

# 7 Ways To Be Healthier, Stronger, And More Active



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## 7 Ways To Be Healthier, Stronger, And More Active

Do you find it challenging to find the time to get healthier? Do you struggle with injuries and pain? You may benefit from working with a physical therapist to help you get back on track. At Choice Therapy, our therapists are experts at eliminating pain and resolving both old and recent injuries so that you can enjoy a healthier life!

When you are in pain or tired after a long day at work, it can sometimes be difficult to find the energy to deal with injuries or stick to a nutritious diet. As a result, your body may start to suffer the consequences of more injuries, pain, or severe health issues like high blood pressure and diabetes.

Lifestyle diseases are the primary cause of morbidity and mortality in the United States. These include heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and joint and muscle disorders. All of these conditions are associated with physical inactivity, an unhealthy diet, and stress. Fortunately, the vast majority of these behaviors can be successfully treated by a licensed physical therapist.

Physical therapists are leaders in promoting health and wellness. Our therapists can help you by providing education, prescribing physical activity and exercise. They provide hands-on interventions to help you resolve your pain and injuries and get back to a healthy life!

Contact Choice Therapy today to find out more about how our services can help you live a healthier, stronger, and more active life!

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HEALTHIER?

Health is defined as the state of being free from illness or injury. It essentially means that your body is operating at its highest levels of function. Any step you make toward helping your body function at its optimum levels is a step toward becoming a healthier you.

Physical therapy treatments can help improve your health, but they only work if you apply healthy lifestyle choices in your everyday life, as well.

### SOME TIPS YOU CAN DO ON YOUR OWN TO BECOME HEALTHIER, STRONGER, AND MORE ACTIVE INCLUDE:

- 1. Getting enough sleep.** Sleep is the most effective strategy that has one of the most significant effects on your overall well-being. To keep your body functioning normally, try and get between 7 and 8 hours of sleep per night. The more regular your rest, the better you will feel.
- 2. Strength training.** Strength training is one of the most effective injury prevention strategies to help stay injury-free.
- 3. Cardiovascular exercise.** Get your heart rate up and make sure you walk or are active and moving every day! Frequent exercise can boost your metabolism and improve your mood.
- 4. Joint and muscle mobility.** Stretching helps keep you moving and feeling better. Knowing the proper exercises and specialized treatments can relieve your joint and muscle pain and improve your overall health.
- 5. Nutrition matters.** You are what you eat. Make sure you're putting the right kinds of things in your body. Avoid fad diets and stick with a plant-based, whole grain, and lean protein diet. Avoid sugar and processed foods.
- 6. Stay hydrated.** Hydration is essential for injury prevention and the proper function of your body. Water keeps your body systems functioning at an optimum level.
- 7. Practice meditating.** Meditation is beneficial for physical and mental well-being. Try practicing things like meditation and yoga regularly. The downtime will help you feel better.

Your physical therapist can provide you with exercises, stretches, and nutritional tips that can help increase your health and help you feel physically better overall.

# Choice Therapy

Physical • Occupational • Speech

**BEMIDJI**

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## Clinic News!



Choice Therapy Bemidji Christmas a week of fun.



Christmas Jammie Day and Ugly Sweater Day.



Winner of Choice Therapy Bagley Making Spirits Bright Gift Basket - Gabriella Gill

# Exercises To Do Indoors



Yoga. Yoga provides relaxing physical activity all year long and can easily be done in your bedroom, living room or just about anywhere in the house. You can even use yoga first thing in the morning to wake up slowly and get your body warmed up for the day.

Running alternatives. If you love cardio, you probably don't want to give up that runner's high, but you might not want to venture out into frosty conditions either. Get your heart pumping indoors with cardio exercises you can do at home, such as:

- Climbing stairs
- Jumping jacks
- Mountain climbers
- Burpees
- Jump rope
- High knees

You can keep exercising all winter—without risking frostbite. It might take you a few tries to find an indoor workout you love, but don't give up; you might just find your new favorite activity.



# Choice Therapy

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## Patient Testimonial



### Nicole Stehly - Physical Therapist

Little background story, McKenna Jo was diagnosed in May with a genetic syndrome called 17q12 Microdeletion. This means she doesn't carry her 17th chromosome in her DNA. This mainly affects her ability with gross motor movements. She will face other obstacles in life we are just not sure what it will look like.

McKenna has always struggled with holding her head up, rolling, crawling, standing and walking. McKenna has been in physical and occupational therapy since she was 4 months old. She still goes four times a week currently. She started scooting on her butt at 18 months. And she started crawling at 22 months old.

NOW Today, our sweet sweet McKenna was walking. This is such an incredible milestone for McKenna. We never really knew when/if she would walk. Her determination and strength beams through her. You can truly see how proud she is.

Huge. Huge. Huge shout out to Nicole at Choice Therapy. She has been with McKenna her whole journey. And I know McKenna wouldn't be able to do this without her.

**Your Life • Your Health • Your Choice!**

## Feel Better By Eating Better!



### HEALTHY ROASTED VEGETABLES

- 3/4 lb. Brussels sprouts, trimmed and halved
- 2 large carrots, peeled and sliced into 1/2" pieces
- 2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tbsp. balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp. chopped rosemary leaves
- 1 tsp. chopped thyme leaves
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 c. toasted pecans
- 1/2 c. dried cranberries

Preheat oven to 400°. Scatter vegetables on a large baking sheet. Toss with oil, balsamic vinegar, rosemary, and thyme. Season with salt and pepper. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until the vegetables are tender, shaking the pan halfway through. Before serving, toss roasted vegetables with pecans and cranberries.



# 5 Health Tips For The New Year



- 1. Shop Well For Yourself.** It is more important than ever to stock your kitchen with healthy foods. Have healthy snacks handy. The more convenient they are, the more likely you are to eat them. Instead of thinking about what you shouldn't eat, promise to eat your 3 to 5 servings of vegetables each day.
- 2. Schedule Your Exercise.** Your schedule will be very hectic this year, like every year. Schedule your workouts just as you would any other appointment. It's okay if you can't make it to class, but make sure that you get some activity in at least three days per week.
- 3. Just Say No.** You probably aren't aware how much extra food you consume just from people offering it to you. A sample at the market here, an extra cookie at an office party there and it all adds up. Just think twice before you take that food and decide if you really want it.
- 4. Skip the Baking.** Do you make baked goods for giving? Chances are you eat much of what you bake. Who wouldn't? Instead make non-food gifts, or prepare ingredients for baked goods and put them in pretty jars—this year, let your gift recipient bake it up. That way, they can eat it when they want it and you don't have to be tempted in the kitchen.
- 5. Hydrate.** Keep your water bottle with you at all times. You should be drinking eight, 8-ounce glasses of water each day. One handy trick is to buy a 64 ounce water jug. Fill it up in the morning and know that you need to finish it by the end of the day.

## Choice Therapy

Physical • Occupational • Speech

### BLACKDUCK

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### KELLIHER

Located in the old school  
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## Our Specialties

Treating Adults & Children



**Physical Therapy** - We teach you how to prevent and manage your condition so that you will achieve long-term health benefits.



**Occupational Therapy** - We help you across your lifespan participate in the things you want and need to do through the therapeutic use of everyday activities.



**Speech Therapy** - Speech therapy will use exercises and activities depending on your disorder, age or needs. We help you communicate better!!!

## The Right to Choose

You are the most important member of your health care team, and you have the right to choose the most appropriate health care professional to meet your goals.

You have the right to choose your therapy provider. We want to be YOUR CHOICE. Ask for Choice Therapy.

**Call Today To SCHEDULE  
YOUR APPOINTMENT!**



# How Physical Therapy Can Help You

Our physical therapists evaluate and treat abnormal physical function related to an injury, disability, disease, or unhealthy lifestyle. Our team is composed of movement experts who have the knowledge and training to diagnose, evaluate, and treat any musculoskeletal condition that comes their way. We play a leading role in preventing, reversing, and managing lifestyle-related conditions.

Every program is designed based on your individual needs. Learning how to safely move without injury or pain is a significant part of our physical therapy programs. We use objective measurements to determine the level of strength and fitness and build your program accordingly.

We can guide you through proper exercises and specialized treatments to relieve your joint and muscle pain, increase your strength and flexibility, and improve overall health.

## CONTACT OUR CLINIC TODAY TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

Are you looking for assistance with improving your health and increasing your strength and physical activity? Our team at Choice Physical Therapy would love to help you live the highest quality of life possible.

Contact us today to begin your new chapter toward becoming a healthier you!



Sources:  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5508938/>  
<https://academic.oup.com/ptj/article/95/10/1433/2686492>

[www.choicetherapy1.com](http://www.choicetherapy1.com) 

## THERAPY CAN AID IN POST-COVID19 RECOVERY

Here at Choice Therapy, we offer methods of treatment for patients recovering from COVID-19. As more research is done, it's being discovered that there are several lasting effects from the virus, many of which are causing challenges that can continue for unprecedented amounts of time.

We want to inform you that the patients recovering from COVID-19 at our clinic are no longer sick or contagious, and we are still taking the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of the virus.

If you are experiencing lasting side effects of the virus, contact our clinic to learn more about how our physical, occupational, and speech therapists can aid in your recovery.

### HOW CAN THERAPY HELP WITH RECOVERY?

Some common physical conditions we are seeing in people recovering from COVID19:

- Difficulty walking
- Shortness of breath
- Weakness
- Fatigue
- Decreased balance
- Difficulties with swallowing
- Memory problems
- Difficulty with word-finding
- Cognitive changes

COVID-19 isn't the only cause of these impairments. They can also be the result of other health conditions and illnesses, such as the flu, pneumonia,

asthma, bronchitis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and others.

Regardless of what the cause for your condition is, our physical, occupational, and speech therapists at Choice Therapy can help with recovery through the following types of training and exercise programs:

- Aerobic exercise and reconditioning for improved pulmonary health
- Stretching
- Endurance training
- Balance and gait training
- Upper and lower body strengthening exercises
- Breathing exercises to increase lung function and capacity
- Manual therapy
- Restoring muscle strength

Speech/language therapy for damage caused by mechanical ventilation (such as injuries from breathing tubes to vocal cords, or deconditioning of the muscles needed for swallowing)

### GETTING ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

It doesn't matter if you've been experiencing the above mentioned lingering side effects from COVID-19 or another illness altogether; therapeutic intervention may benefit you and help you get back to living as normally as possible. Call our clinic today to set up an appointment and learn more about what we're doing to prevent the spread of COVID-19.