# Supporting Evidence for Let's Go! Small Steps 

| $\begin{gathered} \text { KEY } \\ \text { MESSAGE } \end{gathered}$ | HEALTHY HABITS QUESTION | EXPERT <br> RECOMMENDATION | RATIONALE | SOURCE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MOVE MORE | 1. How many days each week are you physically active? | Aerobic activity should be performed in episodes of at least 10 minutes, and preferably, it should be spread throughout the week. | Spreading physical activity across at least 3 days a week may help to reduce the risk of injury and avoid excessive fatigue. | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans. Washington (DC): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2008. http://www.health.gov/ paguidelines |
|  | 2. On those days, how many minutes are you usually active? | Individuals should engage in 150 minutes of moderate-intensity or 75 minutes of vigorousintensity activity per week. | Regular activity is associated with reduced cardiovascular risk, reduced risk of metabolic syndrome, and improved weight control. | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans. Washington (DC): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2008. http://www.health.gov/ paguidelines |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { EAT } \\ & \text { REAL } \end{aligned}$ | 3. How often do you eat while you are doing other things? | Use mindful eating as a skill to help regulate food intake. | Distracted eating can produce an increase in both immediate food intake and intake later in the day. | Robinson E, Aveyard P, Daley A, Jolly K, Lewis A, et al. Eating Attentively: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the Effect of Food Intake Memory and Awareness on Eating. (2013). Am J Clin Nutr, 97(4), 728-42. https:// www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ pubmed/23446890 |
|  | 4. How many fruits and vegetables do you eat each day? | Individuals should consume $2^{1 ⁄ 2}$ cupequivalents of vegetables and 2 cups of fruit per day. | Foods close to their original source provide maximum nutritional benefit. | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. 8th Edition. December 2015. http://health.gov/ dietaryguidelines/2015/ guidelines/ |


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| $\begin{aligned} & \text { EAT } \\ & \text { REAL } \end{aligned}$ | 5. How many times a week do you eat takeout and fast food? | Cook meals at home. When eating out, choose foods and beverages lower in calories: order a smaller size, share or take home part of a meal, and review calorie content. | Children and adults who eat fast food are at an increased risk of weight gain, overweight, and obesity, particularly when one or more fast food meals are consumed per week. | Obbagy JE, Essery EV. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. The Food Environment, Eating Out, and Body Weight: A Review of the Evidence. Nutrition Insight, 49. https://www.cnpp. usda.gov/sites/default/files/ nutrition_insights_uploads/ Insight49.pdf |
| DRINK WATER | 6. How many of these drinks do you usually have each day? (Water, coffee, soda, sports drinks, juice, energy drinks, alcohol) | Evidence suggests that sugar-sweetened beverage consumption contributes to the epidemic of obesity in the U.S. | Individuals should decrease consumption of, or altogether avoid, sugar-sweetened beverages. Water is a healthy alternative. | The Obesity Society. Reduced Consumption of SugarSweetened Beverages Can Reduce Total Caloric Intake. Silver Spring, MD; 2014. http://www.obesity.org/ publications/position-and-policies/sugar-sweetened |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { REST } \\ \text { UP } \end{gathered}$ | 7. How many hours of sleep do you usually get each night? | 7-9 hours of sleep per night is recommended for most adults; >9 hours may be appropriate for some adults based on other factors. | Sleeping less than 7 hours per night on a regular basis is associated with a host of adverse health outcomes, including weight gain, hypertension, diabetes, heart disease, and even an increased risk of death. | Watson NF, Badr MS, Belenky G, Bliwise DL, Buxton OM, et al. (2015). Recommended Amount of Sleep for a Healthy Adult: a Joint Consensus Statement of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine and Sleep Research Society. Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine, 17(6), 591-2. http://www.aasmnet.org/ resources/pdf/pressroom/ Adult-sleep-durationconsensus.pdf |
|  | 8. How often do you feel rested when you get up in the morning? (Never, some of the time, most of the time, always) | Address physiological causes of sleep disturbance (e.g. sleep apnea) and practice good sleep hygiene. | Evidence suggests that sleep disturbance may increase obesity risk. | Beccuti G \& Pannain P. (2017). Sleep and Obesity. Curr Opin Clin Nutr Metab Care, 14(4), 402-12. https://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/ PMC3632337/ |
|  | 9. How often do you feel that you manage your stress in a healthy way? (never, some of the time, most of the time, always) | Use tension reduction techniques (e.g., diaphragmatic breathing, progressive muscle relaxation, meditation) to control stress. Social support can also help patients manage stressful situations. | Stress is a primary predictor of overeating and relapse after weight loss | Walker, SC, \& Foreyt, JP. (2000). Successful Management of the Obese Patient. Am Fam Physician, 61(12), 3615-22. Available at: http://www.aafp.org/ afp/2000/0615/p3615.html |

