



Healthy Habits

A Diabetes and Heart Disease Prevention Program









You have the power to improve your health and prevent serious disease. Start today by making small changes in your eating and exercise habits. The *Healthy Habits Healthy You* program can help you make healthy lifestyle choices to help prevent diabetes and heart disease.

Diabetes is a serious disease in which blood sugar levels are above normal.

- Type 2 diabetes is more common in people who are overweight
- Over age 45
- Before people develop type 2 diabetes they usually have "pre-diabetes".

Pre-diabetes means blood sugar levels are not high enough to be called diabetes. People with pre-diabetes can develop type 2 diabetes and are more likely to have heart disease.

Heart disease happens when the arteries that supply blood to the heart become narrowed or blocked with plaque.

- Plaque is made up of cholesterol and blood cells.
- Arteries blocked with plaque can lead to a heart attack or stroke.
- High cholesterol, smoking, high blood pressure, and diabetes can lead to plaque build-up.

The *Healthy Habits Healthy You* program can help you learn ways to make small changes in your eating and exercise habits and create ways to relax and get more sleep. **This program is not a substitute for medical care.**

The *Healthy Habits Healthy You* workbook can guide you to set your personal health goals. You decide the habits you want to change, like eating healthier or increasing activity. After reading in the workbook, fill in your new healthy habit at the bottom of the page. The workbook has tips on how to take small steps to make this change. Add a few changes every week until you reach your goal.



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INTRODUCTION

Have you been told that you are at risk for developing diabetes or heart disease?

Studies have shown that you can prevent or delay type 2 diabetes and heart disease by:

- Eating a healthy diet
- Losing weight
- Increasing physical activity
- Reducing stress

Do not use tobacco

For more information, please visit our **Prevention and Wellness** pages at optimahealth.com/ mylifemyplan.



The Healthy Habits, Healthy You program can help you learn ways to decrease your risks for type 2 diabetes and heart disease.



RISK FACTORS

What are the risk factors for diabetes and cardiovascular disease?

Two of the leading causes of death in the U.S. are Diabetes and Heart Disease.

Risk factors include:

- High blood pressure
- Elevated cholesterol
- Overweight
- Pre-diabetes



When you have pre-diabetes, your blood glucose (sugar) is higher than normal and can lead to type 2 diabetes.

Health problems related to diabetes include:

- Heart disease
- Nerve damage
- Kidney Failure
- Blindness

Certain risk factors increase your risk for diabetes:

- Age, especially after 45 years of age
- Being overweight
- A family history of diabetes
- Having an African American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander racial or ethnic background
- A history of diabetes while pregnant or having given birth to a baby weighing nine pounds or more
- Physically active less than three times a week





BODY WEIGHT

It's important to lower your body weight



As little as a 5% weight loss can reduce many of your health risks. This means that if you weigh 200 lbs, losing 10 lbs. can help prevent diabetes and heart disease.

- The best way to lose weight is to eat fewer calories and exercise more.
- Don't gain any more weight.
- ☑ Set a goal to maintain a healthy weight for life.

 Try to lose 10 20 pounds over a 12 month period and continue to lose weight over a period of 2 to 3 years until you reach your healthy weight goal.
- Avoid fad diets that claim quick weight loss that do not include a balanced variety of nutritious foods.
- Up to 60 to 90 minutes daily of physical activity may be needed for weight loss.

*Registered dietitians (R.D.) are nutrition experts who can help you with your weight loss plan. Visit eatright.org to locate a R.D. in your area. Contact your insurance provider for coverage of services.

Remember losing a small amount of weight can make a big difference in improving your health.

My Healthy Habit Goal is

HEALTHY DIET

A Healthy Diet includes:

A variety of colorful vegetables, fruits and beans.

Lean meats such as chicken without skin, turkey, fish and seafood.

- **Proods low in fat, sugar and sodium.**
- Very few highly processed and packaged foods.
- Whole grains like oatmeal, brown rice and whole wheat.
- Three servings of low fat dairy products or soy beverages with added calcium.
- To learn more about healthy eating, request the *Eating for Life* program from wellnessforme.com.





Eat colorful vegetables and fruits everyday.



HEALTHY PLATE

It's Easy to Create a Healthy Plate

Create a plate that includes a rainbow of colors from vegetables and fruits.

Eat at least 2 cups of vegetables per day, include green leafy vegetables.

Eat at least 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups of fruit a day.

Eat red meat fewer than three times a week.

Add fish or seafood at least two times per week.

Choose nuts and beans as a meat substitute.

Include one or more meatless meals a week.

Choose fat-free or low fat dairy products.

Grill, bake or broil foods.

Use vegetable oils such as canola and olive oils instead of butter or shortening.



It's simple to include healthy foods on a daily basis.

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WEIGHT LOSS TIPS

- Portion control matters. Order a child's size meal when eating away from home, skip the french fries and stick with calorie-free beverages.
- 2. Think about your drink. Select water and lower calorie versions of your favorite drink.
 - Switch from bottled sweetened tea from the vending machine to water to lose weight.
 - At the coffee shop order fat-free milk, skip flavoring syrups and whipped cream.
 - In just 2 weeks you can lose a pound of body weight by drinking a non-calorie diet drink instead of a sweetened 20 ounce soda. It will add up to 10 pounds after 5 months of switching one drink a day.
- 3. Avoid added sugars.







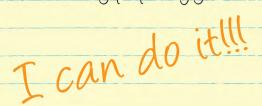
Quick Tips

When grocery shopping, spend more time in the outer aisles of the store where fresh foods are found. Spend less time in the middle aisles where packaged foods, snacks and soft drinks are found.

Sauces and gravies included in frozen foods can be unhealthy because of the high fat and salt content.

Fill up a bowl with fruit for a "Grab and Go" snack.

Cook in large batches and freeze for another nutritious and quick meal. Save money and eat healthier by preparing your meals at home.









Remember to prepare more meals at home to save both time and money.

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SUGAR

Major Sources of Added Sugars

Added sugars from the following foods will increase calories that can lead to weight gain.

- Soft drinks, sweetened teas
- Cakes, cookies, pies
- Fruit punch and lemonade
- Ice cream
- Candy









Sugar Sweetened Beverages

- Decrease or avoid sugar sweetened beverages including soft drinks and sugar sweetened fruit drinks. Drink more water instead of sweetened beverages.
- Be aware of energy drinks which frequently contain concentrated amounts of both caffeine and sugar.
- If you drink alcoholic beverages, have only a moderate amount of one drink a day for women and two drinks a day for men.
- Check with your physician about how your health may be affected by drinking alcohol.



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FATS

Avoid High Fat Foods

Fatty Foods contribute to excess calories and can raise your risk for heart disease and diabetes. High fat foods include:

- Fried foods
- Fatty meats such as cold cuts, hot dogs, and hamburgers.
- Whole milk dairy products such as cheese and ice cream.
- Baked goods such as pastries, pies, donuts, and croissants.
- Fast foods, pizza and chips.















Choose lower fat versions of your favorite snacks and foods.

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SODIUM



Reduce elevated blood pressure by limiting your sodium intake.

77% of American's sodium intake comes from packaged and restaurant foods.

Many packaged and processed foods contain salt and sodium that is unnecessary for most of us.

Fruits, vegetables, whole grains and fresh meats are naturally lower in sodium and are rich in healthy nutrients.

Do not add salt at the table. Limit intake to 2,300mg of sodium per day.

Make half your plate vegetables and fruits, and aim for at least 8-10 servings a day.

DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) eating plan from the National Institutes of Health has been shown to reduce blood pressure. It is an eating plan that emphasizes fruits, vegetables, low-fat milk products, whole grains, fish, poultry, and nuts. Learn more about DASH at **www.nhlbi.nih.gov/files/docs/public/heart/new_dash.pdf**.

Try low sodium herbs and spices to flavor foods, put away the salt shaker.



SODIUM

Major Sources of Salt and Sodium

Food types with the most sodium include:

Cold cuts and cured meats such as deli or packaged ham or turkey

Pizza

Processed poultry

Canned soups

Sandwiches such as hot dogs, hamburgers and submarine sandwiches

Cheese (natural and processed)

Mixed pasta dishes such as lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce and pasta salad)

Mixed meat dishes such as meat loaf with tomato sauce, beef stew and chili

Snacks such as chips, pretzels, popcorn and crackers

Condiments like ketchup, mustard and soy sauce.



Higher sodium foods should be eaten in small amounts.

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READ FOOD LABELS

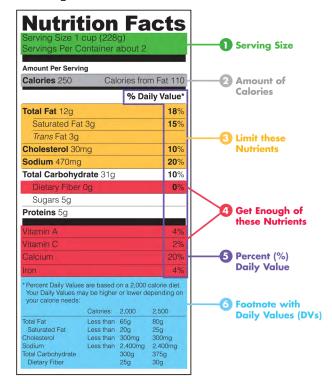


Pay attention to the serving size and total servings per container listed. The number of servings you consume will determine the number of calories and nutrients you actually eat.

Choose foods with less than 140 mg of sodium per serving.

Use the Nutrition Facts label to guide you towards building a Healthy Plate.

Sample Label for Macaroni and Cheese





Move More

Set a gradual goal to increase physical activity to reach 30 minutes most days of the week.

*Up to 60 to 90 minutes daily may be needed for weight loss.



- An active life must become a part of your daily life.
- Exercise can help control your weight and lower your health risks.
- Drink plenty of water before, during and after exercising.
- Decrease screen time in front of TVs, smart phones, electronic devices, and computers.
- Begin by taking ten-minute walks 2 to 3 times per day.

Do what you enjoy.

Keep track of your steps with the **WalkAbout with Healthy Edge** walking program available from wellnessforme.com.

Exercise wisely and safely.

Consult with your physician before participating in physical activity.

Remember to warm up prior to beginning a workout.

Perform a variety of aerobic exercises at your pace.

Include strength training two to three times a week to build muscle.

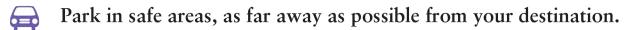
Don't overdo. Prevent injuries.

Request Staying Healthy exercise programs such as **Yoga** and **Tai Chi** from wellnessforme.com.

Each week add a minimum of 30 minutes of activity until you reach your personal activity goal.

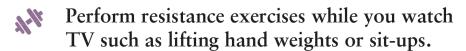
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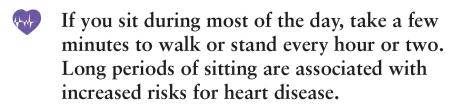
Quick and low-cost ways to increase your daily movement



Play your favorite music and dance as you do your household chores.

Walk in place, up and down the stairs or around the room during commercial breaks while watching TV.







While shopping, walk around the store a few extra trips to add steps to your day.

While watching football on TV, perform 15 push-up or sit-ups for every touchdown.

Do ten jumping jacks each time you hear the word "food" during a TV commercial.

Use local courts and city parks. Most communities have public basketball and tennis courts.



CIRCUIT TRAINING

Circuit training includes working with different muscle groups and incorporates both aerobic and resistance training in just a few minutes. Select one exercise from one of the four categories below, Total Body, Lower Body, Upper Body and Core and perform for 30 seconds. Rest for 10 seconds, then select a second exercise from each category and perform each for 30 seconds. Rest again for 10 seconds and select the remaining exercise from each category and perform for 30 seconds. In less than 10 minutes you will have had a total-body workout! Repeat 2 – 3 times for better results.

TOTAL BODY	UPPER BODY
Jumping Jacks	Push-up
Step-up onto Chair	Triceps Dip on Chair
High Knees/Running in Place	Push-up and Rotation
LOWER BODY	CORE
LOWER BODY Wall Sit	CORE Abdominal Crunch

Example of circuit training from start to finish and repeat 2-3 times:

High Knees/Running in Place	Total Body
Lunge	Lower Body
Push-up and Rotation	Upper Body
Side Plank	Core
Step-up onto Chair	Total Body
Squat	Lower Body
Triceps Dip on Chair	Upper Body
Plank	Core
Jumping Jacks	Total Body
Wall Sit	Lower Body
Push-up	Upper Body
Abdominal Crunch	Core

Circuit training can be an intense workout, check with your health care provider before starting an exercise program.

Visit www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/ to learn more about these exercises.



Wall Push-Ups (Strengthens Arms, Shoulders and Chest)

- 1. Face the wall and stand arms length away from the wall.
- 2. Place your palms on the wall with your feet shoulder width apart.
- 3. Bend your elbows and lower yourself to the wall. Slowly push yourself off of the wall to return to the starting position.

Chair Dips (Strengthens Arms and Triceps)

- 1. Sit in a sturdy chair with armrests with your feet flat on the floor, shoulder-width apart.
- 2. Lean slightly forward; keep your back and shoulders straight.
- 3. Grasp arms of chair with your hands next to you.
- 4. Use your arms to push your body slowly off the chair.
- 5. Hold position and repeat.

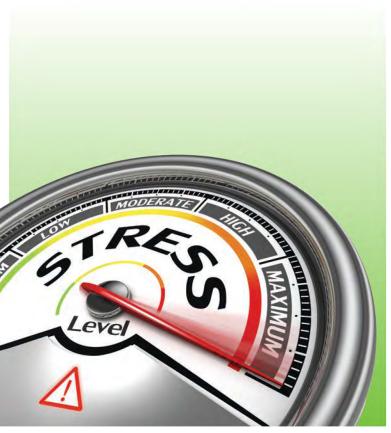
Chair Twists (Flexibility for Neck and Back)

- 1. Sit up straight in your chair.
- 2. Grab the arms of the chair on one side, and turn your head and torso in that direction.
- 3. Keep your hips facing forward.
- 4. Alternate sides.

STRESS REDUCTION

Relax...Reduce Stress

Stress, both physical and mental, raises blood sugar. During stress our body tries to produce more energy to meet our needs which results in an increase in blood sugar.



- Stress is something that affects everyone.
- Avoid stressful situations. Have an action plan to manage stress.
- Take deep breaths to help reduce tension.
- Take time to relax and get proper rest.
- Move more, regular exercise is a natural stress reliever. It helps to improve your mood and gives you more energy.
- Organize your time. It will allow you to have more time for the activities you enjoy.
- Be kind to yourself. Let go of past regrets.
 Think positive.
- Request Guided Meditation, Yoga or Tai Chi programs from wellnessforme.com.

Take time each day to relax, laugh and have fun!

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SLEEP

Get More Sleep

- Sleep is just as important for your health as diet and exercise.
- * Most adults require 7-8 hours of sleep per night to feel well rested.
- Inadequate sleep is a risk factor for both obesity and diabetes.
- * People who sleep less than average tend to weigh more and have larger waistlines compared to those who get adequate sleep.
- Sleep deprived people often feel more hungry and crave unhealthy, high carbohydrate, high salt and fatty snacks.
- * Feeling well rested can allow you to be more productive for meal planning and to schedule exercise.
- Many people are sleep deprived and struggle to get adequate sleep to perform day to day activities.

SLEEP

Tips for Better Sleep

- Maintain a healthy body weight.
 Being overweight is a risk factor that contributes to sleep disorders.
- Exercise every day, but not too close to bedtime. Strenuous activity in the late evening can disrupt your sleep pattern.

Have your room temperature cool,
between 60 - 67 degrees. Consider
blackout curtains, eye shades, ear plugs,
"white noise" machines, humidifiers
or fans to assist in designing a
comfortable sleep environment.

 Stay away from alcohol, cigarettes and heavy meals in the evening. It is best to finish eating at least 2-3 hours before bedtime. Make your sleeping area free of distractions. It is best to take work materials, computers and televisions out of the sleeping environment.

- Follow the same routine for bedtime and wake up time, even on the weekend.
- Spend the last hour before bed doing a calming activity such as reading, deep breathing or listening to soft music.
- If you fall asleep but can't stay asleep, go into another room and do something relaxing. Return to bed when you feel sleepy.
- If you continue to have trouble sleeping, speak with your physician or seek the advice of a sleep expert.

Visit wellnessforme.com to request a Guided Meditation CD.

Whenever you take a nap, limit your nap time to less than an hour and avoid naps within several hours before bedtime.

Have a comfortable mattress and pillows on your bed.

Avoid bright lights prior to bedtime, including TV and electronic screens.



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Tobacco Cessation

Using tobacco products and nicotine increase your risk for heart disease and blood vessel disease.

- No matter how long you have used tobacco and nicotine, quitting can do you a lot of good at any time that you stop.
- Set a quit date. Be positive and patient with yourself.
- **Believe that you can stop using tobacco products and nicotine.**
- Ask family and friends for support.
- To help prevent a relapse, throw out all tobacco products, e-cigarettes, lighters and ashtrays. Avoid places which can trigger tobacco usage.
- Set a no-smoking rule for your home and car. Avoid second-hand smoke.
- Do not rely on e-cigarettes as a substitute for tobacco cigarettes. E-cigarettes can contain nicotine and are linked to antibiotic resistant infections and to triggering inflammation.
- Talk to your physician or health care team about nicotine replacement therapy or other methods to help you quit using tobacco products and nicotine.
- ❖ Take advantage of a local tobacco cessation program or call 1-800- QUITNOW.
- Request the "Get Off Your Butt: Stay Smokeless for Life" educational program offering support for anyone who wants to quit tobacco use. Visit wellnessforme.com to request the program.



Avoid both tobacco and e-cigarette products.

LEARN ALL THAT YOU CAN



- Read books and articles about preventing diabetes and heart disease.
- Go to regularly scheduled physician appointments.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions if you do not understand the medical information told to you during physician visits.
- Get tested and screened regularly, including testing your blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol.
- If your doctor has prescribed a medication, make sure you take it every day or as prescribed.
- Continue to follow the advice of your health expert if you are currently receiving care from other health professionals.



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MAINTAIN A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

A healthy lifestyle makes a big difference in preventing diabetes and heart disease.

YOU CAN ACHIEVE BETTER HEALTH BY:

- Eating healthy foods
- Reaching and maintaining a healthy weight
- Maintaining an active life
- Managing stress and doing the things you enjoy
- Getting adequate amounts of sleep
- Avoiding or quitting tobacco use



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RESOURCES

Medical Websites

American Diabetes Association, www.diabetes.org
American Heart Association, www.heart.org
WebMD, www.WebMD.com
Optima Health, www.optimahealth.com

Weight Control Apps and Websites

www.CalorieKing.com
www.EverydayHealth.com
www.MyFitnessPal.com
www.ChooseMyPlate.gov
Sentara Diabetes Prevention Program

Healthy Recipes Websites

American Diabetes Association Recipes for Healthy Living, https://www.diabetes.org/healthy-living/recipes-nutrition

CDC Healthy Weight Recipes, www.cdc.gov/healthyweight/healthy_eating/recipes.html

Health and Human Services Million Hearts: Heart Healthy Recipes, https://millionhearts.hhs.gov/learn-prevent/recipes.html

USDA Team Nutrition, https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/team-nutrition-recipes

Online Print Materials

Small Steps Big Rewards: Your Game Plan to Prevent Type 2 Diabetes, https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/diabetes/overview/preventing-type-2-diabetes

Your Guide to Lowering Your Blood Pressure with DASH, http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/files/docs/public/heart/new_dash.pdf

Your Guide to a Healthy Heart, http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/files/docs/public/heart/healthyheart.pdf

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American Heart Association, https://www.heart.org/en/healthy-living

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National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-topics/coronary-heart-disease

National Institute on Aging, https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/exercise-physical-activity

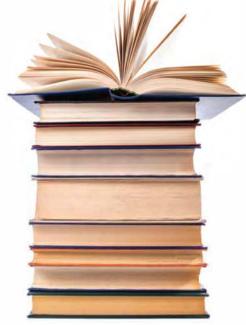
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Sleep and Sleep Disorders, http://www.cdc.gov/sleep/

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WebMD, https://www.webmd.com/diabetes/default.htm



NOTE PAGE

NOTE PAGE









Staying Healthy Programs *Programs to help prevent diabetes and heart disease

EATING FOR LIFE

Develop healthy eating and exercise habits

GET OFF YOUR BUTT: STAY SMOKELESS FOR LIFE

Stop using tobacco to benefit your health

GUIDED MEDITATION

Experience a retreat from everyday stressors

HEALTHY HABITS, HEALTHY YOU

Develop habits to prevent diabetes and heart disease

TAI CHI

Learn to mentally and physically relax

WALKABOUT WITH HEALTHY EDGE

Walk your way to better health

YOGA

Stretching and strengthening exercises

MyLife MyPlan

Creative health solutions for Optima Health members and the community. For more information about **Staying Healthy** programs, please visit optimahealth.com/mylifemyplan or wellnessforme.com.



