wts Informational Brief

Boosting Immunity Through Sleep

While we sleep our bodies produce and release cytokines, proteins that target infection and inflammation. A lack of sleep leaves us more susceptible to infections and leads to longer recovery periods when we do get sick. Two 20-30 minute naps per day can make up for lost rest, decreasing stress while offsetting the negative effects of sleep-deprivation on the immune sytem.

Below are some tips to help you sleep better (by headspace).

- 1. Try some gentle yoga poses before bed.
- 2. Increase bright natural light exposure during the day.
- 3. Keep your bedroom dark and cool at night.
- 4. Listen to a sleep meditation, or even a soothing music playlist.
- 5. Find more tips <u>here.</u>

Resources for Healthy Sleep Habits

Mylife Meditation: A guided meditation app that includes activities for stress relief, sleep, focus, kids activities, resiliency, and more.

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/mylife-meditation/id778848692



Headspace Sleepcast: Peaceful stories with calming sounds and voices to fall asleep to.

• Click below or search "sleepcast" on spotify or itunes.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9OHvPNatlBc



4-7-8 Breathing for sleep: A guided breath exercise designed to help you fall asleep.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MjpQutwcvc

