How to stay active during COVID-19

With unprecedented changes in the way we live our lives, it is important to be aware of how this impacts your activity levels. Being active is critical for maintaining both physical and mental health, and can reduce your risk of many common chronic health issues (such as diabetes and heart disease). Regular physical activity may actually prime our immune system to lessen the risk of infection. It is important for patients with heart disease to warm up and cool down properly (5 minutes for each) and to make sure you rest between exercises (45-60 seconds).

Warm up / Cool down Start and finish your workout with a 5 minute gentle

warm up/cool down



Cardio (10min)

Next, pick up the pace for 10 minutes of cardio at an intensity that makes you huff and puff but you could still hold a conversation (increase the speed as you walk around the house or march up your hallway)

FOR EACH OF THE 7 EXERCISES

START WITH 10-12 REPETITIONS AND PROGRESS UP TO 15 AS THE EXERCISE BECOMES EASIER

PERFORM EXERCISES AT A CONTROLLED RATE

REPEAT THE CYCLE OF 7 EXERCISES 3 TIMES



Squats (sit to stand with a chair, progress to full squat)



Push ups (against wall)



Step ups on a step (alternate which leg leads)



Standing hamstring curl



Bicep curl



Bent over row



Calf raises



Stay hydrated



Wear appropriate footwear



Use a theraband, light dumbbells or bottles of water/ cans of soup



Try to exercise at the same time of day, so that it becomes routine

FINISH WITH A LEISURELY 5 MINUTES COOL DOWN (WALK AROUND THE BLOCK, MARCHING ON THE SPOT).

For more information contact exercisephysiology@baker.edu.au or visit baker.edu.au



If you are just starting out with exercise, you should progressively increase your weekly activity with a goal of at least 150 minutes of moderate or 75 minutes of vigorous intensity aerobic exercise each week and two to three resistance exercise sessions each week.

If feeling unwell (lightheaded, intense chest pain) stop exercising. If you continue to feel unwell, seek medical advice or contact your GP

The above exercises are generic and not individualised. Please seek the assistance of an accredited exercise physiologist (AEP) to individually tailor a exercise program to your current fitness levels and needs. To find an AEP in your local area, please go to essa.org.au/findanaep

