O WEEK DAY 4 MOTIVATION TIPS

STICKING TO NEW HABITS

Often, we can feel that we want to change everything, especially if we are feeling frustrated, fatigued, and overwhelmed. However, by making small, consistent changes, our habits form and we enable our goals to be realised. Follow the steps below for each idea you want to achieve.

- 1. Decide on the goal/s that you would like to achieve around your diet and lifestyle.
- 2. Choose a simple action, (from the TTMP) that you can do each day.
- 3. Plan and be consistent: choose a time and place that you encounter every day of the week.
- 4. Every time you encounter that time and place, take the action.
- 5. It will get easier with time, and within weeks you should find you are doing it automatically without even having to think about it¹.

BUILDING NEW HABITS

If you want to build a new habit, you must have a clear plan of action.

Don't say, "I'm going to start working out". Instead, say "I will work out on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 7am for 20 minutes" / "I will include 1 cup more of salad in my lunch at work and as an entrée for dinner at home over the next 2 weeks". Research shows that setting out a clear plan of action, of when and where you will carry out the habit you would like to cultivate is the most effective way to change.

Make you new habit satisfying.

The most important rule for behavioural change is to make habits satisfying. This can be difficult since our habits are often beneficial in the long run, and we don't always get immediate satisfaction. Therefore, when you are trying to build habits with a long-term benefit, try to attach some immediate satisfaction to them.

For example, if you want to start losing weight, start saving for something that you really want to buy. Each day that you eat well and/or workout put a dollar (or however much you decide on) into the savings account. You will now get some short-term satisfaction each time you put money into your account. This will keep you on track until you reach your long-term goals.

For more on habit changing – see https://jamesclear.com/atomic-habits

WHAT IS YOUR WHY?

Our WHY is our personal compass to give us direction and encouragement throughout the Thrive Through Menopause Program and beyond. One of the ideas that may support you to work with change is finding your WHY?

Ask yourself -

♣ Why	do yo	u want	to make	changes?
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- ₩ Why did I sign up to the Thrive Through Menopause Program?
- **♣** What do I want to get out of it?
- ₩ Where will I be in 6 months' time if I follow through with my goals?
- **♣** Where will I be if I do not?
- **♣** What do I want for my life now and in the future?

These reasons may represent a larger purpose or your personal life values and WILL drive your willpower³. Perhaps, display it somewhere you can see it daily. Make a vison board around it so when you must resist temptation or motivate yourself, you will know WHY!

Have a look at the motivation questions below and fill that out. This profile is not for anyone else, it is for you – it will also help you get clear about your Goals and Motivation.

What are your top three health goals?						
Health goals						
What has stopped yo	ou from achieving your health goals in the past? Examples might include lack of time,					
support or money. I health goals?	Do you think these factors, or anything else may stop you from achieving your current					
mighthelp inspire a encouragement from	helped inspire and motivate you to make significant life changes in the past. What and motivate you to achieve your current health goals? Examples may include m your family or friends, a special event such as a wedding or birth of a child, or your th. Please comment on how and why these motivate you.					
lifestyle. How willin	ealth and wellbeing, you may be asked to make some changes to your diet and/or g would you be to do the following? Please rate on a scale of to 5 (extremely willing). Please comment on why you have given this rating.					
Make dietary changes						
Engage in regular exercise/activity						
Practice relaxation						

technique(s) on a regular basis		
Modify your sleep habits		
Commit 6 weeks to the TTM program		

With the support and guidance of the experts in the Thrive Through Menopause Program, how confident are you in your ability to follow through in the activities above and in the program?

Please rate on a scale of 1 (not confident) to 5 (extremely confident)

"Watch your thoughts; they become words. Watch your words; they become actions. Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character. Watch your character; it becomes your destiny."— Lao-Tze

Healthy Regards,

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Disclaimer: The handout does not reflect any particular diagnosis, nor suggests any course of action. It is meant only as a tool to help assessment. The ideas and suggestions made here are not intended as substitutes for appropriate care by a licensed healthcare practitioner. Should you have any concerns regarding your well-being now or in the future, please contact your primary healthcare practitioner.

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References available on request.