

# No Gym? No Problem? Christine Eley, M.S., NBC-HWC





### Basic Concepts for Today

- Why exercise is so important especially now!
- A reminder of how much we need
- Tips for being active at home





### Benefits of Physical Activity (especially during quarantine)

- Enhanced ability to perform tasks and function throughout the day
- Powerful mood lifter
- Increased metabolism
- Better stress management
- Better sleep
- Increased energy

- Increased sense of well-being
- More stamina
- Reduced risk for back problems
- Better weight control





### Boost Your Immunity!

- If you follow the ACSM guidelines, research shows:
- Improved immune responses to vaccinations
- Lower chronic low-grade inflammation
- Improved immune markers in cancer, HIV, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cognitive impairment and obesity

Plus, we need to counteract the negative effects of social isolation and confinement on immunity

 Higher cortisol levels can inhibit many immune functions e.g., recognizing cells that have been infected with viruses





### Getting Started

- If you haven't been exercising or have been on a long break from exercise, consider visiting your physician before getting started.
- Start off slowly
  - Low intensity
  - Shorter durations
  - Include a warm-up and cool-down
- Increase your time BEFORE increasing intensity
- Increase your time a little each week

### F.I.T.T. for Cardio

- Frequency: Three or more days a week\*
- Intensity: 60 85% Maximum Heart Rate or 12 15 Rating of Perceived Exertion
- *Time*: 20 to 60 minutes/day
- *Type:* Walking, jogging, cycling, swimming, hiking, group exercise classes, tennis, basketball, volleyball, etc.

\*150 minutes/week of moderate or 75 minutes/week of vigorous exercise working up to 300 minutes/week total

### F.I.T.T. for Resistance Training

- Frequency: 2 3 days a week for all muscle groups
- Intensity: 2 4 sets of 8 - 12 repetitions for muscular strength and power OR 10 - 15 reps for those starting out OR 15 - 20 reps for muscular endurance
- Time: Rest anywhere from 30 seconds to 2 minutes
- *Type:* Weight machines, free weights, resistance tubing/bands, medicine ball, kettle bells, body weight, yoga, Pilates

### F.I.T.T. for Flexibility

- Frequency: Two to seven days/week
- Intensity: Stretch to the point of feeling tightness or slight discomfort (do not overstretch!) The stretching intensity should decrease during the stretch.
- *Time:* Hold each stretch for 10 30 seconds and repeat each stretch twice
- *Type:* All major muscle groups static stretching, yoga, Tai chi, Pilates

### Ideas to Create Your "Gym"

- If possible, create a space for your activity (indoors/outdoors)
- Find a program/activity that you can stick to
- Establish your activity as part of your daily routine
- Collect some basic equipment : mat, resistance bands/tubes/loops, dumbbells/kettlebells, jump rope, exercise ball, bike, pool etc.
- Set some goals; Wellpath coaches can help develop realistic goals and add measurement
- Find a workout "buddy" (text, email, apps, etc.)



### Simple, Low/No Cost Ideas

#### **INDOOR CARDIO:**

- Turn on the music and walk briskly for 10 - 15 min for 2 - 3 times/day
- Dance to the music!
- Jump rope
- Do one of those exercise videos sitting on the shelf
- Use those cardio machines that your clothes are hanging on

#### OUTDOOR CARDIO:

- Walk/jog the 'hood (avoiding crowds, keeping minimum 6' distance)
- Ride your bike
- Garden/yard work
- Active games with the family
- Walk the dog





### Body Weight Strength Training

- Squats or wall squats or "sit to stand" from a sturdy chair
- Push-ups against a wall, the kitchen counter, the ottoman or the flor
- Lunges or single leg step-ups on the stairs
- Triceps dips on a sturdy chair

- Planks/side planks
- Crunches
- Supermans
- Pull-ups on that pull-up bar you don't use
- Yoga
- Pilates





### Try the 7-Minute Workout



- Do each exercise for 30 seconds
- Rest for 10 seconds between exercises
- You can do this 1 3 times through
- OR do the 12 days of Christmas Challenge!
- Can get an online, mobile phone or watch 7-minute app





### Make Use of Simple Equipment

If you have these items at home, use them:

- Exercise Mat/Yoga Mat
- Resistance bands
- Resistance tubes
- Resistance loops
- Suspension trainer (TRX)
- Dumbbells
- Kettlebells
- Barbells and plates
- Medicine Balls

If you don't have this equipment, the low-cost options are bands, tubes and loops - they are easily ordered online and delivered to your home



### There's an App for That

#### Ten functions to look for in an app:

- Certified personal trainers available or creating content
- A tracker
- Calorie expenditure estimates
- Big changes require more than 5 -7 minutes, but can be great when looking for a quick workout
- Workout music apps can provide some motivation
- Some have games/competition/badges to help motivate

- The best apps provide a variety of strength workouts and the ability to personalize
- Virtual treadmill and bike trainer apps can mitigate boredom
- Video workout apps can be done anywhere with your phone, tablet, PC
- Some combine exercise and charity (ResQWalk)

James Peterson, Ph.D., FACSM - ACSM Health and Fitness Journal





### Popular Apps

- All/Out Studio (Women's Health, Men's Health and Runner's World workouts)
- Aaptiv
- Nike Training (FREE)
- Jillian Michaels My Fitness Workout
- Daily Burn
- Seven Workout
- Quick Fit (FREE)

- Strava (FREE)
- MyZone (FREE need HR monitor)
- MyFitnessPal
- Freeletics
- Daily Yoga
- Sworkit
- JetSweat
- MapMyFun





### Popular Apps

- C25K (FREE)
- Blogilates
- Endomondo
- SweatWorking
- Sweat
- Pear
- Beachbody On Demand
- Peloton Digital

- Glo
- YogaDownload
- Yoga Collective
- Asana Rebel
- Pure Barre On Demand
- Tone It Up
- Physique 57





## Comments? Questions? Concerns?

### Have a great day!

