

Paramount's Monthly Magazine

You are confined only by the walls you build yourself.

Break

Ke Bries

FROM THE THOUGHTS

WHICH LIMIT YOU!

Our immune system Impact of Climate change on Health

Skin Facts

Exercise props and you

# Peek into Healthcare

# How does our immune system attack disease-causing micro-organisms?



War Time

## **Our In-house Military**

White Blood Cells (also known as Leukocytes) seek out and destroy disease-causing micro-organisms



The two basic types of Leukocytes are:

Phagocytes - cells that chew up invading organisms Lymphocytes - cells that allow the body to remember and recognize previous invaders, and help the body destroy them

The two kinds of Lymphocytes are B Lymphocytes (B cells) and T Lymphocytes (T cells).

**B cells** - seek out their targets and send defenses (antibodies) to lock onto them

> When antigens (foreign substances that invade the body) are detected, several types of cells work together to recognize them and respond.

**T cells** - destroy the invaders that the B Cells have identified

5. Antibodies can activate a group of proteins called 'Complement' that also assist in killing bacteria, virus, or infected cells.



4. Once the antibodies are produced in the person's body and if his/her immune system encounters the same antigen again, the antibodies are released.



These cells trigger the B cells to produce antibodies which are specialized proteins that bind to specific types of bacteria

and virus (antigens),

like tags.

3. T cells destroy antigens that have been tagged by antibodies, or cells that have been infected. T cells are also involved in sending signals to other cells (like phagocytes) to do their jobs.

Isn't it impressive how our immune system helps us stay disease-free? It is important we strengthen it in the following ways:



Include plenty of vegetables, fruits, nuts and seeds in our diet



Abstain from excessive alcohol consumption and/or smoking



Ensure adequate sleep of 7-8 hours at least



Follow a regular exercise regime



Consume Probiotics daily such as curd, buttermilk, etc.

# HOW IS CLIMATE CHANGE THREATENING HUMAN HEALTH?

# Alarming facts!

#### Who is the Culprit?



Human

Global warming caused due to increased use of fossil fuels in transportation, manufacturing and communications



#### Who is the Victim?



Human

- Climate variability and extremes are among the leading causes of severe food crises. It also affects the nutrient quality of crops, dietary diversity of food produced and consumed, water and sanitation, etc.
- Rising sea levels are already causing population displacement, particularly in island states. More than half of the world's population now lives within 60 km of coastlines. Floods can directly cause injury and death and increase the risk of diseases.
- Variable rainfall patterns are likely to compromise the supply of safe drinking water. Globally, water scarcity already affects 4 out of 10 people. Lack of safe drinking water increases the risk of diarrhoea (which kills approximately 2.2 million people every year) and other illnesses.
- Burning fossil fuel for power, transportation and industry is the main source of the carbon emissions driving climate change, and also a major contributor to air pollution that kills 7 million people every year.
- Heat stress can lead to increased death rates from heart and respiratory diseases, particularly in elderly or vulnerable populations. Pollen and other aeroallergen levels are also higher in extreme heat. These can trigger asthma which affects around 300 million people. Warmer climatic conditions also increase the risk of deadly water-borne and mosquito-borne diseases.

Remember, there is no Captain Planet to rescue us from Climate Change. Together, we need to take steps to reduce contributing towards global warming!

\*The above extract of alarming facts is taken from the World Health Organization's website. For detailed information visit - https://www.who.int/news-room/facts-in-pictures/detail/health-and-climate-change

# Did you know?

# 'SKIN-TERESTING FACTS'



# **EXERCISE PROPS AND YOU**

Mr. Fit

Did you know? - You can make your workout more challenging and effective just by using some simple props!

A couple of commonly used exercise props, their benefits and ways to use them are given below. They are sure to add zing to your workout!



## Step board steppers:

Stepper is a useful prop which can be used for both stamina building and strength building.



#### Step up:

Benefits : Helps to increase leg muscle endurance, improves stamina, and improves co-ordination between upper and lower body.

#### Stance:

• Stand near the step board with feet placed in alignment with your hip width.

#### Action:

- Now climb on the step board by putting your left leg on it, followed by right leg.
- Now you are standing on the stepper.
- Slowly come down on to the floor by putting your left leg on the floor followed by right leg on the floor.
- Continue this in a rhythmic manner for 1 minute.
- Once you complete this action with your left leg, repeat the same with your right leg for 1 minute. Slowly you can increase the duration of activity, once your stamina improves.



#### Lunges on stepper:

**Benefits** : Improves the strength of thighs, glutes and calf muscles, and improves stability of the body.

#### Stance:

 Stand on the step board with your feet in alignment with your hip, keeping both hands on your waist.

#### Action:

- Bring your right leg down on the floor, place your right leg in such a way that when you go down, your legs should form a right angle.
- Once you are in this position, inhale while slowly going down, till your left thigh is parallel to the floor.
- Now push yourself back to the standing position while exhaling.
- Repeat 8-20 times for both legs.



## Kettlebell :

Kettlebell is a very useful prop that can be used in a variety of ways for strength training, functional training, cross-fit, etc.



## Kettlebell squats:

**Benefits** : Strengthens thigh and core muscles, improves metabolism, and is beneficial for weight gain as well as weight loss.

#### Stance:

- Keep your feet at a slightly wider width than the width between your shoulders.
- Hold kettlebell close to chest as shown in image.

### Action:

- Inhale and bend your knees and hip simultaneously and go down, keeping your spine neutral. Go down till your thigh is parallel to the floor.
- Exhale slowly and come to the standing position.
- Repeat 15-20 times.



#### **Kettlebell swing:**

**Benefits** : Improves strength of Gluteus (Butt), thigh and lower back muscles, and improves muscle co-ordination.

#### Stance:

- Keep your feet at a slightly wider width than the width between your shoulders.
- Hold kettlebell in between your legs.

#### Action:

- Inhale and push your hip behind with a slight bend at the knees
- Exhale and come up with the force contracting your butt. Raise kettlebell till your shoulder level with straight arms.
- As soon as you come to the standing position, immediately repeat the same cycle from the beginning.
- Repeat 15-20 times.

**Note:** In case you have never used these props before, seeking professional guidance will help to understand the form and technique and will help to make the exercise more effective and injury-free.

#### Dear Readers,

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## **Take a Chill Pill**



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