# What is Stress?

Stress is a natural physical and emotional reaction. The perception of stress is very individual. Stress can be both positive (successfully completing a challenge) and negative (overwork and burnout).

## Recognise Stress Early by Asking:

How do I know that I am stressed? What are my physical stress reactions? What thoughts / feelings do I have when stressed? What do I do when I am stressed?



# **Stress Management Techniques**

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#### **Physical Activity and Sports:**

Include 30 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity daily.



### **Correct Breathing**:

When stressed, focus on your breathing. Inhale through your nose and exhale through your mouth. Slowing down your breathing will slow down your heart rate.

# Follow a Healthy Diet:

## **Observe Thought Processes:**

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Recognise stress-inducing thought. Interrupt stress-inducing thoughts. Replace negative with positive thoughts. Laugh more, especially in stressful situations.

#### How Do T Know T am

Eat more complex carbohydrates. Avoid sugar, white flour, caffeine and alcohol. Increase fruit and vegetables in your diet. Stay hydrated by drinking 1.5-2L water daily.

#### **Relaxing Exercises:**

Include relaxation exercise daily such as stretching exercises or yoga.

#### Sleep:

Develop a sleep routine to improve quality of sleep.



# Stressed?

Fatigue
Muscle Tension and Headache
Depression and Irritability
Nervousness
Demotivated at Work
Sleep Disorder
High Blood Pressure