

## **Stress and Depression**

Stress is our body's way of responding to any kind of demand placed on us. It's both good and bad.

Short-term, when we must respond to an immediate threat, stress helps us survive, but unrelenting stress can harm us.

## Stress that is not well managed can lead to:

- Infections and viruses
- Sleep problems
- Gastrointestinal problems
- Heart conditions
- Weight gain or loss
- Infertility
- Compromised glucose control (diabetes)
- Anxiety
- Depression

#### Free Webinar

# Coping with Stress and Depression

Thursday, March 26 7:00 – 8:00 PM ET

Presented by Dr. Christian Webb

Register at www.familyaware.org/trainings

## How do I know if I'm stressed or depressed?

### Signs of Stress

- · Worried, anxious thoughts
- Forgetfulness, problems concentrating
- Irritability, quick temper
- Digestive problems
- Tense muscles, backaches, headaches
- Clenched jaw or teeth grinding
- Racing heartbeat and restlessness, sweating
- Skin problems
- · Getting sick more frequently
- Less interest in sex
- Menstrual or fertility problems
- Drinking more alcohol, smoking more often

#### **Signs of Depression**

- Feeling miserable, sad, depressed, empty, irritable or angry
- Losing interest or pleasure in most activities
- Having trouble concentrating or remembering
- Feeling tired or having little energy
- Feeling worthless or guilty
- · Feeling anxious
- Sleeping too much or too little
- Eating too much or too little
- Medically unexplained aches and pains
- Abusing alcohol or drugs
- Thinking of death or suicide

## With the right tools, stress can be managed and depression can be treated.

## If you are concerned about these issues, here are some things you can do:

- Learn more about stress and depression and practical ways to help others and yourself
  – by viewing our FREE Coping with Stress and Depression Webinar, Thursday,
  March 26, 2015 at 7:00 PM ET. Register at <a href="https://www.familyaware.org/trainings">www.familyaware.org/trainings</a>.
- Take the **Depression Screening Test** at <u>www.familyaware.org/moodtest</u>.
- If you or someone you know has been thinking about death or suicide, call 1-800-273-TALK or 9-1-1 immediately. For crisis support via text message, text LISTEN to 741741.

**Families for Depression Awareness** is a national nonprofit organization helping families recognize and cope with depression and bipolar disorder to get people well and prevent suicides. 395 Totten Pond Road, Suite 404, Waltham, MA 02451 \* 781-890-0220 \* <a href="mailto:info@familyaware.org">info@familyaware.org</a>