## The Biggest Impact!

(23 ½ Hours)

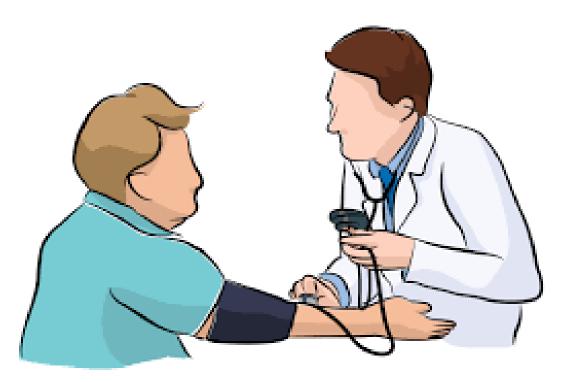
Lorayne Barton, MD, MPH Pacific Union Health Ministry Director

# What has the Biggest Return Investment for your Health?

In Preventive Medicine, we always want to know what are the most important things to improve our health or reverse chronic diseases

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Is it getting regular health check-ups from your doctor?



Is it getting regular Cancer screening?



▶ Is it eating more fiber and plant-based foods?



▶ Is it having good Social Skills & Friendship?



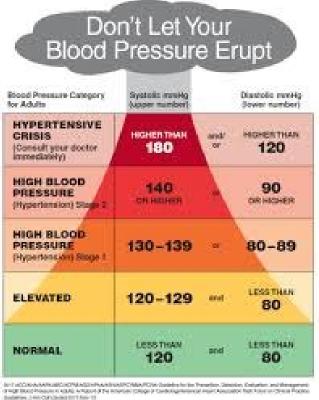
▶ Is it Weighing Less?



Is it Smoking or Drinking Less?



▶ Is it Controlling your Blood Pressure?









## Controlling Your Blood Pressure

What to do when your doctor says you have hypertension



Is it Controlling your Cholesterol?





## All of These are Very Important

I don't want to Minimize any one of these efforts

But if we could choose just one category to work on—

### What Makes the Biggest Impact?

I want to know what comes First! – What has the biggest impact on our health?

Where do we get the Biggest Bang for our Buck so to speak?

### It's Hard to Decide!

- One reason it is hard to decide is that you hear different health claims almost every week about new research on various health benefits of all of these things
- Secondly, there are many overlapping health benefits from all of these

### Why am I Choosing one Strategy?

Because of it's Breadth

Because it It works for so many Health Problems

### **Knee Arthritis**

Those who received 1 hr of this treatment three times a week reduced their pain and disability by 47%

### For Older Patients

Those who received this treatment reduced their progression to Dementia and Alzheimer's disease by 50%

#### For Patients with Risk of Diabetes

It reduced their progression to Frank Diabetesby 58%

## For Post Menopausal Women

Four hours per week of this treatment had a 41% reduction in the risk of hip fracture

## For Anxiety & Depression

It reduced the risk of Anxiety by 48%

In a big metanalysis it reduced the rate of Depression by 30% with a low dose of the treatment

It reduced Depression by 47% as the dose was increased

# Harvard Alumni –(12 yr study follow–up). 10,000 persons

It reduced the risk of Death by 23% compared to those that did not get the treatment

## **Fatigue**

▶ It is the # 1 treatment for Fatigue

## **Quality of Life**

It improves Quality of Life and has been shown over and over to improve this quality in multiple studies

### So What is this Medicine?

And what does 23 ½ hours have to do with it?

### This Medicine is (You Guessed it!)

Exercise! At least ½ hr per day!

Mostly Walking, Not marathons or triathalons

### What Causes the Most Disability?

Aerobic Center Longitudinal Study- 50,000 Men/Women

- Diabetes?
- High Cholesterol?
- Hypertension?
- Smoking?
- Obesity?

### What Causes the Most Disability?

**LOW FITNESS** 



### So What Is a Typical Day for Many

Each day most adults typically spend many hours sitting both at work and at home, Watching TV, Sleeping

### So What Do we Recommend?

- ▶ Each day if you can spend at least ½ hour exercising or maybe even an hour exercising you can realize all of the benefits we just described in the previous slides.
- You can have the rest of the 23 ½ hours to do all those other things like sitting and sleeping

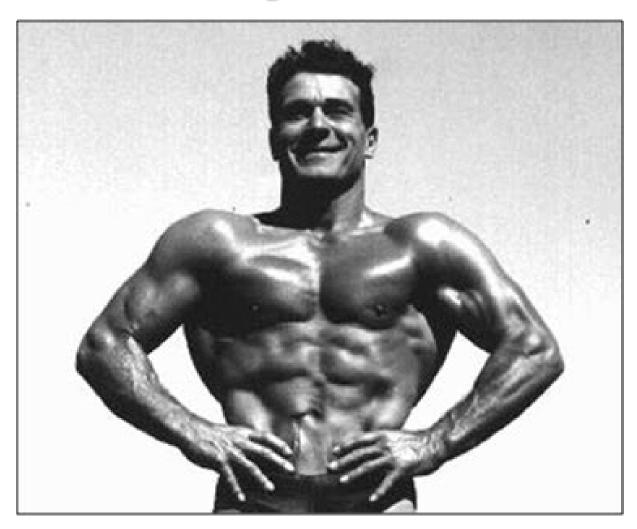
## America's Sedentary Epidemic



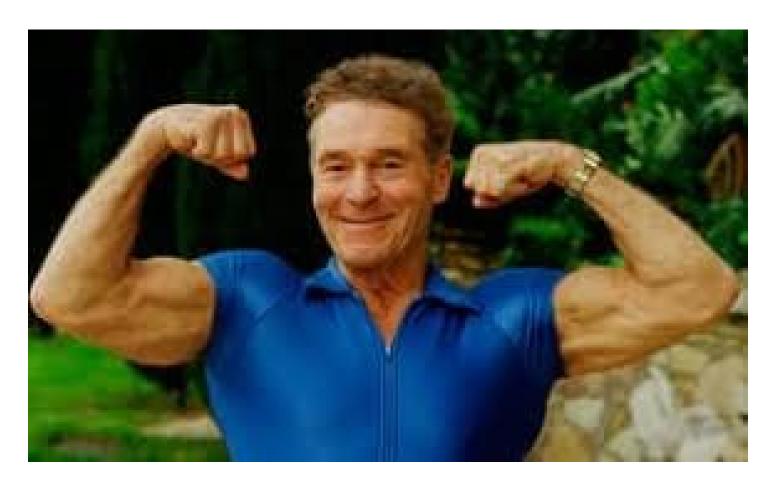
### EXERCISE

Welcome to America.

## Remember Jack Lalanne?

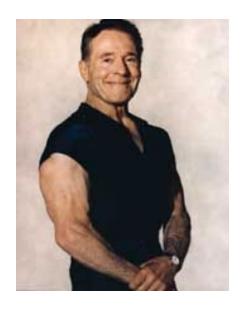


## Remember Jack Lalanne?



## Jack Lalanne: Lived 96 years!

- Turned 96 years old on Sep. 26, 2010
- Pioneer in the field of exercise training
- Well known for his long-running TV show
- Describes himself as a weak, sickly child
- As a teen, went to hear nutrition/health promoter Paul Bragg lecture. This was the start of new way of life for LaLanne.



## Jack Lalanne: 96 years strong!

"I actually got on my knees and I said, 'Dear God, give me the willpower to refrain from eating these foods that are killing me!' " he says.

LaLanne cut out all white flour and white sugar, turning to a diet heavy on fruits and vegetables. At the end of two weeks, he says, he felt "like an entirely different human being."

USA Today, September 26, 2004

### Jack Lalanne: Lived 96 years strong!

- Began to adhere to diet that was strictly vegetarian for many years (today described by his website as 99.9% vegetarian)
- Began vigorous exercise program
- At 70 yrs of age, swam towing 70 boats each with 70 people in them across a bay
- At 90 years of age, exercised 2 hours per day,7 days per week

#### Health Benefits of Exercise

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- Reduces heart disease risk
- Reduces blood pressure
- Increases HDL cholesterol
- Reduces demand on heart: efficient muscles
- Promotes collateral circulation
- Lowers stroke risk
- Reduces claudication

### Health Benefits of Exercise

- Weight reduction
  - Burns calories during the activity
  - Increases basal metabolic rate
  - Helps curb abnormal, maladaptive appetite
  - Builds lean muscle mass: muscle burns fat
- Promotes bone health and prevents osteoporosis
- Improves joint function & prevents arthritis.

#### Health Benefits of Exercise

- Improves GI tract function
  - Reduces constipation
  - Reduces gallstone risk
- Enhances immune system function
  - Note: Severe exercise can suppress
- Extremely effective in mental health
  - As effective as medication for depression
  - Helps with anxiety disorders, stress, etc.

#### Health Benefits of Exercise

- Excellent remedy for diabetics
  - Reduces insulin resistance
  - Counteracts obesity
  - Lowers CAD risk (biggest killer of diabetics)
  - Improves peripheral circulation (neuropathy, wound healing, etc.)

#### Health Benefits of Exercise

- Cancer: lowers risk for many types
- Excellent for chronic fatigue, fibromyalgia, etc.
- Promotes good sleep & circadian rhythms
- Excellent for spine health
  - Lowers pain
  - Improves mobility
  - Reduces risk of injury

## Types of Exercise to Avoid

Running at the mouth
Jumping to conclusions
Climbing the walls
Pushing your luck

### Types of Excersise

- Aerobic (with oxygen)
  - Continuous, moderate intensity
  - Oxygen transport can keep up
  - Usually uses many large muscles concomitantly
- Anaerobic (without oxygen)
  - High intensity, short bursts
  - Oxygen transport can't keep up
  - Produces lactic acid (ie. "the burn")
  - Often focused on selected muscles

#### Types of Exercise

- Other exercise terms
  - Isometric
  - Isotonic
  - Isokinetic
  - Calisthenics
  - "Aerobics" or Aerobic Dance
  - Pilates
  - Interval training
  - Resistance training

#### A Balanced Exercise Program

- Three main categories of exercise or physical activity
- All are important in different ways
- No type should be neglected or left out
- Endurance (aerobic)
- Strength (resistance)
- Flexibility (stretching)

#### **Endurance Exercise**

- Greatest cardiovascular benefits
- Great metabolic benefits
- The "foundation" of any fitness program

#### Endurance Exercise: What kind?

- Walking
- Jogging
- Swimming
- Bicycle
- X-country
- Hiking
- "aerobics"



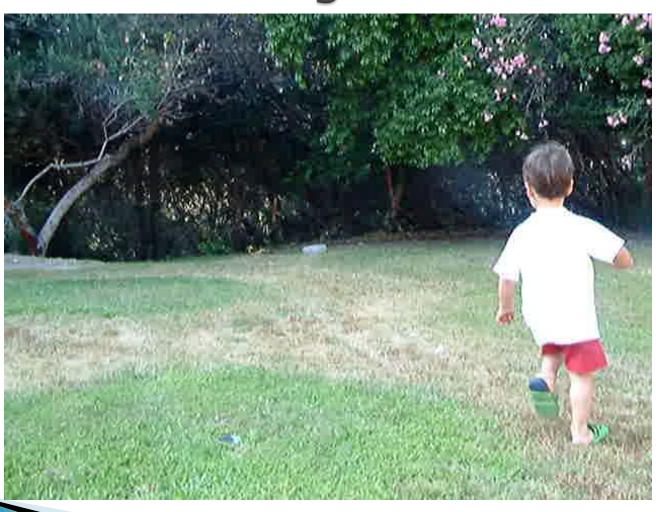
### Walking is King!

- Everyone knows how
- Almost everyone can do it
- Little cost: good pair of shoes
- Low risk or injury
- Works major muscle groups
- Weight bearing: good for bones

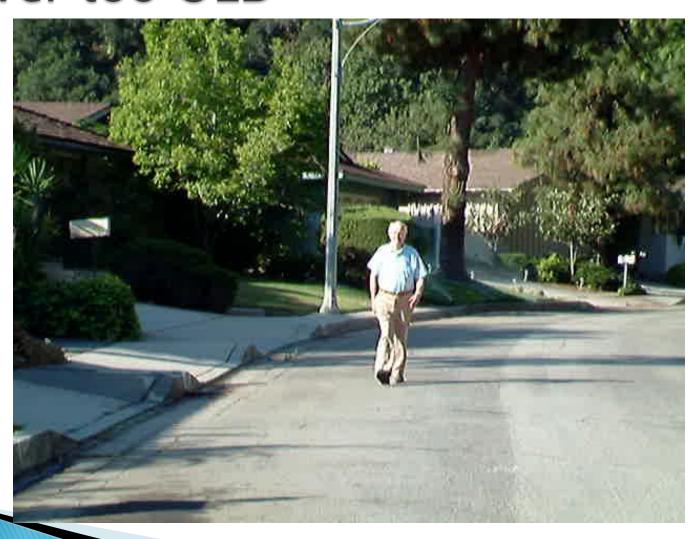
## Walking is The Best Exercise!



#### Walking is The Best Exercise! Never too Young



#### Walking is The Best Exercise! Never too OLD



### Walking is King!

- You Can Do It Anywhere
- Well Almost Anywhere



#### Swimming is Queen

- Includes actually lap swimming, water walking, and water "aerobics"
- Balance of upper & lower body
- Buoyancy protects joints, feet, skin
- Easy on back
- Note: not weight bearing, so not really helpful in preventing osteoporosis
- Pool not available or convenient for many

#### Endurance Exercise: How hard?

- The "Talk Test"
  - Should be able to talk but in a labored fashion, not able to sing.
- Target heart rate
  - Max HR = 220-age
  - Target HR = 65 to 80 % of max HR
  - Can buy HR monitors
  - Take pulse for 6 sec, multiply by 10

#### Endurance Exercise: How Long?

- For cardiovascular maintenance
  - 30 min continuous aerobic 3 times per week
- For cardiovascular improvement
  - 30 min continuous aerobic 5+ X/week
- CDC/ACSM recommends at least 30 min moderate exercise daily for health
- WHO recommends at least 60 min moderate exercise daily for health

### Strength Training: The Benefits

- Increased muscle mass / BMR
- Weight loss
- Less demand on heart
- Bone health
- Mobility, decreased injuries
- Walking by itself does not really strengthen your bones that much

### Strength Training: What kinds?

- Physical labor (i.e. farm work, chop wood)
- Calisthenics: uses body weight
  - Push ups, pull ups, sit ups, etc.
- Free weights
  - Very versatile
  - Technique important for safety
- Weight machines
  - Reliable, easy, safer than free weights

#### Strength Training: Who?

- Good for all people
- Women need strength training—will not become masculinized or muscle-bound
- The elderly can benefit greatly from a strength training program
  - Supervision and instruction important
  - Start with very light weights or rubber bands

### Strength Training: How much?

- Not necessary to do every day like endurance
- Rest days help the body "repair" or "build" muscle
- 3 days per week for 30-60 minutes is excellent
- Program should address upper body, trunk/abdomen, and lower body

#### Flexibility Training: Benefits

- Increased flexibility!
- Less risk of injury
- Improved posture and body mechanics
- Greater independence
- Important in conjunction with other forms of exercise

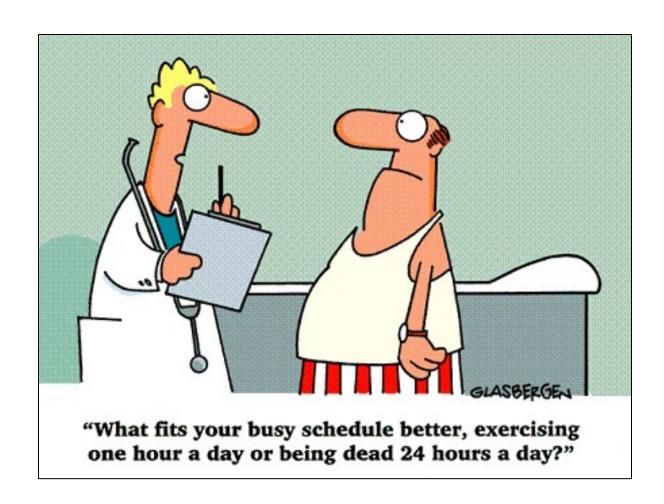
### Flexibility: Important Principles

- Develop a daily program-Stretchercize!
- Take every joint through its full range of motion at least once per day
- Best to stretch when muscles are warmed up.
- Part of a "warm-up" and "cool-down" time
- Slow and steady is the key! No ballistics or bouncing!!!

#### Putting it All Together

- Up to 60 min of moderate physical activity daily
- ▶ 20-30 min of continuous target aerobic activity at least 3-4 times per week
- Daily flexibility program
- Strength training 3 times per week or more

### Finding the Time



### Heat / Rain / Safety Concerns?



# Boring?



### Exercise & the Elderly

- Elderly
  - Prevents of reverses many aspects of aging
  - Improves mobility and strength
    - Greater independence
    - Lower fall risk
    - Improved recovery from illness or injury
  - Improves mood, lessens confusion
  - Prevents dementia
  - Improves quality of life!!!



- Born May 19, 1896
- "She said when she was 16 years old, she weighed 160 pounds and ate fattening farm food, with lots of meat and potatoes, milk, butter, big biscuits, and rich desserts. Mrs. Crooks said her older brother would tease her by saying that by the time she was 20, she would be as tall on her side as she was standing up."

- Became a Seventh-day Adventist
- Married a physician
- Became a vegetarian
- Husband passed away from a Congenital
   Heart condition when she was in her fifties
- She began becoming more active, working outside and gardening and climbing stairs

- Climbed first mountain at age 60
- First climbed Mt. Whitney at age 66
- 23 successful Mt. Whitney summits
- Last summit of Mt Whitney at age 91
- Highest mountain in Japan Mt. Fuji at 91
- Died at 101
- You are never too old to start on the road to fitness!