

FEBRUARY 2012 VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

Heart Healthy Lifestyles

By: Concentra Urgent Care

APPROXIMATELY EVERY 60 SECONDS, AN AMERICAN WILL DIE FROM A CORONARY EVENT.

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), an estimated 71 million Americans have some form of heart disease, the most common being high blood pressure. And most of these problems are self-created by poor lifestyle choices.

What can you do to live heart healthy?
The AHA recommends:

EATING A HEALTHY DIET

- Lean, skinless meats and poultry
- Fat-free, 1% fat, and low-fat dairy products
- Avoid foods containing partially hydrogenated vegetable oil or added sugars
- Avoid foods high in dietary cholesterol
- Prepare foods without added salt, saturated fat, and trans fat

EXERCISING REGULARLY

- 20-to-60 minutes per day, 3-to-5 times per week
- AVOIDING TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND TOBACCO SMOKE
 - LIMITING YOUR ALCOHOL INTAKE
- Women: 1 drink per day (maximum)
- Men: 2 drinks per day (maximum)

In addition to poor lifestyle choices, heredity plays a factor in heart disease, too. It is therefore important to know your family history to help identify familial risk factors and help prevent the development of certain familial illnesses.

What should be included in a family history?

ANY KNOWN CONGENITAL OR HEREDITARY DISORDERS

MAJOR ILLNESSES

CHRONIC AILMENTS
OR RISK FACTORS

- Smoking
- Obesity
- Alcohol problems

THE CAUSE & AGE OF DEATH OF

ANY DECEASED RELATIVES CHILDHOOD CONDITIONS

- Major illnesses
- Vaccinations
- Surgeries
- Treatments, especially those involving radiation

For more information on living a heart healthy lifestyle, you can contact your health care provider or visit the American Heart Association's Web site at: www.AmericanHeart.org.





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What Causes Sensitive Teeth & What To Do About It

Do you experience discomfort in your teeth? Do you find it difficult to drink icy or hot beverages? You may have a case of sensitive teeth. Luckily, it's very treatable. Find out what causes sensitive teeth and how to change your habits to avoid sensitivity.

What does it mean to have sensitive teeth?

If you experience pain or discomfort when consuming foods or beverages that are hot, cold, sweet, or sour; when brushing or flossing; or even when breathing sharp, cold air, you may have sensitive teeth.

What is the reason for sensitive teeth? Common causes of tooth sensitivity:

- Over-brushing brushing your teeth too hard may wear down enamel or irritate the gum line, causing it to recede and expose the tooth's sensitive roots.
- **Cracked teeth** a crack or chip in your tooth may expose the underlying dentin or may fill with bacteria from plaque, causing the nerve to inflame.
- **Teeth grinding** over time, grinding or clenching your teeth can erode enamel and expose dentin.
- **Gum disease** gum disease leads to tooth decay which breaks down enamel; gum disease can also lead to infection which may attack the tooth's roots or cause the gum line to recede.
- **Tooth whitening** using products with peroxide or baking soda can seriously aggravate exposed roots or dentin.



• **Age** – studies have shown that tooth sensitivity occurs most often in people between the ages of 25 and 30.

It is possible to experience tooth sensitivity after routine dental procedures such as the placement of a filling or crown, tooth restoration, or even tooth cleaning. Such sensitivity is temporary; if it does not cease after four to six weeks please consult your dentist.

How should I take care of my teeth if they are sensitive? Tooth sensitivity is very treatable, no matter what the cause. Here are a few remedies you can take advantage of at home:

Try a **desensitizing toothpaste** which contains chemicals that block sensations like hot and cold from reaching the nerves in your teeth. Use a **soft-bristled toothbrush** that will be gentler on both your teeth and gums. Switch to a **fluoride mouthwash. Avoid acidic foods** such as tea, tomatoes, and citrus fruits. Maintain **good oral hygiene** by brushing twice every day and flossing once daily.

Depending on the cause and severity of your sensitivity, you may benefit from professional treatment. If you suffer from sensitive teeth, please be sure to contact your dentist. We can set up an appointment to discuss what is bothering you and determine the best way to address the problem.

Submitted by Dr. Flury





RECIPE OF THE MONTH

PARIS POTATOES

- 5 cups potatoes, diced in ½" cubes
- 1 C sour cream
- 2 C creamed cottage cheesee
- 1 C green onions & tops, finely chopped
- ½ tsp. garlic salt, optional
- salt & pepper to taste
- 1 C shredded cheddar cheese

Parcook diced potatoes in boiling water until crispy tender. Drain, and combine potatoes with all ingredients except cheese. Baked in buttered 13 x 9" baking dish at 350° for 30 minutes or until sauce is bubbly. Sprinkle with cheese during last 10 minutes of baking time.





Pick up the Pile

Happy New Year to all! As we embark on 2012's journey, some will think of ways to improve upon themselves. I'd like to offer an idea to those that still think dog poop is fertilizer, let's try picking up after our dogs. In case you were not aware, scientists have established the fact that the dog's gut harbors a particular type of bacteria known as the coli form bacteria. This bacterium includes the dreaded E. coli bacteria and also contains strains of salmonella and giardia. Now, since the rains have finally come, all the piles that have been left behind will be washed into our storm drains and contaminate our water supply. Not only is our water supply affected but perhaps even the air we breathe...I came across this article:

SCIENCEDAILY (AUG. 18, 2011)

"Bacteria from fecal material -- in particular, dog fecal material -may constitute the dominant source of airborne bacteria in Cleveland's and Detroit's wintertime air, says a new University of Colorado Boulder study."

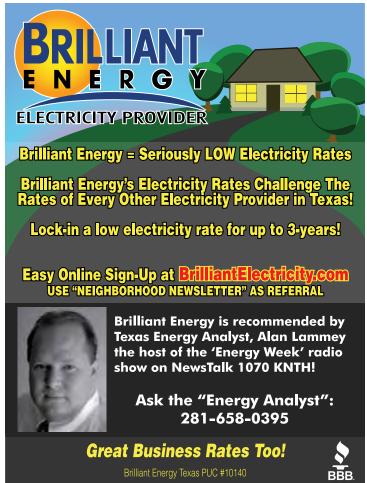
This was the first test conducted, for air borne disease so far, however, scientist presume other cities, with an abundance of the canine kind, will show similar results. Please be kind, don't leave it behind. To those that pick up....THANK YOU

www.pickupthepile.com









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