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### **About Us**

At Allstar Healthcare, our goal is to help the residents of San Antonio live quality pain-free lives. We specialize in providing the most effective, non-invasive physical medicine and medical pain management techniques available today. Our team of healthcare professionals consists of Medical Doctors, Nurse Practitioners, Chiropractic Doctors, and physical rehabilitation professionals all trained in the most advanced and cutting edge treatments for acute and chronic pain.

### **Perfect Your Posture**

Good posture is essential for good health. Poor posture is formed as a result of bad habits carried out over years and evident in many adults. Only few people have a real grasp of the importance and necessity of good posture. Good posture helps us stand, walk, sit, and lie in positions that place the least strain on supporting muscles and ligaments during movement and weight-bearing activities.

Poor posture is caused by multiple factors-most commonly, stress, pregnancy, obesity, abnormally tight muscles, weak postural muscles, and high-heeled shoes. Decreased flexibility, a poor work environment, incorrect working posture, and unhealthy sitting and standing habits can also contribute to poor body positioning.

### How Do I Sit Properly?

- Keep your feet on the floor.
- Don't cross your legs.
- · Keep a small gap between the back of your knees and the front of your seat.
- Your knees should be at a 90 degree angle.
- · Adjust the backrest of your chair to support your lowand mid-back.
- Relax your shoulders and keep your forearms similar to the ground.
- Avoid sitting in the same position for too long.

#### How Do I Stand Properly?

- Keep your weight mostly on the balls of your feet.
- · Keep your knees slightly bent.
- Keep your feet about shoulder-width apart.
- Let your arms hang naturally down by your sides.
- Stand straight with your shoulders pulled backward.
- Suck in your stomach.
- · Keep your head level. Do not push your head forward, backward, or to the side.
- Shift your weight if you have to stand for a long time.

## What Is The Proper Lying Position?

- Find the mattress that is right for you. Your comfort is important.
- Sleep with a pillow.
- Don't sleep on your stomach.
- Sleep on your side or back to ease back pain.
- For side sleepers, place a pillow between your legs.
- For back sleepers, keep a pillow under your knees.

A doctor of chiropractic can help you develop proper posture; this could include recommending exercises to strengthen your core postural muscles. They can also assist you with choosing proper postures for your activities, reducing your risk of injury.

## Meet Our Staff



Jennifer Moon FNP-C is one of our resident certified family nurse practitioners. She grew up in the military and lived in numerous places, but calls Texas her home.

She received an Army ROTC Nursing Scholarship from the University of Scranton in Scranton, Pennsylvania where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, cum laude. Following graduation, she commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corp and served four years active duty. She transitioned to the Army Reserves while obtaining her Masters of Science in Nursing, high honors, from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas.

She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, the American Academy of Critical-Care Nurses, and the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

# Shadow Play

By Lindsay Mangum



# **Upcoming Events**

January 19-23rd: Healthy Weight Week

Refer a friend for a free consultation and recieve a free B-12 shot. Federal guidelines apply. Referral must attend consultation prior to redemption.

January 23rd: Senior Health Fair @ Leon Valley Villas 10AM-3PM

All ages are welcome. Entry is free.

February 7: Helotes Market Days

# 10 Things That Cripple Our Immune System

The human immune system is an amazing thing. It is what prevents us from contracting illnesses and keeps us in good health. With that being said, it is a miracle that it is able to do its job with the amount of things we unknowingly do that counteract its efforts. It is important to think of the immune system as a muscle that can get stronger when worked out or weakened with abuse. Every day we do things that can cause it to weaken. Here are ten common things that cripple our immune system.

Súgar

Parasites that live in our bodies feed off sugars, depleting Immune boosting reserves of vitamin C, vitamin A, Zinc, etc. By avoiding ingesting high amounts of sugar we are able to starve these parasites. Sugar also has been linked to the nourishing of abnormal tissue cell growth such as cancer. When sugar is metabolized by our body it breaks down into glucose which is used for energy production. In a breakthrough by Dr. John Ely in the 1970's it was found that glucose and vitamin C have a similar molecular structure, in his research Dr. Ely found that higher amounts of glucose in the body restricted the absorption of vitamin C by white blood cells. Our immune system depends on white blood cells to neutralize foreign bodies such as viruses and bacteria, vitamin C needs to be present within the cell for it to survive the oxidization process that occurs

when it attacks these foreign bodies.

2. Sleep Deprivation

Humans need between 7-9 hours of sleep nightly in order to allow our bodies time to reboot from the incidents of the day. During our sleep cycle our bodies replenish fundamental nutrients that optimize our body's performance. When we attempt to get by with less sleep it creates a stress response that interferes with the normal healing and rejuvenation process. Having a heightened stress response also lowers improved the stress response also lowers in the stress response also lowers as the stress response also lowers in the stress response also lowers also low ing a heightened stress response also lowers immune coordination and increases the inflammatory process. Repeatedly depriving yourself of sleep results in a chronic stress, immune dysregulation, and inflamma-

tion. **Drinking Tap Water** 

Water is a critical part of staying healthy, however, municipal water sources are filled with toxins that our body can NOT process. Some toxins commonly found in municipal tap water are chlorine, fluoride, arsenic, and other heavy metals. Reverse osmosis water filtration systems can remove most of these toxins at home. It is best to use bottled water or pre-filtered water from home when you are out and about instead of the public water fountains. Add 1/4 tsp of Pink Sea Salt per gallon of water when you filter at home in order to add back helpful nutrients that get lost in the filtration process.

Staying Indoors According to the EPA, our indoor environment is two to five times more toxic than our outdoor environment. In recent years it has been found that we spend as much as 90% of our time indoors, just soaking in pollutants. Researchers are currently looking into the impact of indoor pollutants on the rising incidents of chronic illness among Americans. When we go outside we are exposed to low levels of natural pathogens, our immune system is able to gently adapt to these. Being outside

also offers the benefit of sunlight and vitamin D3.

Chronic Dehydration Water is the basis of all life. In fact over 50% of our bodies is made up of water. When we become dehy drated a water rationing system is put in place by Histamine, a neurotransmitter in our body. Obviously some places get priority to the water reserves like the brain, lungs, liver and kidneys. The parts of the body that are least important when our bodies decide to distribute its water resource while dehydrated are the bones, discs, muscle, and skin. If the dehydration becomes chronic water must be taken from more important places in the body. Symptoms associated with dehydration include allergies, asthma, colitis, constipation, chronic pain, dyspepsia, migraine headaches, and rheumatoid arthritis.

6. Too Much or Too Little Exercise A sedentary lifestyle creates a weak body and weak immune system. When we do too much exercise it puts our body into chronic stress mode. The right type of exercise along with the right intensity and the proper rest and nutrition afterwards is critical for a healthy immune system.

Eating Too Much and Too Often All systems in our body utilize energy in order to work. Our brain allocates this energy according to what it is we are doing at any given time. The immune system shares the same energy pool as both the kinetic system and the digestive system. When we are exercising the brain allocates more energy to the kinetic system. While we are in the act of eating and up to 4 hours after the digestive system is given energy priority. All other times when we are fasting and resting the immune system receives more energy. By continually ingesting food, or even eating every 3-4 hours (as is recommended by nutritionists) we are depriving our immune system of the energy it needs to operate efficiently. By fasting for 12-16 hours in a 24 hour period we can enhance our immune systems.

8. Destructive Emotions

In research published by the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts low-level thinking creates chronic inflammation and oxidative stress in the body. Emotions included in low-level thinking are depression, anger, bitterness, self-loathing, and un-forgiveness. Toxic waste generated by toxic thoughts confuse our immune systems and set them up for hyperactive inflammatory

processes.

9. Using Certain Medications

Medications have their uses but overuse is possibly one

Medications have their uses but overuse is possibly one of the leading causes of dysfunctional immune systems. Continued usage of antibiotics weakens our immune system and reduces levels of cytokines (a messenger hormone used within the immune network). They also destroy healthy flora within our guts, these microflora are often responsible for informing the immune system of environmental stressors. Fever reducers also interrupt the workings of our immune systems. Fever is the body's way of creating an environment meant to kill off bacteria and parasites, by reducing fever regularly we are allowing the agent making us ill to remain in our bodies. Fever doesn't become dangerous to bodily function until 104F and should be reduced sparingly in order to allow for quicker recovery times from illness.

10. Poor Hygiene and Toxic Chemicals

Pathogenic organisms are constantly looking for ways to infiltrate the fortress that is our bodies and over. Good hygiene practices including bathing daily, dry brushing your skin, and good oral hygiene help bolster defenses against these intruders. Take care when ap plying products because some chemicals can actually aid pathogens in infiltrating your body.

#### Word Search

	A	R	Т	Н	R	I	T	I	5	E	P	G	G	N	K
	I	M	S	K	L	W	B	S	R	P	H	K	N	0	S
•ALLSTAR	C	T	E	G	M	K	M	Α	T	C	Y	C	I	I	T
•HEALTHCARE	K	I	H	D	W	N	C	В	M	N	5	W	V	T	Y
•PHYSICAL	М	I	T	L	I	Н	Н	T	A	I	I	E	I	A	R
•MEDICINE	Q	M	٧	C	T	C		N	Y	Y	C	0	L	X	F
•ARTHRITIS	В	J	Y	L	Α	E	I	W	5	В	A	F	J	U	K
•SUBLUXATION	F	K	A	U	A	R	X	N	Н	W	L	٧	A	L	Q
•CHIROPRACTIC	S	E	Q	L	S	J	P	K	E	Н	Y	1	X	В	C
•HEALTHY	Н	W	T	W	M	N	A	0	D	5	K	D	X	Ų	L
•LIVING	G	H	R	L	0	W	D	E	R	K	L	G	P	5	Z
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# **CONTACT US**

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