





## Healthy Ageing 101:

Advice from an Olympian Doctor on Optimizing our Diets and Exercise to Enable #HealthyAgeing

Jane Thornton MD, PhD, CCFP(SEM) Dip Sport Med OLY

Canada Research Chair in Injury Prevention and Physical Activity for Health Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University

Tuesday April 19, 2022

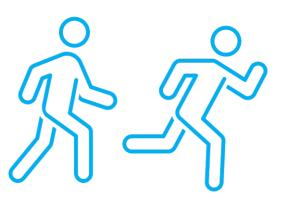
## Things that Enable Healthy Ageing

- A Balanced Diet
- Avoiding Smoking
- Drinking Alcohol in Moderation
- Regular Physical Exercise
- Regular Sleep and Rest
- Managing Stress
- Getting Recommended Vaccinations
- Maintaining Social Networks
- Staying in Contact with your Health Care Provider













## Background





### The scope of the problem



- the fourth greatest risk factor for early mortality
- the greatest modifiable risk factor for Alzheimer's Dementia
- associated with more hospitalizations, longer stays, and more hospital-associated functional decline
- ...and the trends worsen as we age, as we slowly but surely become more and sedentary, less functionally independent and less mobile ...

## Age = reductions in

Maximal Oxygen Uptake
Maximal Heart Rate
Strength
Flexibility
Proprioception
Muscle mass
Balance









Photo Credit: @alexrotas



The T

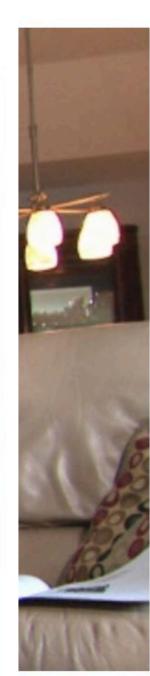
Physical activity is THE miracle cure says BMJ Editor in Chief @fgodlee; & clinicians should be THE role models. Teaching comprehensive physical activity skills training in medical education is the way forward @BJSM\_BMJ





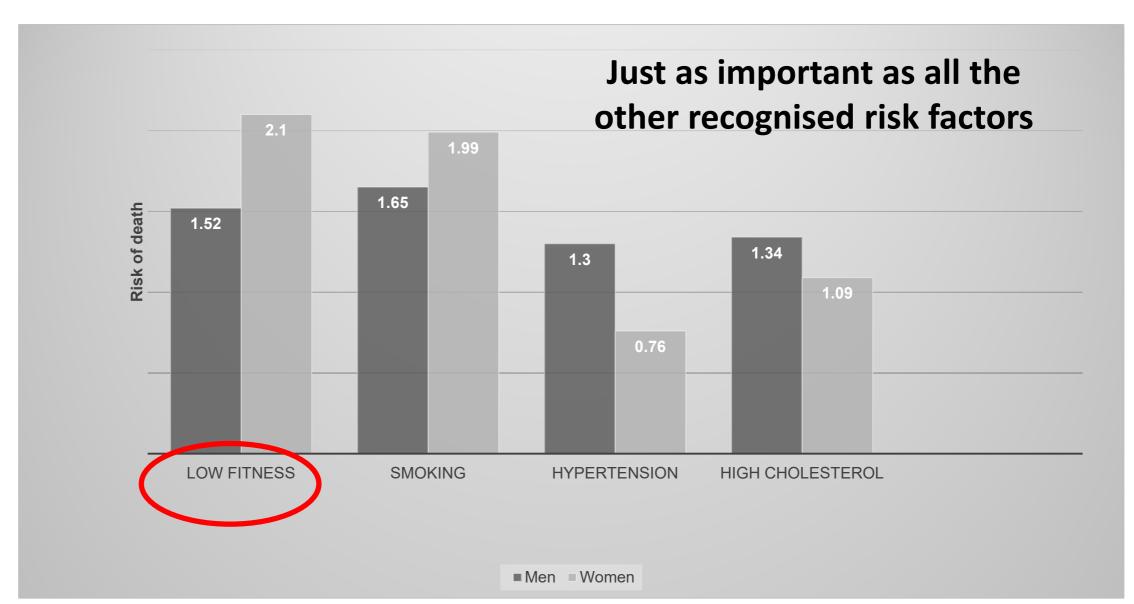
#### The miracle cure

As miracle cures are hard to come by, any claims that a treatment is 100% safe and effective must always be viewed with intense scepticism. There is perhaps one ... S bmj.com



s were

# Independent risk factor for all-cause mortality



Blair, S. N., J. B. Kampert, et al. (1996). JAMA: 276(3): 205-210.



## Physical Activity As "Medicine"

- Alcohol dependence
- Anxiety
- Asthma
- Chronic back pain
- Cancer
- COPD
- Coronary artery disease
- Cystic fibrosis
- Dementia
- Depression
- Type 1 diabetes
- Type 2 diabetes
- Dizziness and balance disorders
- Gastrointestinal diseases
- Heart failure
- Heart rhythm disturbances
- Hypertension

- Kidney disease
- Lipids
- Metabolic syndrome
- Multiple sclerosis
- Obesity
- Osteoarthritis
- Osteoporosis
- Pain
- Parkinson's
- PAD
- Post-polio
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Schizophrenia
- Spinal cord injury
- Stress
- Stroke





#### Regular physical activity $\Psi$ risk of premature death by 31-50%

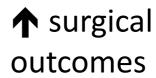


- ♣ Risk of stroke by 27-45%



- ★ mortality and the risk of recurrent breast cancer by 50%
- If the property is a property in the property is a property of the property in the p









- ✓ risk of cardiovascular disease by 33-50%
- ✓ incidence of highblood pressure by33-60%





## Training adaptations occur at any age





### **National Physical Activity Guidelines**

- 150 minutes of moderate (or 75 minutes of vigorous) physical activity per week
- Strength and balance training 1-2 times per week

Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines

FOR OLDER ADULTS - 65 YEARS & OLDER

#### Guidelines



To achieve health benefits, and improve functional abilities, adults aged 65 years and older should accumulate at least 150 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity per week, in bouts of 10 minutes or more.



It is also beneficial to add muscle and bone strengthening activities using major muscle groups, at least 2 days per week.



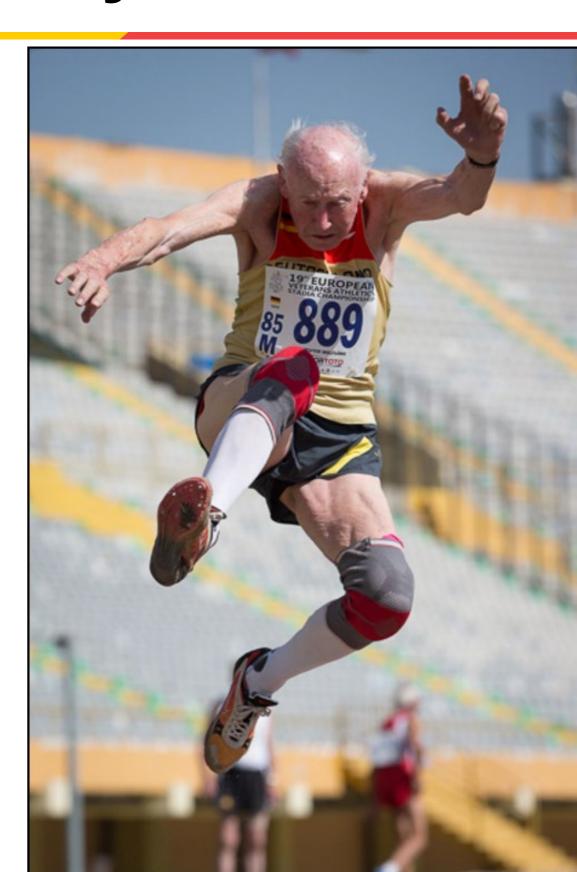
Those with poor mobility should perform physical activities to enhance balance and prevent falls.



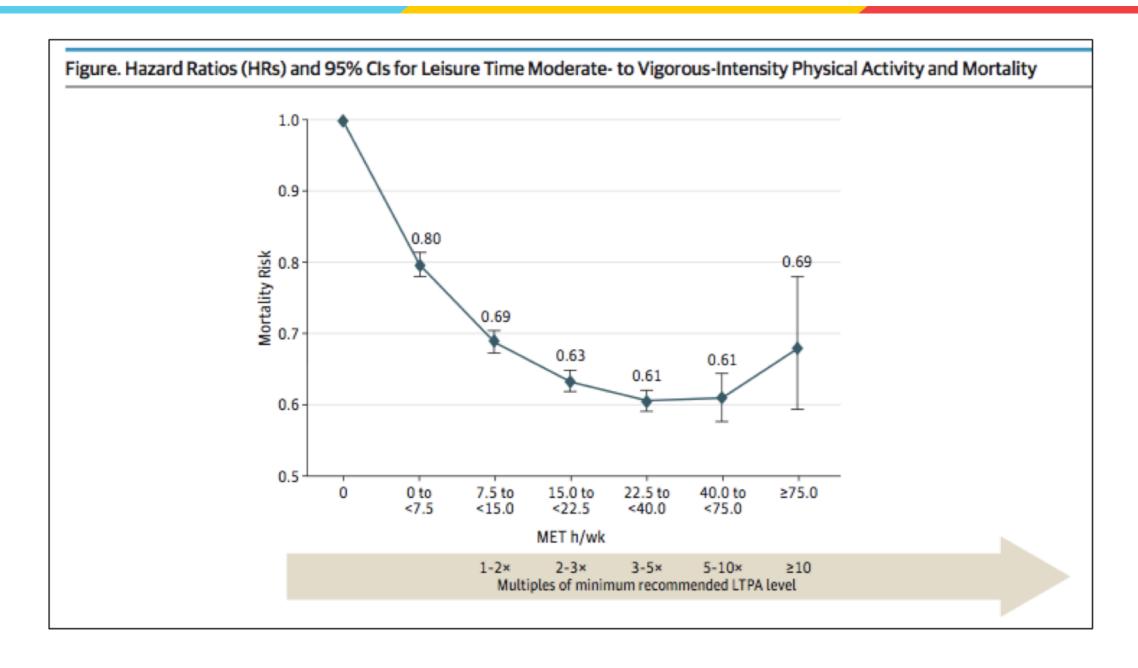
More physical activity provides greater health benefits.



WWW.CSEP.CA



## Physical Activity and Mortality





# Absolute Contraindications to starting an exercise program

- 1.Recent significant change in the resting ECG suggesting significant ischemia, recent MI (within 2 days) or other acute cardiac event
- 2. Unstable angina
- 3. Uncontrolled cardiac dysrhythmias causing symptoms or hemodynamic compromise
- 4. Symptomatic severe aortic stenosis
- 5. Uncontrolled symptomatic heart failure
- 6. Acute pulmonary embolus or pulmonary infarction
- 7. Acute myocarditis or pericarditis
- 8. Suspected or known dissecting aneurysm
- 9. Acute systemic infection, accompanied by fever, body aches, or swollen lymph glands





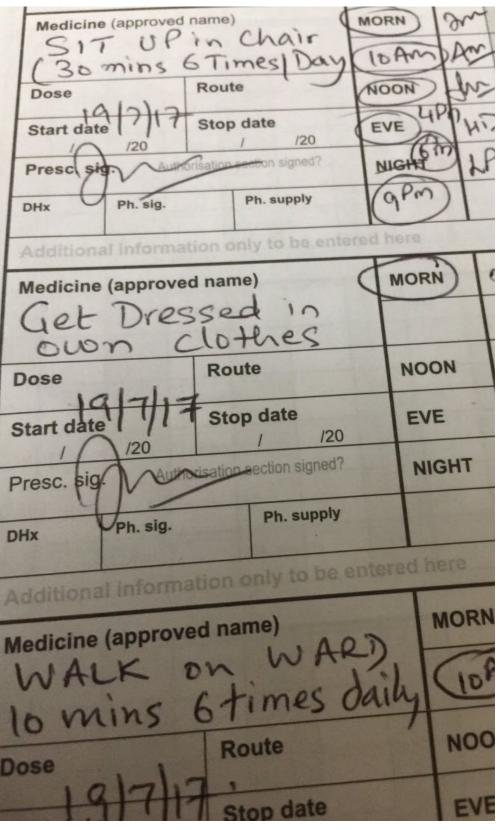
# Physical Activity in hospitals

Studies have show that: 24% of patients had no documented ambulation during 7 days

72.9% of patients considered able to walk did not walk at all







### Physical Activity in hospitals





A Los Angeles hospital is using Fitbits to help patients go home sooner Patients who reach 1,000 steps a day are typically ready to be discharged sooner than those who don't.

cnbc.com



# Physical Activity and Good Nutrition go hand in hand





## How to Achieve A Balanced Diet?



- Choose vegetables and fruits, whole grain foods and protein-rich foods at every eating occasion
- Choose foods with healthy fats instead of saturated fats
- Limit your consumption of highly processed foods. If you choose these foods, eat them less often and in small amounts
- Prepare meals and snacks using ingredients that have little to no added sodium, sugars or saturated fats
- Make water your drink of choice over sugary drinks







## Be sure to get enough....



Protein

B12

Vitamin D

Antioxidant vitamins

Calcium

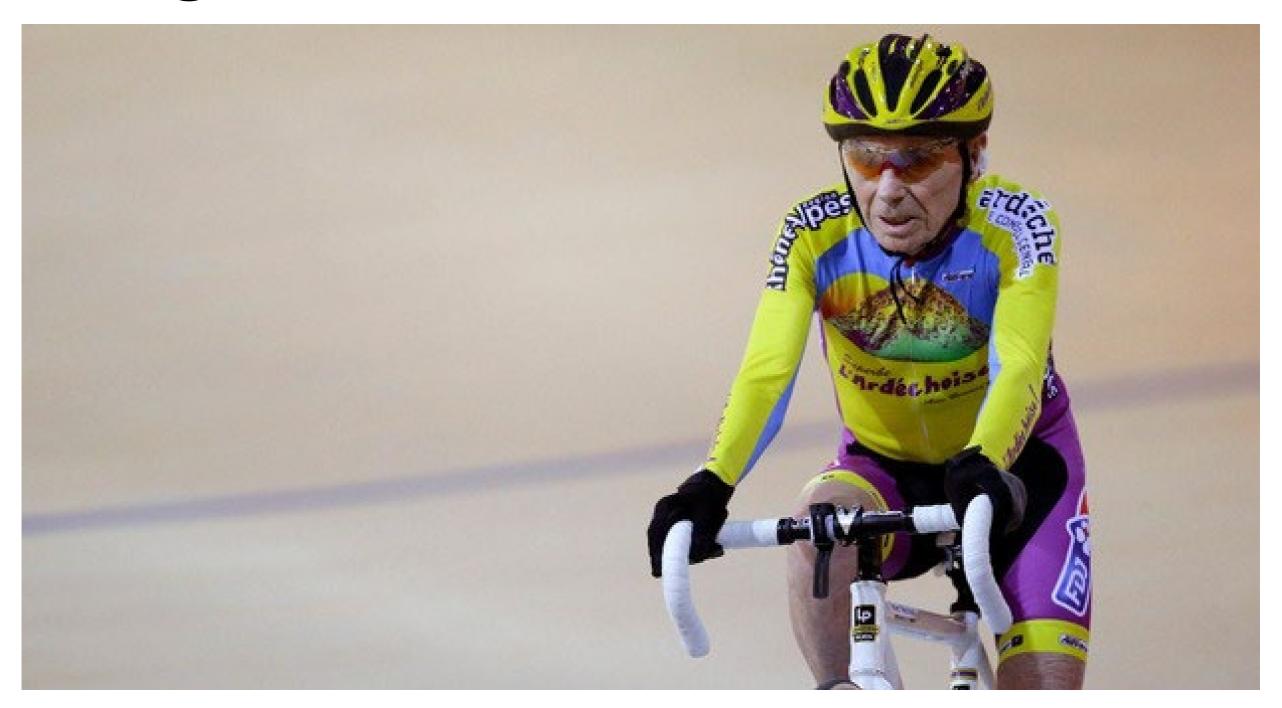
Protein







## Long term Athlete Health









You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.

CS Lewis

AlexRotasPhotography

Hildegund Buerkle, Germany, racing to a new 100m world record, 80-84 year age band, at the European Veterans Athletics Championships, Turkey, 2014.

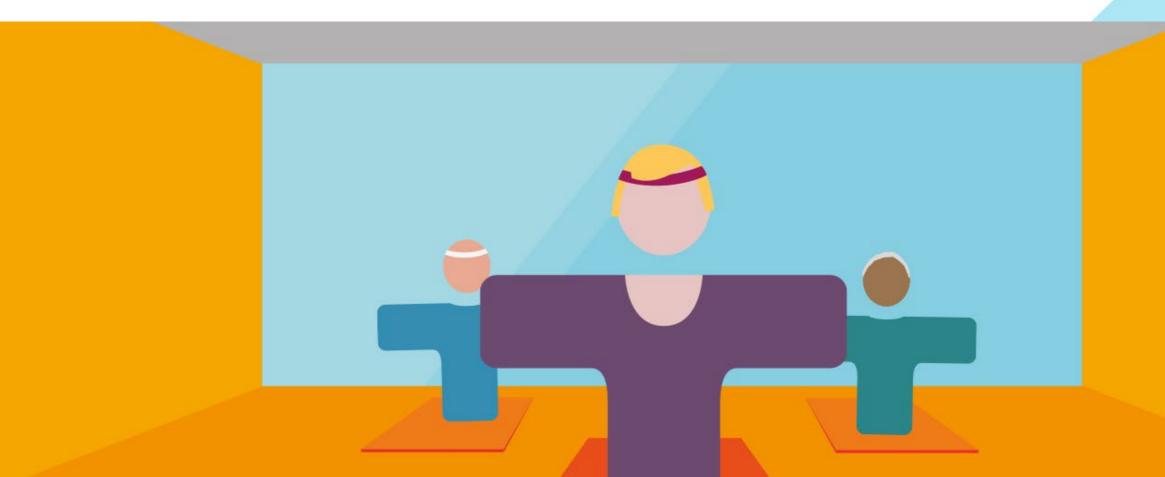








Our Vision is to develop, implement and evaluate effective physical activity interventions in clinical settings for optimal patient outcomes, and advance our understanding of the long-term health-related impacts of physical activity and sport



## My Active Ingredient

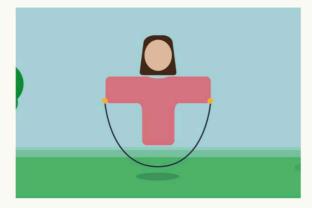
https://www.myactiveingredient.org/resources?category=Older%20Adults



Home Resources About Us







Brain Health

Physical activity for your neurological health



Muscles Bones and Joints

Physical activity for your muscle, bone, and joint health



**Heart Health** 

Physical activity for your cardiovascular health

#### Resources

- Falls Prevention Classes

  WWW.ONTARIO.CA/PAGE/EXERCISE-AND-FALLS-PREVENTION-PROGRAMS
- Canadian Diabetes Association Resistance Training WWW.DIABETES.CA/DIABETES-AND-YOU/HEALTHY-LIVING-RESOURCES/EXERCISE/RESISTANCE-EXERCISES-PLAN
- YMCA and other community initiatives
- Getting over your barriers
   MAKEYOURDAYHARDER.COM



#### STAYING ACTIVE AS YOU AGE

INFORMATION FOR OLDER ADULTS, FAMILIES, AND CAREGIVERS



#### READ THIS PAMPHLET TO LEARN:

- · Why Physical Activity is Important.
- · What Exercises are Appropriate for You.
- · How to Start Exercising.









## For More Information: @JaneSThornton jane.s.thornton@gmail.com



