PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Physical Activity is for everyone. It is generally defined as any bodily movement that uses up energy, this includes for example walking, gardening, climbing stairs, or dancing.

For Physical Activity to affect health in a positive way it should be moderate to vigorous in intensity.

MODERATE PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES	VIGOROUS PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
 Briskly walking Bicycling Dancing Water aerobics Gardening better foundation of fudamental movement skills develops better "game sense" 	 Running/jogging Fast walking Fast bicycling Heavy yard work Swimming (butterfly, freestyle) Aerobics Competitive team sports

Light Physical Activities such as grocery shopping, household chores, walking at a casual pace or slowly walking an elderly dog do not count towards meeting recommended Physical Activity needs.

The WHO recommends that children between 5 and 17 years should do at least 60 minutes of vigorous intensity physical activity on a daily basis. These physical activities should include activities that strengthen muscle and bone at least 3 times per week.

For adults aged between 18 and 64 years the WHO recommends to do at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity during a week, or at least 75 minutes of vigorous intensity activity during a week. A combination of moderate to vigorous intensity physical activity can also be performed. Longer bouts of physical activity at the moderate or vigorous intensity level will provide additional health benefits. Muscle-strengthening activities involving the major muscle groups of the human body should take place at 2 or more days during the week.

BENEFITS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY	LACK OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
+	
physical health	high blood pressure
improve muscular and cardiorespiratory fitness	weight gain
motor skill development	excess body fat
improve bone and functional health	bad cholesterol
psychological well-being	respiratory difficulties
cognitive development	cardiovascular diseases
social competence	bone health problems
emotional maturity	underdeveloped physical literacy

Physical activity has many benefits such as lowering the risk of cardiovascular disease, type-2 diabetes, obesity, various cancers, as well as mental health issues.