# 15 Ingredient Meal Program-Evidence Sheet

This program was created with the following key considerations:

## High-Quality Protein

Getting enough daily protein will help <u>prevent muscle loss</u>, <u>balance your blood sugar</u>, and <u>maintain a healthy weight</u>. This meal plan will help you reach your protein goals by providing over 20% of your calories from complete protein sources which are highly digestible and provide an adequate amount of amino acids.

### Monounsaturated Fats

Good quality fats are associated with a lower risk of heart disease and diabetes. This plan is rich in monounsaturated fat from <u>olive oil</u> and <u>sunflower seed</u> butter, which are beneficial for the immune system and inflammatory responses.

#### Iron

Iron is an important mineral that helps produce red blood cells and transport oxygen throughout the body. <u>Nutritional iron deficiency</u> is common worldwide and can be prevented by including daily iron-rich foods. This meal plan provides iron sources like poultry, ground beef, and spinach.

### Vitamin C

<u>Vitamin C</u> is an antioxidant that can help your body absorb more iron from iron-rich foods. This meal plan pairs iron-rich foods with foods that have vitamin C such as broccoli with beef and sweet potato with chicken.