>
E	Soft and Easily Chewed Diet	<ul> <li>Some chewing required.</li> <li>Foods can be broken into pieces with a fork.</li> <li>Dishes consisting of soft, moist bite sized pieces (1.5cm diced)</li> <li>Wholemeal sandwiches with soft fillings and crusts removed.</li> <li>Avoid foods which pose a choking hazard: <ul> <li>Dry and crispy foods: muesli, crisps, battered or breaded foods, hard confectionery.</li> <li>Sticky foods: white bread/rolls, peanut butter.</li> <li>Stringy foods: gristle, celery, lettuce.</li> <li>Fruit and vegetable skins: peas, sweetcorn, grapes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Tender meat casseroles</li> <li>Quorn pieces</li> <li>Mince</li> <li>Shepherd's pie</li> </ul>

Note: Stages A - B have been omitted from this document as they refer to highly specialist types of liquidised diet.

Stages A - E correspond with the "National Descriptors for Texture Modification in Adults" produced by the BDA & RCSLT May 2002. Please refer to additional recommendations for swallowing for individual clients made by the Speech and Language Therapist (SLT). Medication should be discussed with a Pharmacist.