#### **Emotional Eating and Stress**







#### GROUP CLASS

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT**

Privacy is something everyone is concerned about when they come to a group class. Everyone who participates in the group wants what is said in the group to be treated with respect and complete discretion. Along with Kaiser Permanente's commitment to foster a respect for all participants, each participant individually has a responsibility to respect and protect each other's privacy.

Please share useful general information outside of the group, but what you hear and learn about individual group members should stay here.

Regional Health Education, Health Promotion and Women's Health Department Updated: May 27, 2010

#### **Important Disclaimer**

- The information provided in this presentation is not a substitute for the advice of your personal physician or other qualified health care professional.
- Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified health care professional with any questions you may have regarding medical symptoms or a medical condition.
- Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it based on information contained in this presentation.



#### **About Your Instructor**

- Cheryl Mirabella
- Health Educator



## Agenda Slide

Triggers

Scientific Breakdown

**Eating Patterns that Develop** 

**Healthy Alternatives** 

Resources



## Feeling Stressed, Anyone??





# What Are Your Triggers?

- Personal Stress
- Family Stress
- Friends
- Job Stress
- Can you think of any other triggers that may trigger emotional eating for you?





#### Why We Do What We Do

- Our 'habits' are part of who we are.
- They allow us to function and survive in the world.
- Our brain wiring triggers our reactions before we are able to cognitively process what is happening.

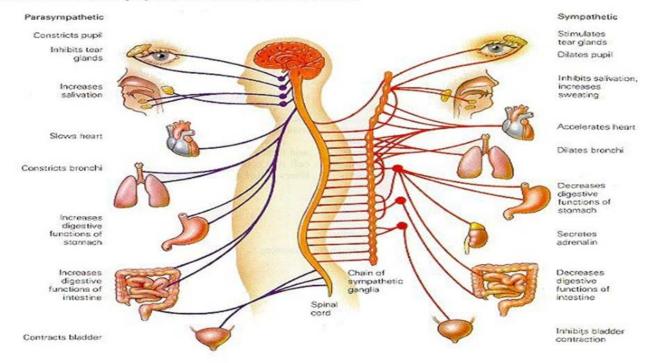




#### The Autonomic Nervous System

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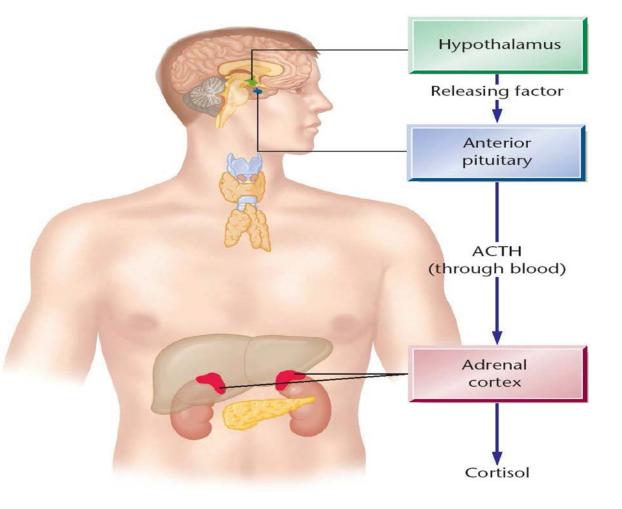
The parasympathetic nervous system, which regulates day-to-day internal processes and behavior, is shown on the left. The sympathetic nervous system, which regulates internal processes and behavior in stressful situations, is shown on the right. Note that, on their way to and from the spinal cord, the nerve fibers of the sympathetic nervous system innervate, or make connections with ganglia, specialized clusters of neuron chains.





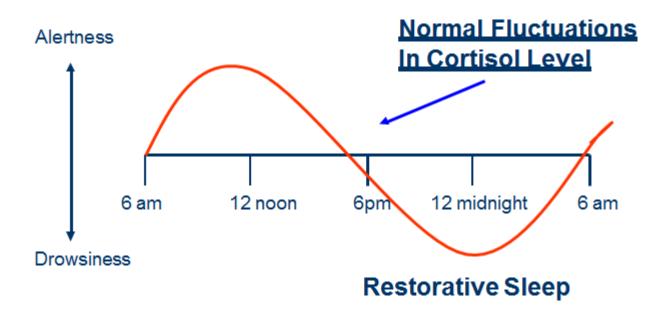
## The Hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) Axis

 The HPA axis is a feedback loop by which signals from the brain trigger the release of hormones needed to respond to stress. Because of its function, the HPA axis is also called the "stress circuit".



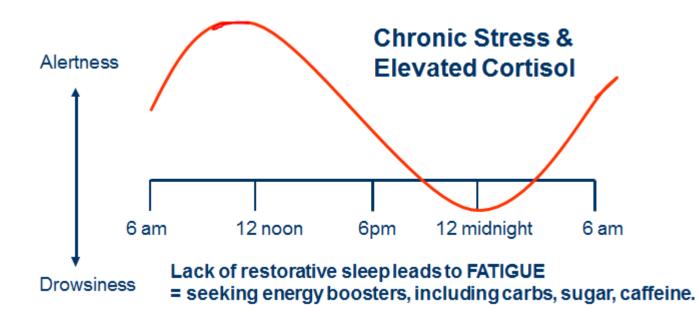


#### **Cortisol & Circadian Rhythms**





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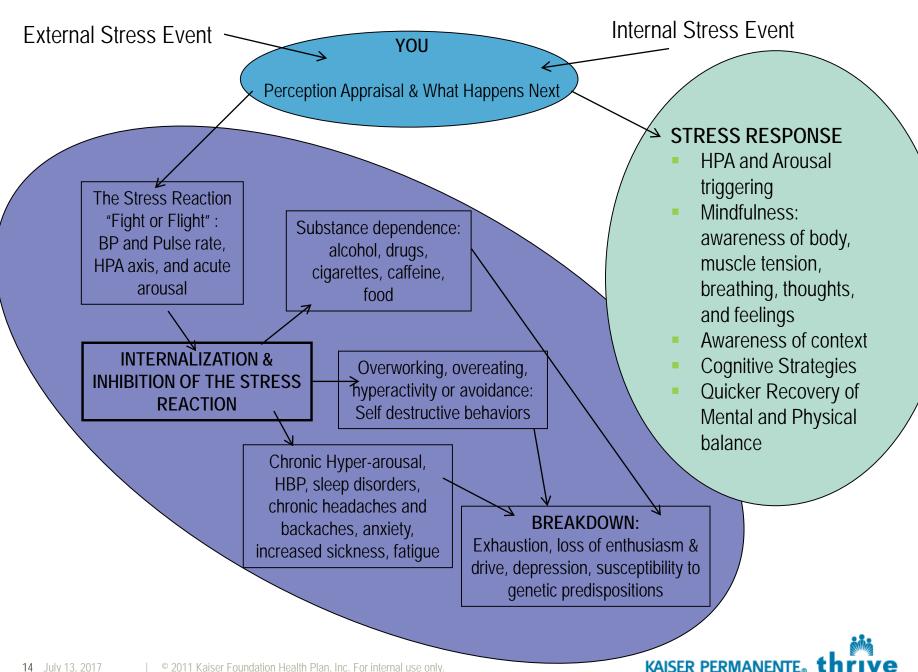


#### Elevated Cortisol Leads to...

- First release of sugar from fat cells
- To speed up short term brain function
- Causes long-term raised sugar levels related to type 2 diabetes
- And storage of fat in abdominal area







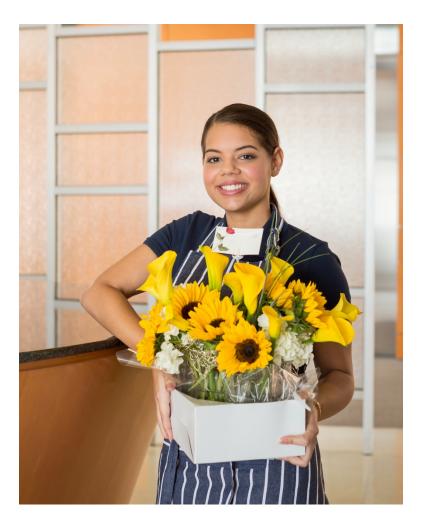
## **Stressful Emotions**

- Anger
- Bored
- Lonely
- Deprived
- Frustrated
- Anxious
- The list goes on....What are your feelings?



## **Positive Emotions**

- Love
- Appreciation
- Gratitude
- Kindness
- Compassion
- Forgiveness
- For Yourself or Others





## Eating Patterns that Develop

- Eat when your not hungry?
- Skip meals and binge on snacks?
- Eat large meals and stuff yourself?
- Sneak food when others aren't around?
- Try and 'fail' multiple diets?
- Hide food, your 'stash' of goodies?





## **Comfort Foods**

- What is your favorite comfort food?
- What feelings come from eating it?
- How about right before?
- Or during?
- Or after eating it?





#### What is the Alternative

- Understand what your triggers & stressors are
- Develop your stress management skills
- Begin to apply this when you notice the stressors are triggering desire to eat
- This is the Stress Response!!





#### Wellness Coaching by Phone for Members

- Topics
  - Healthy weight
  - Managing stress
  - Physical activity
  - Eating healthy
  - Quitting tobacco



Telephone appointments 1-866-862-4295

Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.



#### Resources

#### http://www.kp.org/listen

- You will find guided imagery exercise for weight loss, as well as other stress management stills.
- http://www.kp.org/mindbody
  - Additional information about stress management and the Mind Body Connection & Wellness
- http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/stress.html
  - National Institute of Health





Who has the first question?



