# Exercise & Aging: The Fountain of Age

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# Objectives

 n Discuss the risks of a sedentary life
 n Discuss the benefits of activity
 n Discuss the components of a healthy activity program
 n Discuss precautions

## **Surgeon General States...**

# "Inactivity is detrimental to your health!"

Physical Activity and Health. A Report of the Surgeon General. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 1996.

## Sedentary Americans

n 1 in 4 exercise regularly

- n 22% never exercise
- n 30% of those over age 65 never exercise
- n Less than 10% participate in vigorous exercise



# "When I get the urge to exercise, I lie down until it

passes."

W.C. Fields

### ? DID YOU KNOW?

OVERUSING THIS DEVICE MAY BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH

99

## Results of Inactivity

n High blood pressuren Diabetes

- n Osteoporosis
- n Falls
- n Arthritis
- n Cancer

- n Heart disease
- n Obesity
- n Dementia
- n Depression
- n Parkinson's
- n Stroke
- n Macular degeneration

There is scientific evidence exercise prevents these.

### Heart Disease Risk Factors

<b>Risk Factor</b>	<b>Relative Risk</b>
Smoking	2.5
High cholesterol	2.4
High blood pressure	2.1
Sedentary	1.9



### Centers for Disease Control

"Every American should accumulate 30 minutes or more of moderateintensity physical activity over the course of most days of the week."

# Changing Views

n Any activity is better than none
n Health, not aerobic fitness
n Physical activity, not exercise
n 30 minutes is good, but less is OK

# Benefits of Activity

- n Decreased heart disease
- n Reduced weight
- Better control of diabetes
- n Less constipation
- n Longer independence

- Reduced pain in arthritis
- Improved activities
   of daily living
- n Improved self image
- n Better thinking
- Modify most diseases

#### n Heart disease \*

- Decreases heart attacks
- Improves heart failure
- Increases function
- Decreases meds used
- Decreases mortality

- n High blood pressure\*
  - Lowers systolic and diastolic BP
  - Improves recovery time
  - Decreases meds used

\*Endurance & resistance

#### n Cholesterol\*

- Raises HDL
- Lowers LDL
- Lowers TG

- n Stroke\*
  - Reduces stroke risk
  - Improves recovery rate
- Peripheral Vascular
   Disease\*
  - Increases distance walked

\*Endurance

#### n Diabetes

- Increases insulin sensitivity
- Decreases meds used
- Improves control
- Reduces complications

- n Osteoporosis
  - Reduces fracture rate
  - Increases balance
  - Decreases fall rates
  - Decreases meds used



#### n Osteoarthitis

- Decreases pain
- Increases mobility
- Decreases need for joint replacement
- Increases ADLs
- Decreases meds used

- n Rheumatoid arthritis
  - Increases flexibility
  - Increases strength
  - No effect on disease activity or progession

#### n Low back pain

- Decreases episodes
- Increases return to activities in chronic (not acute) LBP
- Improves quality of life

- n Emphysema
  - Increases endurance
  - Increases functional capacity
  - Decreases shortness of breath
  - Decreases
     hospitalizations
  - Decreases meds used

#### n Sleep

- Increases duration
- Increases total sleep time
- Late exercise can decrease REM sleep

- n Depression
  - Decreases recurrence
  - Increases resolution
  - Decreases meds used

#### n Smoking

 Increases success rates with withdrawal programs

#### n Balance

- Walking, Tai Chi, stationary cycling all improve balance
- Decreases fall rates

- n Cancer
  - Prevents colon cancer
  - Prevents breast cancer
  - Improves prognosis
  - Improves symptom tolerance during therapy



### The Cost of Inactivity

"The overall costs avoided by exercise were \$0.68 per person for people aged 15-44, and \$30.39 for people aged 45 and over."

#### \$30 x 200,000,000 = \$6,000,000,000

Nicholl JP, Coleman P, Brazier JE. Health and healthcare costs and benefits of exercise. Pharmacoeconomics 1994 Feb;5(2):109-22.

#### **Fitness & Mortality**



Blair SN et al. JAMA 1996; 276:205-10

### Fitness and Mortality Women and Men ≥60 Y/O



Sui M et al. JAGS 2007.

### Fitness and Weight (Women)



Farrell Obes Res. 200

#### **Fitness and Blood Pressure**



#### Causes of Mortality 40,842 Men & 12,943 Women, ACLS



Aerobics Center Longitudinal Study, 1970-2004. In progress

## The "Best" Activity?

## The one that you will do!

## The Ideal Combination

n Strength (muscles)
n Endurance (heart and lungs)
n Balance (nerves)
n Stretching (muscles and joints)

Fiatarone Singh, Exercise to prevent frailty, Clinics Geri Med 2000

## Strength

- Lift small weights (one can of peas) in a plastic shopping bag,
  - 10 repetitions on each side (vary the muscle groups)
- n Bag handles can be placed over feet
- n Do sit-to-stand-to-sit exercises while watching TV
- Join a health club that has both free weights and weight machines and do strength training 2-3 times per week



Helen Zechmeister, age 91



## Endurance

- n Some activity for 30 minutes a day
- Never use an elevator or escalator when stairs are available
- Note that would be a series of the series
- n Don't use remote control devices
- n Usual manual devices when possible (lawn mower, brooms, etc.)
- n Park a long distance from the main door when shopping

Fiatarone Singh

# Heart Rates

n 220-age = maximum heart rate n Target heart rate = 60-75% of maximum 220-70 = 150 150 x 0.6 = 9090 divided by 6 = 15So, a 70 yr-old starts with a target heart rate 10 second count of 15





## Balance

- Engage in exercise that requires balance (Tai Chi, dancing)
- While standing in line or cooking stand on one leg (or with feet in tandem)
- Try heel or toe walking for short distances (10 - 20 feet)
- Stand up and sit down on chairs using one leg (with hand support if needed)

# Stretching

n Once a day

- n Stretch to limit of "sweet tension" (not pain)
- n Don't bounce
- n Hold the stretch to count of "20"
- n Neck, back, arms, hips, legs

## Strategies for Success

- n Make it FUN!
- n Start slowly
- n Set goals
- n Increase activities in daily life
- n Monitor how you' re doing

- n Enlist support
- n Give yourself rewards
- n Learn from relapses
- n Know your resources
- n Lifelong orientation



## Reasons to See a Dr. First

Heart or lung disease
 Significant arthritic

- n Significant arthritis
- n Certain medications (high blood pressure)
- n Prior problems with activity



## References

- Fiatarone Singh M, Exercise to prevent frailty, Clin Geriatr Med, 2002;18:431-462
- n Dare to be 100, Walter Bortz, Fireside, 1996
- Note: New York, NY, 1981 New York, NY, 1981
- n Growing old is not for sissies, Etta Clak, Pomagranate Books, Petaluma, 1990
- n www.nih.gov/nia/health/pubpub/exercise.htm