Stress

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VIT VISION 2009

STRESS IN ADOLESCENTS AND ITS MANAGEMENT



What do you understand by Stress?

The way our body and mind react to life changes



Adolescents and stress?

- Teens are under more stress
- Since adolescence is a period of significant changes
 - physical,
 - emotional,
 - social, and
 - academic changes

many than at any other time of life.

Where does stress come from?



Stress can come from Inside -

- Body image
- Not happy with the way you look
- self-conscious feel everyone is staring at you

Stress can come from Outside i.e. surroundings, environment

- Family
- School
- Friends /Peers ...
- Society
- Others

Stresses physical



- Prolonged school hours
- Over-packed class rooms
- Pollution air, noise
- Overcrowding road
- Poor ventilation

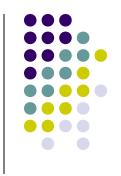
Stresses psychological

- Changing schools
- Conflicts with teacher
- Forced competitiveness
- Falling grades
- Have to present in class
- Learning disorders
- Special recognition

Stress psychosocial

- Relationships
- Peers
 - You want to spend time with peers but without parental supervision
 - Their opinions more important than that of parents
- Conflicts with parents, friends
- Media internet
- Secret lives

How do we react to stress?



- Reaction
 - FFF (Fight Flight Freeze)

ULTIMATELY how each person reacts will decide how STRESS will affect YOU

This means that whether we get "stressed out or not" depends mainly on US

Body parts infected by stress

- Hair
- Brain
- Mouth
- Heart
- Lungs
- Muscles
- Digestive System
- Reproductive Organ.

Signs and Symptoms of Stress

Physical

- Poor appetite or overeating
- Feeing tired and fatigued
- Various aches and pains ---headache body ache muscle pain
- Nausea & abdominal Pain
- Sleep problems
- Falling sick very often e.g. fever cough cold diarrhea (because of lowering of immunity due to stress)



Mental

- Feeling low
- Nervousness and Anxiety
- Excessive Anger or Depression
- Being easily upset
- Poor self confidence
- Low self esteem
- Lack of Concentration
- Poor performance in studies

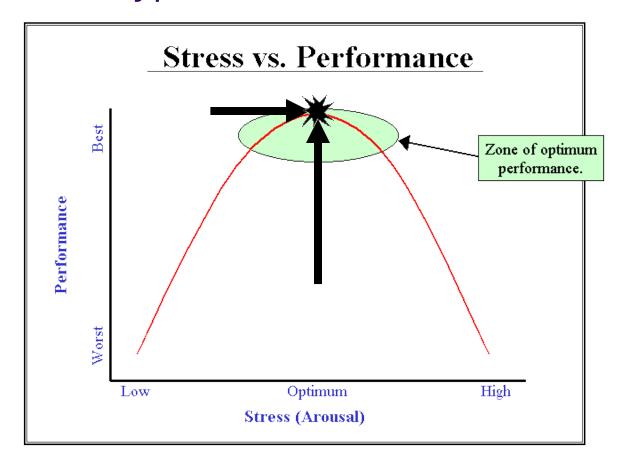


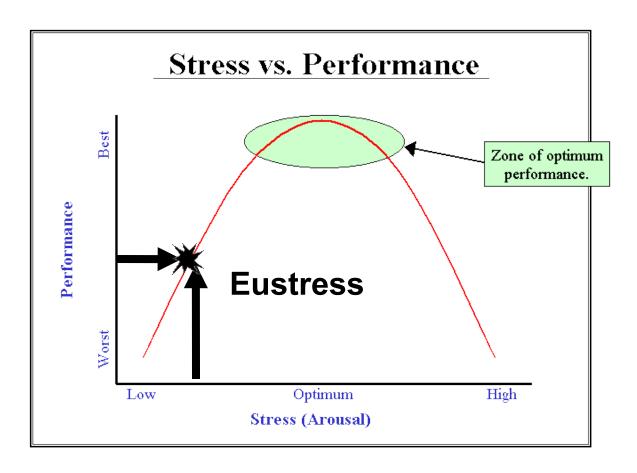
Is STRESS good or bad for us?

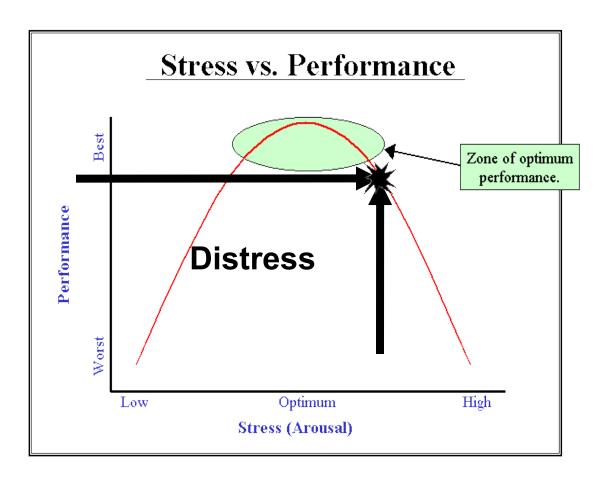


- Some amount of stress is essential for us to excel in life.
 This is good stress or "EUSTRESS"
- But when stress is too much then it reduces performance. This is bad stress or "DISTRESS"

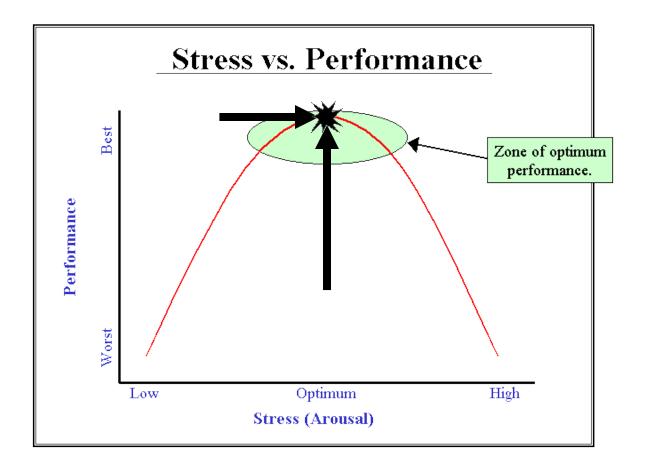






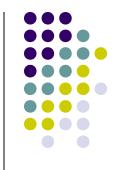










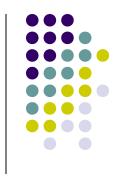


Dealing more effectively with stress improves performance and the quality of life



It is like salt and pepper to life

Is STRESS good or bad for us?



All stresses can be GOOD

So all efforts should be to convert all stresses into EUSTRESS –This can be achieved by stress management techniques

Stress Management Tips



- Making little changes in your life can really add up to a big feeling of relief.
- Learn to recognize when you are feeling stressed and simple ways you can relax.
- Take a break. Have a cold drink, get some fresh air, or close your eyes for a minute to refocus.
- Stay positive to help friends and family cope with stress.
- Let others know you're feeling overwhelmed and tell them how they can help.
- Allow yourself to simply say "no" to friends and family when you know you cannot meet their demands without becoming overwhelmed.

Stress Management Tips



- Be prepared for unexpected problems such as traffic, a lost pet or a family emergency.
- Prioritize. Take control of your "to do" list by deciding what's really most important on your list.
- Write down feelings of sadness, frustration or anger to get a clearer perspective of your emotions.
- Enjoy life's simple pleasures like colorful flowers, dancing, music, and social outings, etc.
- Share your talents to better the lives of others as well as your sense of well-being.

Stress Management Plan



Exercise regularly.

Have healthy eating habits never skip breakfast

Reduce sedentary activities like TV Video games etc.

Eat healthy nutritious food. Avoid Junk food.

Avoid excess caffeine intake eg tea coffee chocolates and cola drinks

Do NOT TAKE QUICK FIX REMEDIES like alcohol tobacco and drugs

as they have long term and very harmful effects on your body and mind.

Stress Management Plan



- Practice time management
- Learn relaxation exercises.
- Rehearse and practice situations.
- Learn practical coping skills.
- Decrease negative self talk.
- Learn to feel good with a workable result Don't be a perfectionist.
- Build a network of friends.

Stress Management Plan:

Relaxation Techniques

- Breathing Awareness
 - Abdominal Breathing
 - Sigh Breathing
- Progressive Muscle Relaxation
- Visualization

Stress Management Plan: How to seek help to destress



Talk to a person whom you trust: friend, parent, teacher, relative, etc.

If you feel that you are not able to cope with your distress do not hesitate to go to your - school counselor /family doctor/ adolescent pediatrician

How do you recognize that you need professional help?



- Deteriorating school performance
- Inability to sleep or excessive sleep
- Losing or gaining weight
- Feeling low or tired all the time
- Mood swings : crying, getting angry
- Not wanting to talk to anybody





The only difference between a diamond and a lump of coal is that the diamond had a little more pressure on it. –

ANONYMOUS

KEY POINTS



- STRESS is very common
- Use stress in a positive way
 - Limit NOT eliminate stress.
 - Use it to improve your performance.
- Learn Coping Skills

Find the Right Balance

