### Dr Paul Annett

www.orthosports.com.au

29-31 Dora Street, Hurstville



# **Exercise Prescription (Part 1)**

Dr Paul Annett
MBBS FACSEP
Sports and Exercise
Medicine Physician



### Physical (In)activity in Australia



50% of Austraslians have NOT exercised in the last 3 months

80% Canadians (Australians) don't meet activity guideline criteria!

(And 90% of Americans)

What is going on????? Why is it important???



### Show of Hands

Who accumulated the guideline dose of physical activity yesterday?



### Aims of This Talk

1. To make you all believers in the substantial health benefits of exercise



2. To have the skills to safely prescribe exercise to your patients



### What is Exercise

- Physical activity (PA)
  - Using your muscles to move your body, so that you use up energy (eg gardening, vacuuming)
- Exercise
  - A type of PA which is planned, structured and involves some repetition of movement (eg brisk walking, dancing, cycling)
- Physical Fitness
  - A set of skills to do specific PA (eg for tennis)
- Sport
  - A form of delivery of physical activity and exercise
  - WHO suggest that physical inactivity (PI) is a disease 4<sup>th</sup> leading overall cause of mortality and morbidity worldwide



## Why Exercise???

### Multiple Health Benefits

#### PHYSICAL

 Cardiovascular disease, obesity, diabetes, breast and bowel cancer, asthma, joint disorders, muscular strength, bone strength, immune function

#### PSYCHOLOGICAL/COGNITIVE

 Reduction in depression, anxiety, improved sense of wellbeing, sleep, Alzheimer's disesase

### COMMUNITY

Social, reduced public health costs, inspiring others



# POP QUIZ - Which kills more people in the US?

Smoker

Diabetes

Obesity

Low fitness



## What about combining them?

Smoker Diabetes smokadiabesity?

Obesity

Low fitness



### Smokadiabesity / low fitness

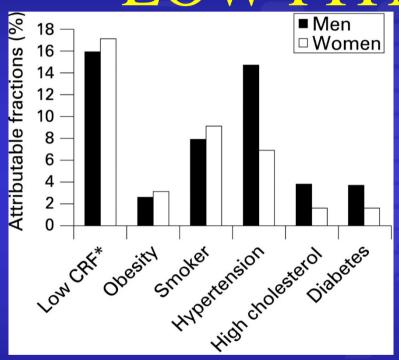
Which kills more Americans?

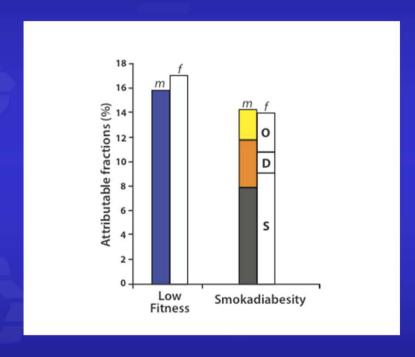
Smokadiab/low fitness

- a) 75/25?
- b) 60/40?
- c) 50/50?



## LOW FITNESS 50:50





Attributable fractions (%) for all-cause deaths in 40 842 (3333 deaths) men and 12 943 (491 deaths) women in the Aerobics Center Longitudinal Study.



Dr Paul Annett Sport & Exercise Medicine Physician

# Health Benefits of Exercise - facts

#1 Exercise is more effective than medication for the treatment of stroke and as effective for the secondary prevention of coronary heart disease and diabetes. (Naci H, BMJ 2013)

#2 A 150 min of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA) accumulated per week can reduce the risk of most major chronic diseases by 25–50%.

#3 A 15 min of MVPA per day (or 75 min/week) is associated with a ~15% relative mortality risk reduction, and benefits increase with the dose.



### historical Research

Physical activity prescription: a critical opportunity to address a modifiable risk factor for the prevention and management of chronic disease: a position statement by the Canadian Academy of Sport and Exercise Medicine

Jane S Thornton, <sup>1</sup> Pierre Frémont, <sup>2</sup> Karim Khan, <sup>3</sup> Paul Poirier, <sup>4</sup> Jonathon Fowles, <sup>5</sup> Greg D Wells, <sup>6</sup> Renata J Frankovich <sup>7</sup>

- Study of London Bus drivers and conductors
  - Compared to more active active conductors, drivers were more likely to:
    - Suffer a heart attack
    - Die younger
    - Gain weight (and increase their belt size)

Morris JN. Occupation and coronary heart disease. Arch Intern Med 1959; 104: 903-907

Dr Paul Annett

**Sport & Exercise Medicine Physician** 

### Exercise as Medicine

• 'If exercise was a pill it would be a best seller'

- This begs the question:
- WHY AREN'T WE DOING THIS????

- 1. Personally
- 2. Professionally (see next slide)



# Barriers to Exercise Prescription 'The practitioner'

- The 'too hard basket'
- Undervaluing importance
- Lack of skills/knowledge
- Lack of time
- Not an exerciser





# Exercise Prescription Where to start

- What are your needs, goals, motivation?
  - Not dying as soon!
  - Better health
  - Better aerobic fitness
  - Strength gains
  - Appearance
- Stages of Change model
  - Pre-contemplation, Contemplation, Preparation, Action, Maintenance, Termination



## **Group Activity**

How would you help motivate a person you care about to adopt physical activity behaviour (guidelines)



Top 4 reasons
why you should
prescribe
exercise/physical
activity.....



### 4 Top Reasons to exercise

- \*\*A Reduces cancer risk Colon (50%), Breast, Lung (up to 30%), Prostate
- #3 Health Cost of 1 day inactivity = smoking 3 cigarettes. 1 week inactivity = smoking 1 pack of cigarettes
- #2 Improves brain function (dementia)
- #I Low fitness kills most Americans
- 'SMOKADIABESITY'

#### A week of physical inactivity has similar health costs to smoking a packet of cigarettes

Karim M Khan, Jennifer C Davis

Google knows everything, so we tried approximately 46.5 million adult smok-

calinactivity compared with the health cost excess medical expenditures. 28 More help-

Let's move from the rather mundane dollars and cents to the controversy of 'chucking' in cricket ('throwing' to those not enamoured with the game). Our South African colleagues reveal (see page 420) why this has been such a heated debate.6 As is often the case, science can explain why different people see different things. And if you are a cricket lover, take time to check out the newly published Bob Woolmer's Art and Science of Cricket (Struik What is the health cost of a week of physiers in 1999, these costs represent \$1623 in Publishers). The title words—both Art and Science-abound in this beautifully of cigarette smoking?' There were 915 000 ful than Google. This cost is supported by integrated tome. More details on the BJSM



# Practical Steps for Exercise Prescription

- Ask about physical activity (PA) at every consultation (2-3mins).
  - On average how many days /wk do you engage in PA
  - On those days how long do you exercise for
- A written prescription building towards accumulating 150 min/week is crucial—it takes just 30 s to do this.
- Encourage the patient to measure (eg, pedometer and smart phone) and record their PA (paper and mobile app).
- Refer on as appropriate—consider appropriate physicians, physiotherapists, clinical exercise physiologists, certified fitness instructors.
- Follow-up with the patient to chart progress, set goals, solve problems, and identify and use social support.



# Practical steps for exercise prescription –

10 steps



#### Practical steps for immediate exercise prescription in general practice

- Ask about physical activity at every consultation; consider it a vital sign
- · Apply the "6As" to guide counselling-assess, advise, agree, assist, arrange, and assess again
- · A written ("green") prescription is crucial—it takes just 30 seconds
- · Display a poster with the physical activity guidelines prominently in the waiting room
- · Consider categorising patients into frailty levels. There is no need to medicalise physical activity for most people
- Refer on—consider appropriate physicians, physiotherapists, clinical exercise physiologists, and certified fitness instructors
- · Know your local resources for activity—the people and the places
- · Remember that walking is free; find tips at: www.everybodywalk.org
- · Follow up the patient to chart progress, set goals, solve problems, and identify and use social support
- Lobby to make low cost, evidence based, cognitive and behavioural interventions widely available for referral by healthcare providers



### **Exercise Prescription**

• Most guidelines (WHO/ACSM/Etc) suggest:

Limiting our daily sitting/lying to just 23.5 hours: too ambitious?

Karim Khan

Thank you to BJSM guest editor Steven up the freeway embankment, stepping

Blair and all our January and February over the steel barriers, dashing hopefully

- Aim for 30 mins 5X/week (most days).
- Can be accumulated/non-consecutive (3X10mins)
- Any change in intensity will improve cardiovascular fitness
- 'Can I afford to be inactive 23.5 hours per day'
- WHO MET THESE GUIDELINES LAST WEEK???

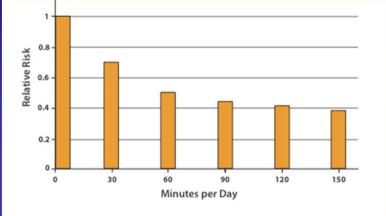


## Secrets for your own

health

\*\* #1 60 minutes > 30 mins ALL issues

'1 pill or 2'



Why not: Brush teeth 3-4 times weekly...Showering 'most days of the week'

#2 The fit vs fat argument...

- Low fitness kills skinny people. Fit overweight people don't die
- Exercise for health, not for skinny jeans



### What Exercise?

• It doesn't have to be torture!!



- The options are endless
  - Walk, run, swim, bike, park, dog, kids, gym, weights, teams, dance, aerobics, pilates, yoga, etc, etc, etc
- Patient specific
  - What do you <u>LIKE</u> to do??



# Barriers to Physical Inactivity 'The patient'

- 'The Excuses'
- Too busy
- Too embarrassed
- Don't know how
- Hate gyms
- Too much of a spectator
- Too big a hurdle
- Don't enjoy it
- Etc, Etc, Etc

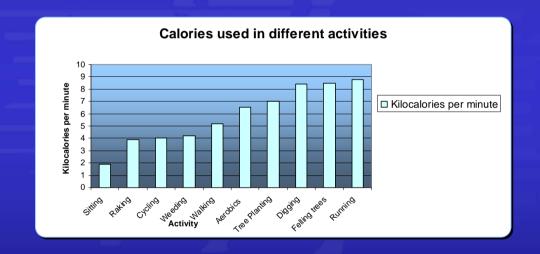
- 'The motivator'
- See 4 top reasons...





### **Green Gym**





Adapted from btcv Green Gym publications (DOH) 2003 Courtesy Dr John O'RiordanICGP National Taskforce on Obesity



### An Exercise Template

- This is very individual however......
- Monitor steps daily. 5000 minimum. Aim for 10,000
- Aerobic exercise (walk, swim, bike +/- stationary) 3-4X/week for 30-60 mins
  - Variety is important
- Strength session 1-2 X/wk. 30-60mins.
  - Supervision essential
- Strength/flexibility session. Pilates/yoga. 1X/wk.60 mins
- Recovery day



## Safety

- For generally healthy individuals, moderate exercise is safe. If inactive, begin with lower intensity and progress in duration and intensity over time.
- Progression towards recommended volumes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA) can be prescribed to patients with chronic disease. If inactive initially, a normal clinical evaluation is recommended. If already active, medical clearance is recommended before engaging in vigorous activities.
- Initiation of high-intensity physical activity, such as high-intensity interval training, should be preceded by establishing a 'base fitness level' over several weeks through regular MVPA.



### Take home messages

- Low fitness kills 8 times as many people as obesity!
- Low fitness kills 2 x as many people as smoking!
- If all inactive persons were getting 150 mins of PA per week = 16 lives saved per 100 persons
- If all smokers were nonsmokers = 8 lives saved per 100 persons.
- WE JUST CANNOT AFFORD NOT TO DO THIS AND PASS THIS INFORMATION ON!!!!!

