### Fitness Vs Fatness: What's More Important to Your Health In The New Year?



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Every Body WALK! The Campaign to Get America Walking Chairman, Exercise Is Medicine Advisory Board

ExeRcise

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# Past century has seen paradigm shift in our diet and activity level

- Over the same period of time.
  - Portion sizes have dramatically increased.
  - Activity levels have dramatically decreased
- Resulting in unintended but predictable consequences that are gravely affecting our health and longevity.





### The Growth of Fast Food Portion Sizes Over 30 yrs

- Between 1971 and 2002:
  - Average man added 168 calories to his daily diet.
  - Average woman added 335 calories a day.

Hamburger 1955 2002 sizes 1.6 oz 3.2 oz 4.0 oz 8.0 oz 1.6 oz French fries 2002 sizes 1955 2.4 oz 2.4 oz 5.3 oz 6.3 oz 7107 Fountain drink 2002 sizes 1955 7 fl oz 32 fl oz 42 fl oz 16 fl oz 12 fl oz

Harvard Health Newsletter, Weigh Less, Live Longer: Strategies for successful weight loss



# The Growth of Portion Sizes; 20 years & 210 calories later

### The Average Bagel:



3-inchdiameter140 calories



6-inch diameter 350 calories

# The Growth of Portion Sizes; 20 years & 360 calories later

The Average Large Size Theatre Popcorn:





5 cups 270 calories 11 cups 630 calories

# The Growth of Portion Sizes; 20 years & 270 calories later

### The Average Hamburger:





#### 333 calories

#### 590 calories

### Changes to the US Labor Force

- Over past century, shift from industries dominated by primary production
- 1900 Most Common Occupations:
  - Farm workers
  - Forrest workers
  - Mine workers
- 2000 Most Common Occupations:
  - Professional workers
  - Technical workers
  - Service workers





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### Then Exercise Didn't Matter: Unintended Consequences of Technology

### Lumberjack; Then





### Now Exercise Matters: Unintended Consequences of Technology

### Lumberjack; Now





### Then Exercise Didn't Matter: Unintended Consequences of Technology

### Farmer; Then





### Now Exercise Matters: Unintended Consequences of Technology



### Farmer; Now

### Then Exercise Didn't Matter: Unintended Consequences of Technology

### Play time; Then





### Now Exercise Matters: Unintended Consequences of Technology

### Play time; Now





### **Everywhere We Look; Now Exercise Matters!**

### At home and at work; Now





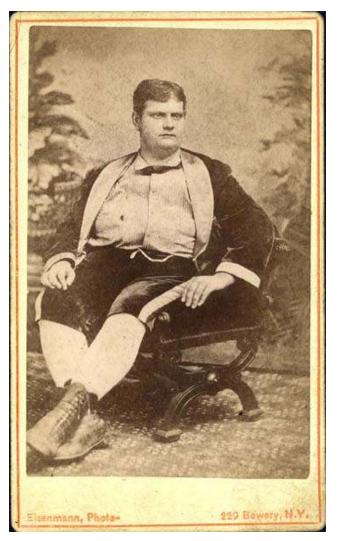
# Bottom Line – We have systematically worked physical activity out of our daily routine





### The results have been catastrophic

- Can you guess the early 1900's occupation of these people?
  - They are circus performers.
  - Often called "fat folks", who were so unusually large that people actually paid to see them!





### Are you kidding? Compare with today's standards





### This is NOT a genetic problem

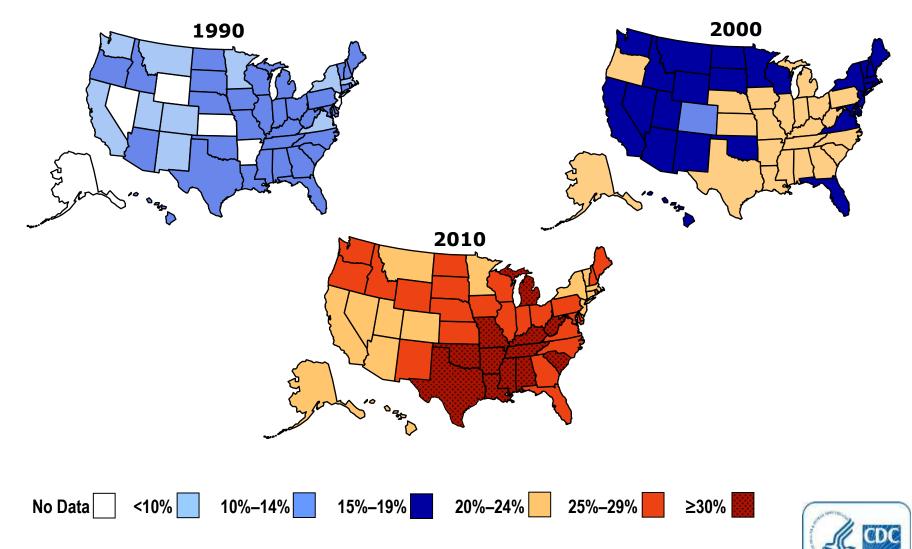
- Look at "old" pictures!
- Humans have <u>not</u> experienced significant genetic change in the past 50 years.
- Basic Law of Thermodynamics
  - To maintain metabolic balance:
    - kcal in = kcal burned





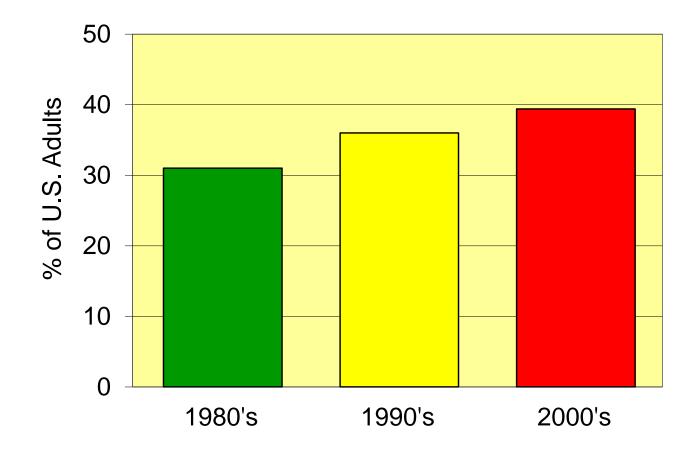
#### Obesity Trends\* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1990, 2000, 2010

(\*BMI ≥30, or about 30 lbs. overweight for 5'4" person)



Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, CDC.

#### Prevalence of Weight Loss Attempts 1980's – 2000's



Yaesmiri et al, *Int J Obes* 2011; Bish et al, *Obes Res* 2005; Serdula et al, *JAMA* 1999; Serdula et al, *Am J Publ Health* 1994





### Physical activity, obesity and health



#### It is time to bust the myth of physical inactivity and obesity: you cannot outrun a bad diet

A Malhotra, T Noakes and S Phinney

*Br J Sports Med* 2015 49: 967-968 originally published online April 22, 2015 doi: 10.1136/bjsports-2015-094911

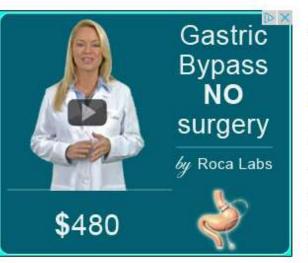
- Written by folks trying to sell diet books about virtues of a low carb – high fat diet.
- We have heard this for years obviously you can eat more calories in 10 minutes than you can burn off in 2 days.
- But can you diet away the risks of being sedentary?



## AMA Votes that Obesity is a Disease



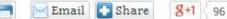
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#### AMA declares obesity a disease

The move by the American Medical Assn. board means that one-third of adults and 17% of children in the U.S. have a medical condition that requires treatment.

June 18, 2013 | By Melissa Healy and Anna Gorman, Los Angeles Times







The American Medical Assn. voted Tuesday to declare obesity a disease, a move that effectively defines 78 million American adults and 12 million children as having a medical condition requiring treatment.

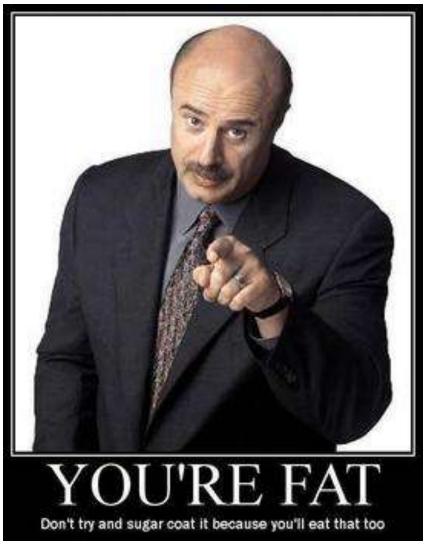


The move by the American Medical Assn. board means that one-third of adults and 17% of children in the U.S. have a medical condition that requires treatment.



### **Obesity Hysteria**

- The world has now been sufficiently alerted to the global problem of obesity.
- Patients have been labeled and stigmatized.
- Assigned lots of blame.
- Spent lots of money.
- ...and gotten nowhere.





### Are patients and their physicians giving up?

- Data from National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey for 1995-96' and 2007-08' showed:
  - During this period, adults who were overweight or obese increased from 52.1% in 95' to 63.3% in 08".
  - Patients seen in 2007-08; had 46% lower odds of receiving weight counseling than 95-96'.
  - Patients with hypertension 46% less likely and diabetics 59% less likely to receive counseling.
- The campaign on obesity is not working!
- What's the definition of insanity?

Kraschnewski, et al, Medical Care, 2013

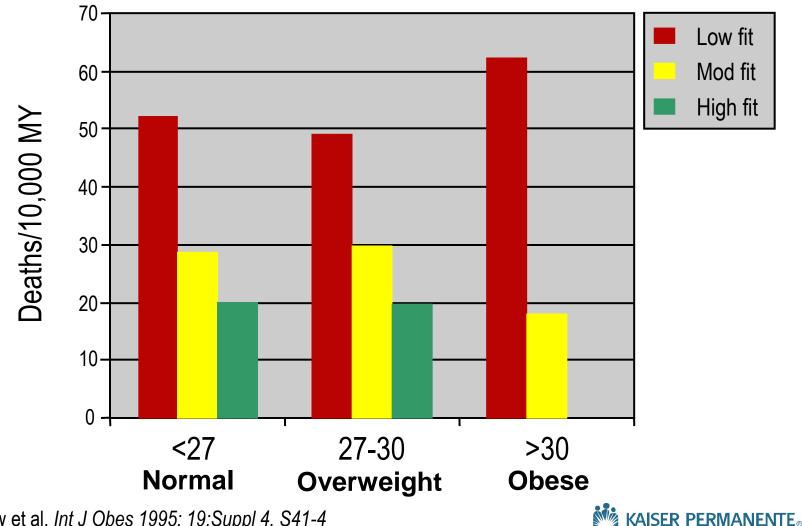
### We need a new (and fresh) approach!

- We need to give patients permission to be fat; And still be healthy!
- Shift focus off of BMI and onto physical activity.
- Health At Every Size (HAES)
  - Focus on broader health.
  - 95% regain lost wt. in 3-5 yrs.
  - Change in BMI is not a success measure for an exercise program.



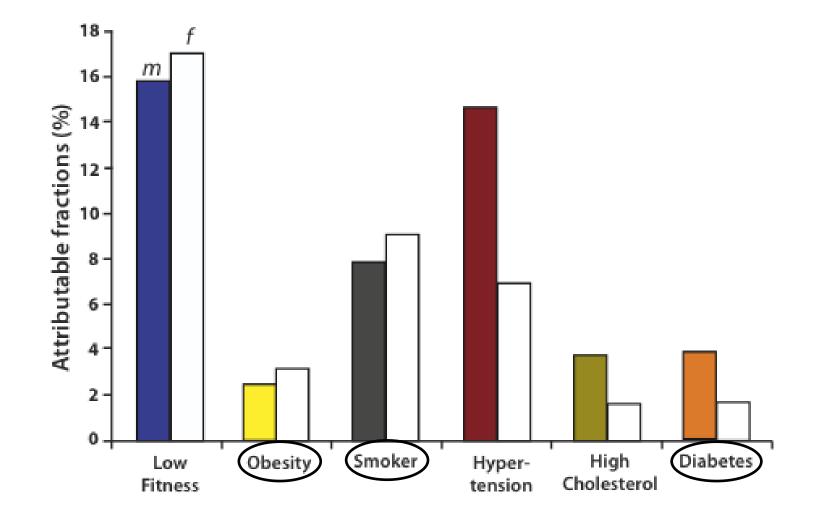


### **Death Rates by Fitness & BMI Categories**



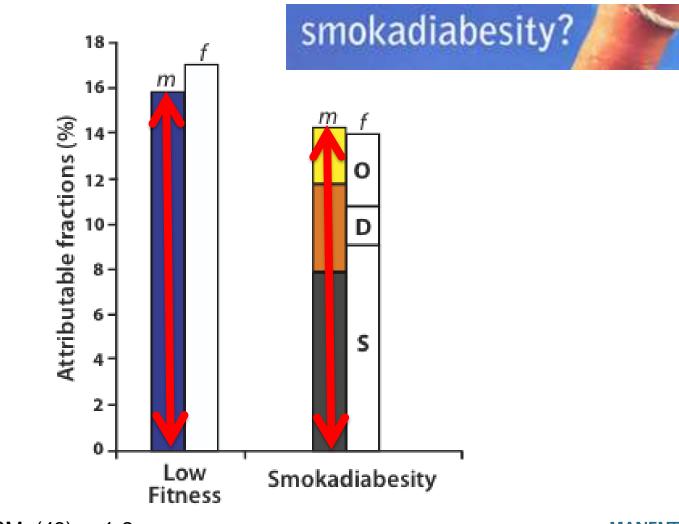
Barlow et al. Int J Obes 1995; 19:Suppl 4, S41-4

### Which kills more people?



Blair; 2009. BJSM, (43) pp1-2

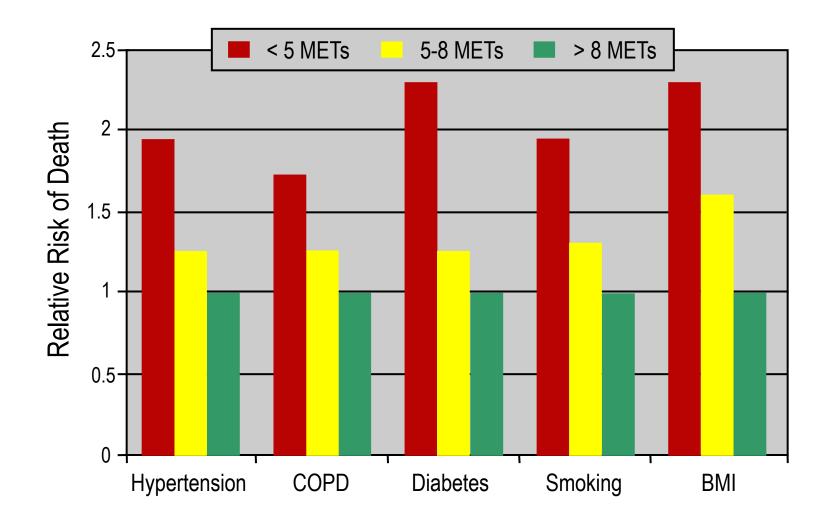
### Low Fitness Kills More People than Smokadiabesity!



Blair; 2009. BJSM, (43) pp1-2

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### **Exercise & Chronic Disease Mortality**



Meyers; NEJM; 2002

# The Classification of Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Disease

- Surrogate outcomes of poor lifestyle choices and stress (hypertension, obesity, cholesterol and diabetes), along with smoking are given "causal" risk factor status for CVD disease.
- Physical inactivity is generally referred to as a "predisposing" risk factor.
  - Suggesting its influence on disease is entirely due to intensification of the causal factors.
  - Result has been disproportionate focus on drugs (mainly lipid and BP) to treat disease.
  - Research has proven this is incorrect.

### The Effect of Exercise on CVD Risk

- Even after accounting for traditional CVD risk factors (BP, DM, lipids, weight), the inverse relationship between PA & CVD risk persists.
  - ~59% of the reduction in CVD risk with exercise is due to reducing Inflammation & Clotting (32.6%), BP (27.1%), lipids (19.1%), BMI (10.1%), A1C (8.9%).
  - 41% of risk reduction due to other unknown mechanisms (perhaps endothelium function and remodeling or LV structure and function).

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- Effect of *weight loss* is only on traditional risk factors.

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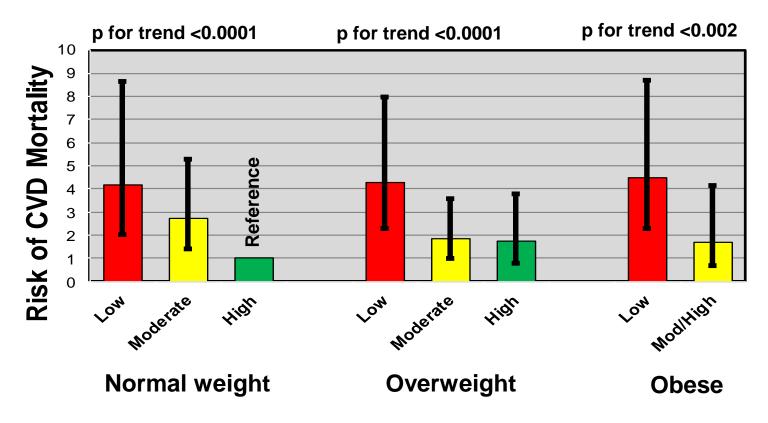
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### Fitness Correlates with CVD Mortality Risk\* Regardless of BMI

#### \*2316 Men with Diabetes; 179 CVD Deaths Adjusted for age and examination year



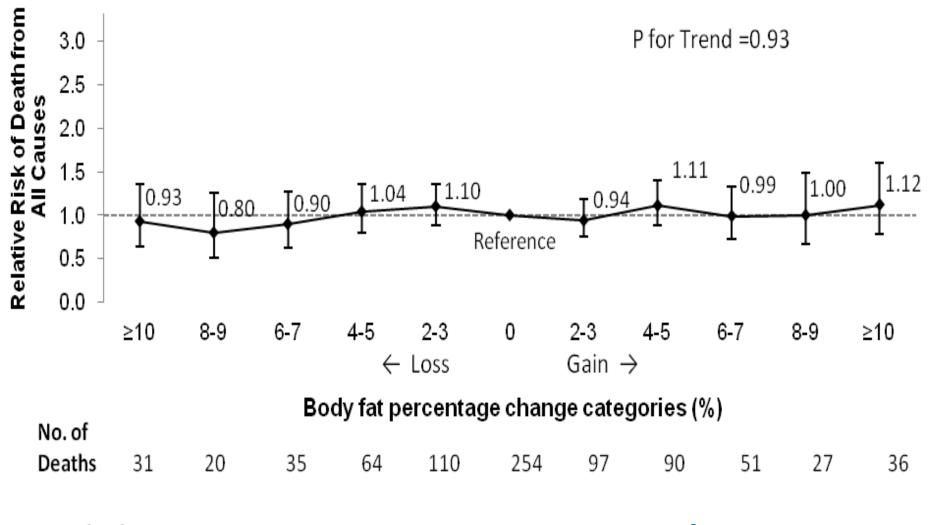
# Is mortality risk reduced more by weight loss or increasing fitness?

- 14,345 middle aged men (>19 years of age),
  All had 2 or more exams
- 914 all cause deaths (300 CV deaths) in 11.4 years of follow-up, 165,186 man-years
- Excluded those with chronic disease, <1 year of follow-up, or BMI <18.5 BMI</li>
- Evaluated changes in fitness and body composition in relation to all-cause mortality

Lee DC; Circulation, 2011

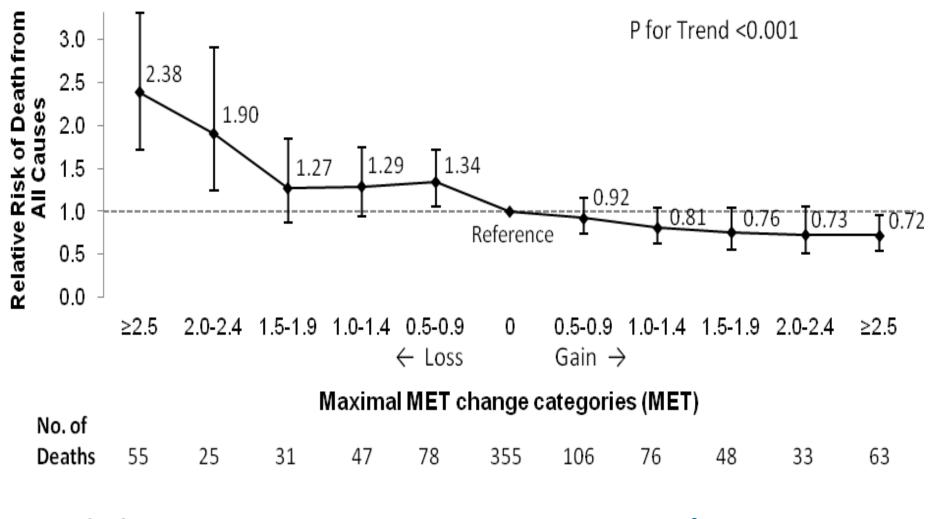


### **Change in Percent Body Fat**



Lee DC; Circulation, 2011

## Change in Fitness Level (Maximal METs)



Lee DC; Circulation, 2011

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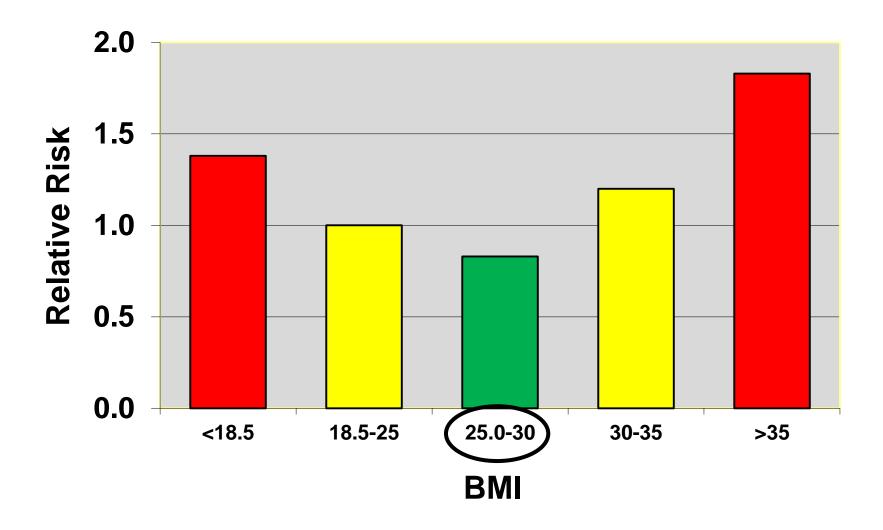
## Where should our Focus be? Fitness vs Fatness vs Smoking and Mortality

- Fit and normal BMI (non-smoker)
- Fit and elevated BMI (non-smoker)
- Fit, normal BMI, & smoker.
- Unfit and normal BMI (non-smoker)
- Unfit and abnormal BMI (non-smoker)
- Unfit, abnormal BMI, & smoker.

Blair; Aerobics Center Data



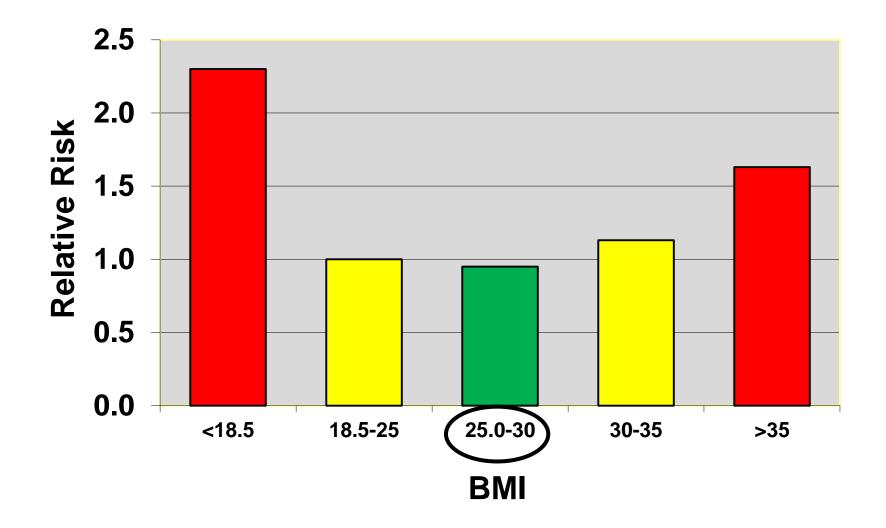
## All-Cause Mortality, Relative Risk, Age 25-59 NHANES Data



Flegal; JAMA, 2005

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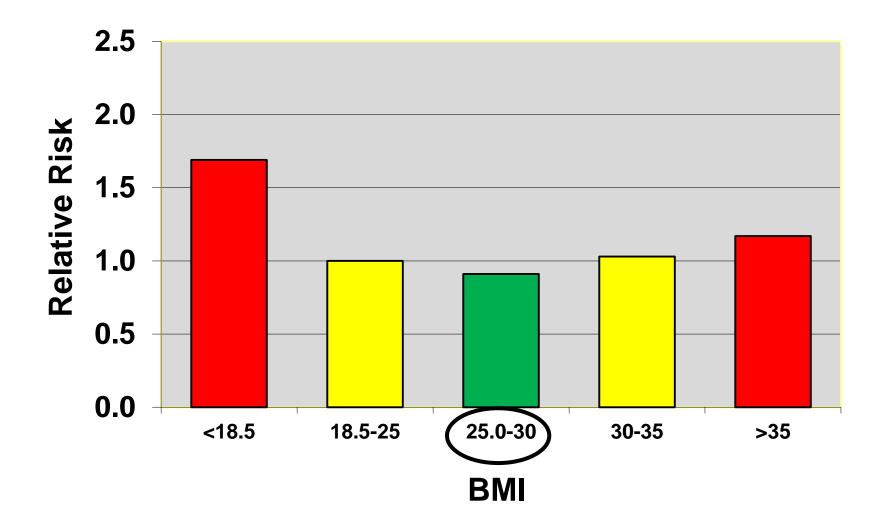
## All-Cause Mortality, Relative Risk, Age 60-69 NHANES Data



Flegal; JAMA, 2005

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## All-Cause Mortality, Relative Risk, Age <a>20</a> NHANES Data



Flegal; JAMA, 2005

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## **BMI and Mortality; The U-shaped Curve**

Low fitness/physical activity? Increased weight loss attempts? Increased body weight instability? Increased use of weight loss meds? **Relative Risk** 30 35 25 BMI 

NHANES I, II, III

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# Losing Weight: An III-fated New Year's Resolution

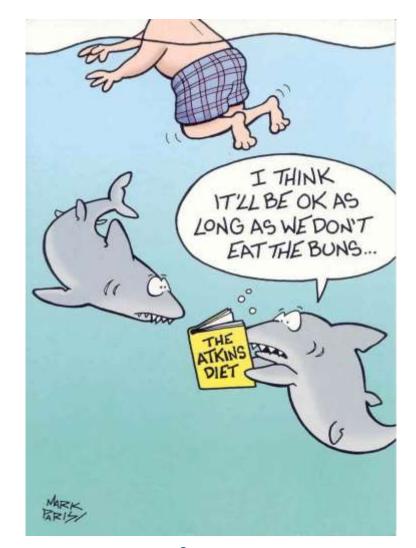
# "...data linking overweight and death, as well as the data showing the beneficial effects of weight loss, are limited, fragmentary, and often ambiguous."

Kassirer and Angell, New Engl. J. Med. 338: 52-54, 1998



## Fitness vs. Fatness

- Better to be fat and fit, than skinny and un-fit.
- Low level of fitness is a bigger risk factor for mortality, than mild to moderate obesity.
- Benefits of physical activity are the same, regardless of how much you weigh.





# What Can We Do?

- World Wide Exercise Rx initiative:
  - Every patient; Every visit;

Every treatment plan.

- Physical activity should be recorded as a vital sign and patients advised to get 30 min of mod exercise, 5 days per wk.
- Message should be the same from every medical provider.
- We must begin to merge the healthcare industry with the fitness industry.



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Flowsheets	5 Allergies: Sulfa Class, Acarbose, 5-alpha Reductase Inhibitors, Acetaminophen + Propoxyphene Napsylate Reviewed on 2/27/2009			
Problem List	Last Vitals: BP: 120/80 P: 60 T: T Src: Resp: 22 W: 190 lbs (86.183 kg) H: 5' 10" (1.778 m)			
History	BMI: 27.26	kg/m2, BSA: 2.06 m2 Exercise Vitals: 180 mins/wk		
Letters	Charting	Height 5' 10" (1.778 m) Peak Flow	<b>_</b>	
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## Write a walking Rx for patients!

Name: John W. Smith	Age: 30
Walking ${f R}$	Date:
Recommended activity level:	loderate
Minutes per day: <u>30 minutes</u>	
Number of days per week: 5 or	more
Intensity: Hard enough that you ca but not so hard you can'	-
Stop: If you experience chest p excessive shortness of b	
Signature: <u>Robert Sallis</u> ,	MD
Every B	ody
WAL	K!
www.everybody	walk org

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## Summary

- Strong evidence suggests that you CAN outrun a bad diet.
- Multiple studies have proven that you are better off being Fat & Fit than Skinny & Unfit
- For this reason, the promotion of PA should be placed on at least equal footing with weight mgmt.
- In the clinical setting, Exercise should be assessed and prescribed at every visit using a PA Vital Sign.

# It's time to get off the couch...



