# Dealing with Stress in Everyday Life

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### What Is Stress?

The term "stress", as it is currently used was coined by Hans Selye in 1936, who defined it as

"the non -specific response of the body to any demand for change".

#### Common Effects of Stress

#### **Effects on the Body**

- Headache
- Muscle tension or pain
- Chest pain
- Fatigue
- Stomach upset
- Sleep problems

#### **Effects on Mood**

- Anxiety
- Restlessness
- Lack of motivation or focus
- Feeling overwhelmed
- Irritability or anger
- Sadness or depression

#### **Effects on Behavior**

- Overeating or undereating
- Angry outbursts
- Drug or alcohol abuse
- Tobacco use
- Social withdrawal
- Exercising less often

#### Keys to Stress Management

- Regular physical activity
- Relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing, meditation, yoga, tai chi or getting a massage
- Keeping a sense of humor
- Let go of things you can't control
- Do things you love
- Eat a balanced diet
- Get enough sleep

# Regular Physical Activity

1 hour is 4% of your day

Be Stronger Than Your Excuses

#### Relaxation Techniques

The sympathetic nervous system or a state of hyperarousal is activated in moments of stress.

You need tools to let your body and brain relax.

### Keep a sense of humor



### Let Go of Things You Can't Control

If you had \$86,400 and someone took \$10, would you spend \$86,390 to recover the \$10?

## Do Things You Love





# Eat a Balanced Diet

You are what you eat.



### Get Enough Sleep

#### Sleep is not a luxury.

- → Deep sleep tells the body to stop production of stress hormones
- → Not enough deep sleep boosts stress hormones
- → Not rested, feel more stressed
- → Find it harder to sleep
- → And the cycle continues

#### Higher risk of:

- Heart disease
- Depression
- High Blood Pressure
- Weakened Immune System
- Stomach Issues
- Obesity
- Diabetes

#### Attitude of Gratitude

Three thoughts of gratitude each day will change your perspective and the way your brain processes information.