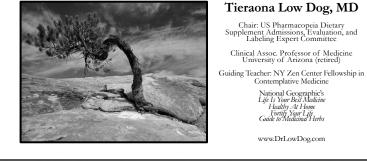
# Life is Your Best Medicine



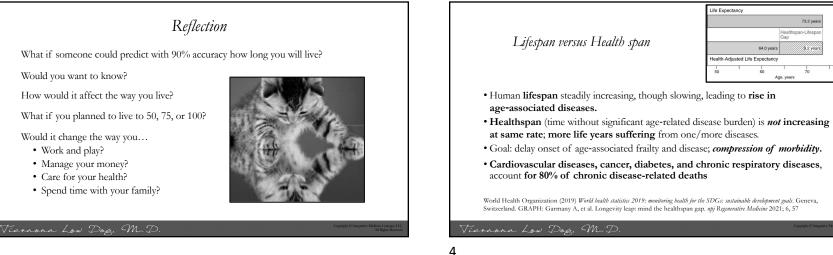
Vieraona Low Dog, M.D.

"When we are born, we are set upon a path and that path is our medicine road.

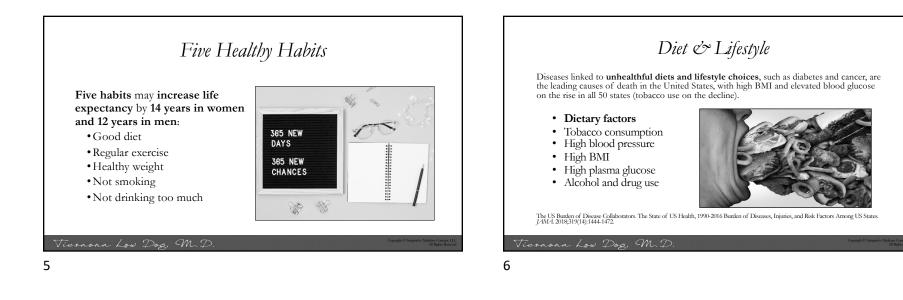
All the choices we make along the way affect our thoughts, our relationships, our health, and the world around us."

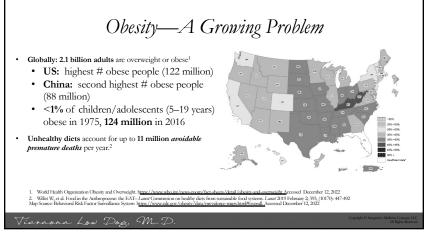
Grandma Jo

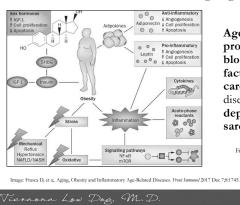




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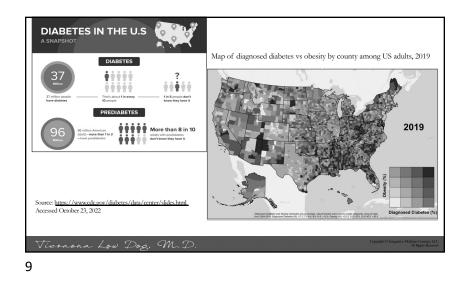


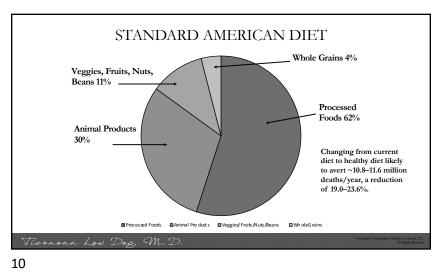


### Inflammageing

Age-related increase in levels of pro-inflammatory markers in blood and tissues is a strong risk factor for multiple diseases such as cardiovascular and chronic kidney disease, type 2 diabetes, cancer, depression, dementia, and sarcopenia.

Ferrucci L, et al, Nat Rev Cardiol 2018 Sep; 15(9): 505-522.

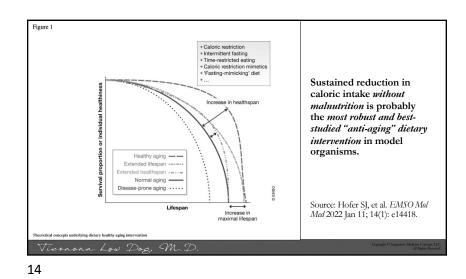


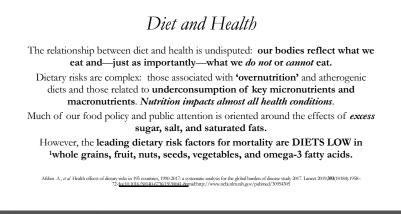


*The Rise of Ultra-Processed Foods*UPF are "snacks, drinks, ready meals, and many other products created mostly or entirely from substances extracted from foods or derived from food constituents with little if any intact food."<sup>1</sup>
Quick, tasty, and often cheap. Increasingly found in "health" foods.
UPF from *animals or plants* has been shown to harm the microbiome and drive inflammation.<sup>2</sup>
In US, 57% of total calories for adults<sup>3</sup> and 67% for children<sup>4</sup> come from UPF.
Observational studies show an association between UPF and cancer, heart disease, obesity, and other chronic health problems.

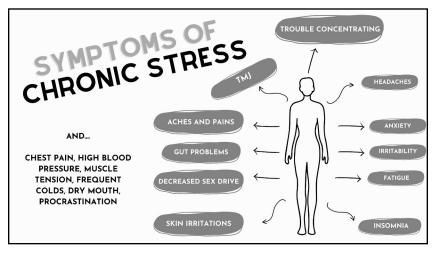


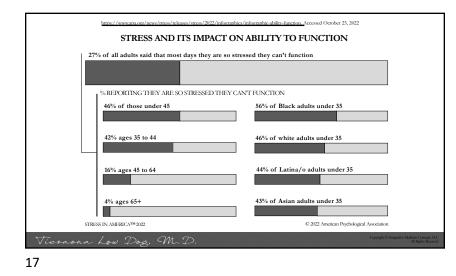


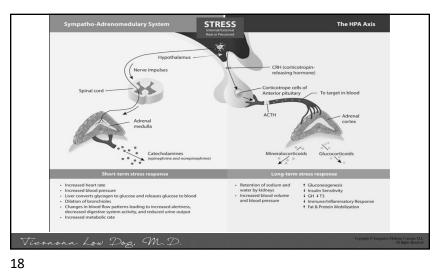




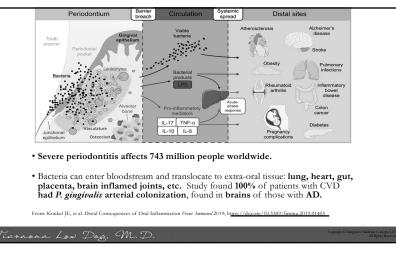
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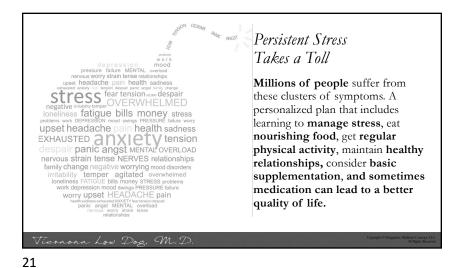


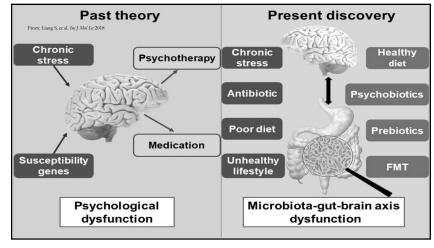


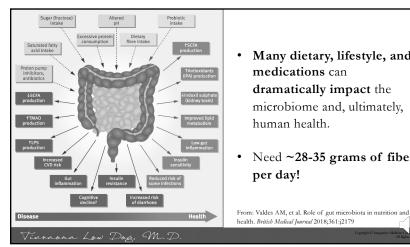


Gut Microbiome and Hypothalamic Pituitary Adrenal (HPA) Axis psych (4) STRESS Hypothalamus IL-6 activates HPA Axis CRF Pituitary Vagus nerve ACTH Adrenals Leaky gut INE Cortiso IL-6 dov glucocorticoid recept .







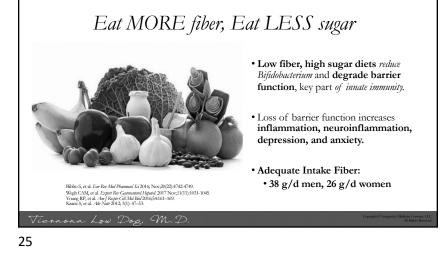


• Many dietary, lifestyle, and medications can dramatically impact the microbiome and, ultimately, human health. • Need ~28-35 grams of fiber per day!

European Union: My New Gut Project

- Initiative focused on understanding and promoting health by targeting the gut microbiome.
- Dietary recommendation intended to improve major depressive symptoms by targeting the gut microbiome: increase consumption of fiber and fish.
- Average annual seafood intake for Americans is 14.6 pounds, and the USDA estimates that 80-90 percent of the population fails to meet the recommendation of two servings of seafood per week

Dinan TG, et al. Feeding melancholic microbes: MyNewGut recommendations on diet and mood. Clin Nutr 2019;38:1995-2001 Bliss RM. Consumers Missing Out on Seafood Benefits. Available: https://search 1a381e42b25bb249a11f/12e



Fruits	Serving size	Total fiber (grams)*	Vegetables	Serving size	Total fiber (grams)*
			Green peas, boiled	1 cup	9.0
Raspberries	1 cup	8.0	Broccoli, boiled	1 cup chopped	5.0
Pear	1 medium	5.5	Turnip greens, boiled	1 cup	5.0
Apple, with skin	1 medium	4.5	Brussels sprouts, boiled	1 cup	4.0
Banana	1 medium	3.0	Potato, with skin, baked	1 medium	4.0
			Sweet corn, boiled	1 cup	3.5
Orange	1 medium	3.0	Cauliflower, raw	1 cup chopped	2.0
Strawberries	1 cup	3.0	Carrot, raw	1 medium	1.5

https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/nutrition-and-healthy-eating/in-depth/high-fiber-foods/art-20050948

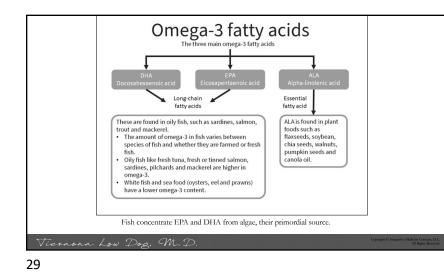
### Vieraona Low Dog, M.D

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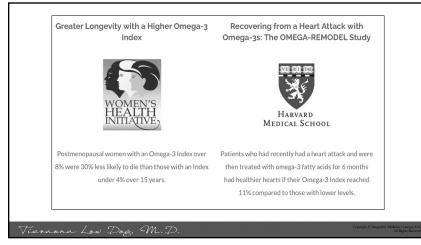
Grains	Serving size	Total fiber (grams)*	Legumes, nuts and seeds	Serving size	Total fiber (grams)*
Spaghetti, whole-wheat, cooked	1 cup	6.0	Split peas, boiled	1 cup	16.0
Barley, pearled, cooked	1 cup	6.0	Lentils, boiled	1 cup	15.5
Bran flakes	3/4 cup	5.5	Black beans, boiled	1 cup	15.0
Quinoa, cooked	1 cup	5.0	Baked beans, canned	1 cup	10.0
Oat bran muffin	1 medium	5.0	Chia seeds	1 ounce	10.0
Oatmeal, instant, cooked	1 cup	5.0	Almonds	1 ounce (23 nuts)	3.5
Popcorn, air-popped	3 cups	3.5	Pistachios	1 ounce (49	3.0
Brown rice, cooked	1 cup	3.5		nuts)	
Bread, whole-wheat	1 slice	2.0	Sunflower kernels	1 ounce	3.0
https://ww	ww.mayoclinic.org/he	althy-lifestyle/nutrition	and-healthy-eating/in-depth/high-fiber-foo	ds/art-20050948	

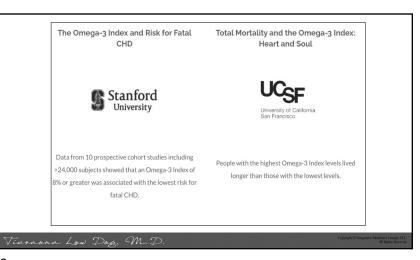
# Derobiotics Quiet the Brain Outles study: women with no GI or psychiatric problems randomly assigned to one of three groups for four weeks: Permented milk (yogurt) with five strains of probiotics twice daily Pon-fermented milk product (control group) twice daily No intervention group Sesearchers did functional brain MRI before and after intervention to look for brain changes in response to an emotional attention task. Ongou consuming fermented milk had *calmer brains during emotional task*. Chock for probiotic blends of *Lactobacillus* and *Bifdobacterium*.

Vieraona Low









### Omega 3 Fatty Acids – Healthy Muscles

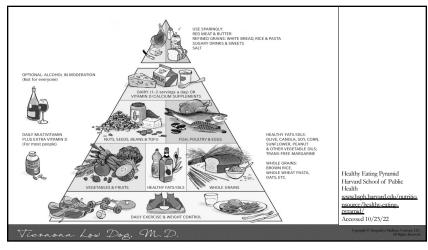
- Chronic low-grade inflammation also contributes to the **loss of muscle mass**, **strength, and functionality**, referred to as sarcopenia, as it affects muscle protein breakdown and synthesis through several signaling pathways.
- Omega-3 fatty acids stimulate muscle protein synthesis in older adults and may be useful for the **prevention and treatment of sarcopenia**.

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Dalle S, et al. Front Physiol 2017; Dec 12;8:1045 Ticinesi A, et al. Nutrients 2016; Mar 29;8(4):186

# ingna reserved.



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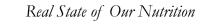
# Beverages

- Your primary beverage of HYDRATION should be water.
- Add fruit, cucumbers, mint leavesMake your own "bubbly"
- **Coffee and tea** are fine (3–4 cups/d). Watch caffeine if *sensitive* to its effects.
- Herbal tisanes lovely addition to an afternoon or evening beverage.
- Traditional Medicinals and Yogi have many excellent offerings
- Alcohol: limit 1 serving/d if you drink

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• 90 million Americans are vitamin D deficient (using the Endocrine Society guidelines < 20ng/mL)

- 30 million are deficient in vitamin B6
- 18 million people have B12 deficiency

• 16 million have scurvy (by serum levels)

• 13% of Latinas and 16% of African American women (ages 12–49) are **iron deficient** 

• Women 25–39 overall have borderline iodine insufficiency

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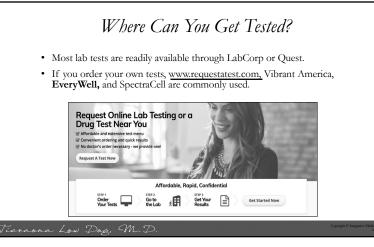


CDC: 2<sup>nd</sup> National Report on the Biochemical Indicators of Diet and Nutrition in the U.S. population

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Lodge Ranch, LLC

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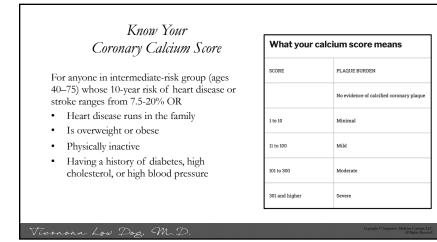
Micronutrient	Ages 51-70 Years, % < EAR	Ages ≥71 Years, % < EAR	
Folate	10.6	17.0	
Niacin	1.3	4.0	
Riboflavin	2.6	3.4	
Thiamin	6.0	8.9	
Vitamin A	39.2	37.2	
Vitamin B <sub>6</sub>	15.6	22.4	
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub>	5.2	4.9	
Vitamin C	42.1		Data: Blumberg JB, et al
Vitamin D	94.6	95.5	Contribution of dietary
Vitamin E		<b>→</b> 91.7	supplements to nutritional
Vitamin K*	48.7	<b>→</b> 62.9	adequacy in various adult ag
Calcium	51.4	72.9	groups. Nutrients. 2017;9(12)
Copper	4.1	9.6	
Iron	<1	<1	Table:
Magnesium	→ 51.3	<b>→</b> 68.6	lpi.oregonstate.edu/mic/n
Phosphorus	<1	2.1	ronutrient-
Selenium	<1	2.4	inadequacies/subpopulation -at-risk#reference42
Zinc	17.9	26.1	Accessed October 23, 2022
*% ≤ AI			

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Speaking of Testing...
Calculate your risk of heart disease using online ACC/AHA calculator.

<u>https://tools.acc.org/ASCVD-Risk-Estimator-Plus/#!/calculate/estimate/</u>

Traditional lipid panel: total cholesterol, LDL-C, HDL-C, triglycerides
Particle size: small LDL particles indicate insulin resistance, metabolic syndrome
Lipoprotein (a): genetic, highly atherogenic increases CV risk
Apoliprotein B/A1: better predictor of risk than LDL/HDL ratio.
Lp-PLA2: if elevated, indicates arterial inflammation, increased risk MI/stroke
Insulin resistance: predicts risk of type 2 DM, abdominal fat, etc.
Hs-CRP: inflammatory marker that can be associated with increased risk of CVD
Aspirin works: assesses platelet activity, identifies those who'd benefit from aspirin



### Think About the Thyroid Symptoms include fatigue, weight gain, cold intolerance, dry skin, brittle nails, hair loss, constipation, depression, muscle aches, joint pain, poor concentration, trouble getting Testing Panel for Thyroid •Thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) pregnant, irregular menses, enlarged thyroid •Free thyroxine (free T4) gland •Total thyroxine (total T4) • In addition, testing should be considered: Free triiodothyronine (free T3) Female Total triiodothyronine (total T3) Over age 60 •Anti-thyroperoxidase (anti-TPO) Ab · Have a family history of thyroid problems Have had radiation treatment on the head, neck, or chest Have had thyroid surgery Pregnant or recently pregnant?

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To Sleep is to Heal

- Sleep—both quantity and quality—crucial for brain health. Correlation between poor sleep and stroke, cognitive aging, Alzheimer's dementia, Parkinson's disease, and others.
- Slow-wave sleep, or deep sleep, decreases with age. Less deep sleep associated with increase in beta-amyloid, protein found to accumulate in people with Alzheimer's.
- Lack of sleep also linked to type-2 diabetes, heart disease, obesity, and depression.

Koffel E, et al. J Gen Intern Med 2018 Jun; 33(6): 955–962

### Vieraona Low Dog, M.I

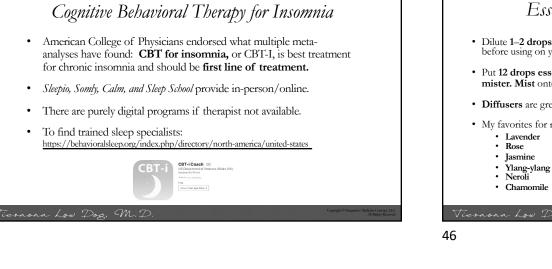


# Sleep Hygiene



- 1. Make your bedroom dark, quiet, and cool. Invest in good mattress and pillows.
- 2. Turn off TV, computers, tablets, and smartphones 1 hour before bedtime.
- 3. Avoid caffeine after 12:00 PM (e.g., coffee, tea, soda, chocolate).
- 4. Limit alcohol intake and don't drink within 2-3 hours of bedtime.
- 5. Try not to exercise within 2 hours of bedtime.
- 6. Consider a hot bath 1-2 hours before bedtime.
- 7. Try not to eat right before bed. A glass of warm milk, bowl of cereal, okay.
- 8. Keep same sleep schedule 7 days a week.
- 9. Get sleep evaluation if sleep disruption and/or daytime fatigue continues.

### Vieraona Low Dog, M.D



# Essential Oils for Relaxation & Sleep

- Dilute 1-2 drops essential oil in 1 teaspoon carrier oil (almond, olive, coconut) before using on your skin.
- Put 12 drops essential oil in 1/2 ounce water and 1/2 ounce vodka and put in mister. Mist onto pillowcase/bedding before bed. Mist into room to reduce tension.
- Diffusers are great way to deliver aromatherapy into your room (love Urpower).
- · My favorites for relaxation and sleep are:
- - Chamomile

# Oral Lavender Essential Oil (Lavendula angustifolia)

Meta-analysis randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials show Silexan, essential oil from lavender licensed in 14 countries worldwide, has pronounced anxiolytic effect and beneficial effects on sleep. Adverse events similar to placebo.

Moller HJ, et al. Efficacy of Silexan in subthreshold anxiety: meta-analysis of randomised, placebo-controlled trials. *Eur Arch Psychiatry Clin Neurosci* (2017) https://doi.org/10.1007/s00406-017-0852-4



# Exercise & Health

- 80 million Americans> 6 years are entirely inactive.
- · Relationship between physical activity and cardiovascular, metabolic, neurological, immunological and bone health well-established.
- · Reduces the harmful effects of stressors when performed at moderate intensities.
- · Meta-analysis of 398 studies consistently shows exercise benefits mood, depression and anxiety.

Deslandes, et al. Neuropsychobiology 2009; 59(4):191-8 Rebar AL, et al. Health Psychol Rev 2015; Mar 5:1-78

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## Mindfulness

• **Mindfulness** (one) definition: awareness that arises while paying attention to the **present moment** nonjudgmentally.

• Growing evidence suggests mindfulness practice can help us **reduce harmful health behaviors,** catalyze **healthy behavior change**, and improve physical and mental health **outcomes**.<sup>1</sup>



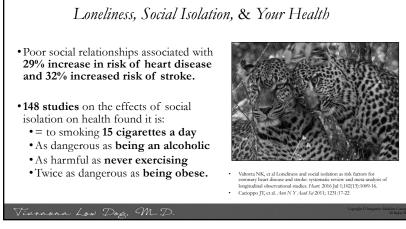
1. Schuman-Olivier Z, et al. Harvard Review of Psychiatry 2020; 28(6): 371-94

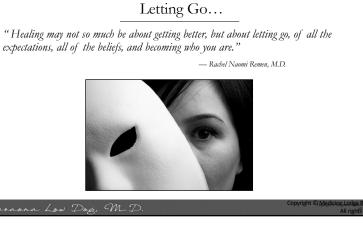
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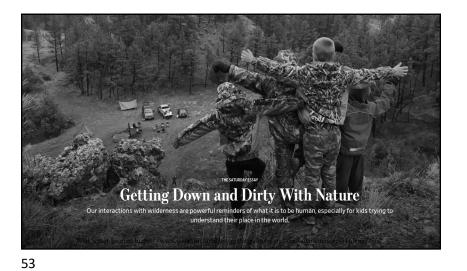


- (free to \$60 annual subscription)
- Insight Timer ~4,000 guided meditations >1,000 teachers (self-compassion, nature, stress, podcasts). Music tracks (free to \$5/mo.)
- *Headspace* Meditation, videos, meditations music. (free basic course, \$12.99 mo., \$95/year)
- 10% Happier Performance enhancement. Busy people, stressed lives. (free one-week intro, then \$100 per year)
- *Buddhify* For more advanced meditator. Can sort by location, activity and/or emotion. (small monthly fee, premium is \$30/yr.)

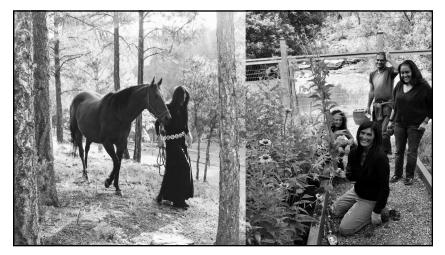
### Tieraona Low Dog, M.D













# The World Today

- We strongly emphasize **biological explanation** for depression and anxiety, as evidenced by **extensive use of antidepressants and anxiolytics.**
- Little focus remains on physiological, nutritional, societal, communal, familial, and spiritual underpinnings.
- "I take my Effexor and go to a **job I hate** and then home to a house full of **kids** that are **out of control** and a husband that **barely talks to me**. Is my depression better? **Yeah, I guess."**
- Complex world. We often have unrealistic expectations. Isolation is common, financial problems, lack of purpose, meaning, a sense of despair, hopelessness—the world has less color and texture.

Vicraona Low Dog, M.I

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# Heart Ache

Meta-analysis/systematic review Journal of the American Heart Association: Psychological factors (e.g., depression, anxiety, stress, loneliness, hostility, posttraumatic stress disorder) associated with significantly increased risk of developing coronary artery disease in both women (22%) and men (25%).



Smaardijk VR, et al. J Am Heart Assoc 2019; 8(9):e010859

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# What We Think Matters

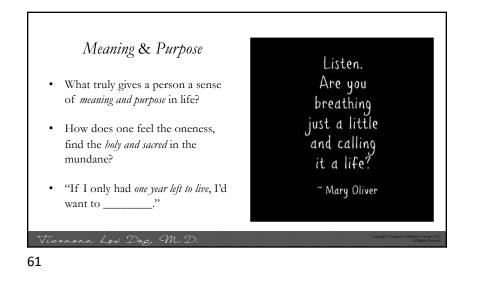


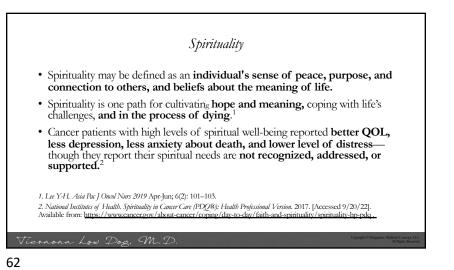
- Is this a challenge or a threat?
- Do I have the resources to handle it?
- Are my thoughts helpful/ dysfunctional?
- What is my self-talk? Where does it come from?
- Is this what I was taught or what I believe?

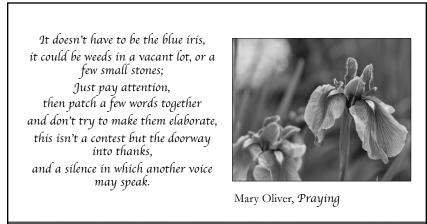
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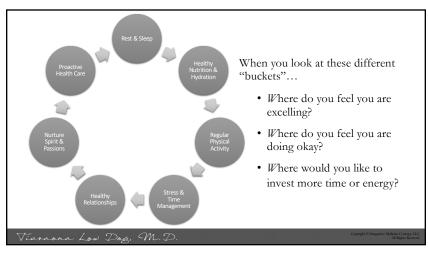
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- 1. Move more. Whether it's the 7-minute workout, cycling, yoga, or taking long walks—one of surest ways to maintain heart, brain, bone, and muscle health is daily exercise. It's not optional. *Just do it.*
- Eat food. Minimally processed, low glycemic load, diverse, and largely plant-based diet. Organic, local, and/or humanely raised when possible. Avoid endocrine disruptors. Stay hydrated. Water should be primary beverage for hydration.
- 3. Meditate. Meditation widens the gap between trigger and response, allowing you to feel a greater calm and awareness. It's a game-changer for many.
- 4. Stay connected. Social isolation and loneliness is as dangerous as being an alcoholic or being obese. Invest in your friends and family.
- 5. Consider a multi to avoid gaps in key micronutrients. Age/gender appropriate.
- 6. Be tech smart. Technology makes life easier and more complex. Use blue light-blocking glasses at night or set blue light on phone, make one day each week tech-free, and limit email in the evening.
- 7. Nurture spirit. The search for meaning and purpose is a fundamental part of being human. A richly nourished inner life is a source of strength during hard times. Look inward. Honor mystery.





Vieraona Low Dog, M.D.