# Slide 1 Slide 2 \* Introductions \* What is Stress? \* What causes stress? $* \ \mathsf{How} \ \mathsf{stress} \ \mathsf{affects} \ \mathsf{your} \ \mathsf{body}$ \* Strategies to relieve stress \* Resources

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### Introductions

- \* All about you
- \* All about me
- \* What do you want to know?

# Slide 4

### What is Strace?

Stress is a state of mental tension and worry caused by problems in your life, work, etc.

Stress is a specific response by the body to a stimulus, such as fear or pain, that interferes with the normal physiological balance of an organism.

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# Slide 5

### Causes of Stress

- \* Biological or medical
- \* Personal or social factors
- \* Family Circumstances
- \* Sociodemographic factors

### Slide 6

# \* Brain Structures \* Brainstem \* Limbic system \* Amygdala \* Hypothalamus \* Cortex \* Autonomic nervous system


### Slide 7

"Fight or Flight" Reaction

Autonomic Nervous System Sympathetic Parasympathetic

HPA Axis Hypothalamus Pituitary Adrenal glands - Cortisol



### Slide 8

- \* Increases blood sugar
- \* Weight gain initially fluid, then fat
- \* Memory loss and difficulty learning
- \* Muscle tension
- \* Insomnia
- \* Increases blood pressure


### Slide 9

### You are in Charge!

- \* <u>Identify</u> situations, thoughts, beliefs, memories
- \* Assess slow down your breathing and determine if you need to be in "fight or flight"
- \* <u>Decide</u> –how will you respond
- \* Respond choose from many different stress relief strategies how you will respond

### Slide 10

# Stress Relief Strategies

- \* Breathe
- \* Mindfulness guided visualization, prayer, put your phone away!
- \* Physical Activity
- \* Movement Based Learning Activities

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# Stress Relief Strategies

- \* Sleep
- \* Experience flashes of beauty
- \* Do an activity that makes you feel personally competent
- \* Practice forgiveness including yourself

### Slide 12

- Link to 16 minute guided relaxation by
  Cathy Holway DPT http://bit.ly/ie6ZXZp
  Stress Management, How to Reduce, Prevent and Cope with Stress. http://www.helpguide.org
  9 Stress Relief Strategies that Actually Work http://alifeofproductivity.com/9-stress-relief-strategies-that-actually-work/


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### Thank You!

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