Empowering the Wellbeing of Nurses

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What happened?

- ▶ I reviewed what was really going on in my life
- ► I had a long hard look at myself
- ▶ I reflected on what was happening around me



Symptoms of stress

 Headaches, other aches and pains Sleep disturbance, insomnia • Upset stomach, indigestion, diarrhoea • Anxiety • Anger, irritability • Depression • Fatigue • Feeling overwhelmed and out of control • Feeling moody, tearful • Difficulty concentrating • Low self-esteem, lack of confidence • High blood pressure • Weakened immune system • Heart disease



Statistics 2014

- ▶ 1 in 4 reported moderate to severe stress last year
- ▶ 2 in 5 reported experiencing some depression
- ▶ 1 in 4 reported experiencing some anxiety
- ▶ 1 in 5 reported that stress was having a strong to very strong impact on physical health

Stress and Wellbeing in Australia Survey 2014



A nurse's environment



- ► Time poor
- ► Shift work
- Sleep deprivation
- Physically demanding
- Working closely with others
- Interpersonal work conflicts
- Not taught the strategies to cope



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How do we respond?



- Work harder/faster
- Accepted the status quo
- We often ignore how we really feel
- Soldier on mentality
- We develop a lack of awareness as we work to stay afloat



Reported coping mechanisms

- ► 40% Alcohol
- ▶ 69% Eating
- ▶ 57% Retail therapy



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The Sydney Morning Herald

National

With flexible study options like Cloud Learning

Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 001138

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Nurses battling their own medical crisis

February 24, 2014

Saffron Howden

Reporter

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The keepers of the nation's health are battling a medical crisis of their own. A study into the wellbeing of nurses has found many are suffering from musculoskeletal conditions, obesity and mental health problems.

Overall, they rate their own health as somewhere between "poor" and "average".



Nurses survey 2013

- ► More than 50% reported stress affected their health
- ▶ 30% Chronic back pain
- ▶ 30% Mental health concerns
- ► 46% Weight management issues



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Can Secondhand Stress Be Contagious?

April 28, 2014

By ABC NEWS via WORLD NEWS



A team at Saint Louis University looked at "second-hand stress" to see whether it could be as contagious as a cold.

Credit: ABC News



How does this affect us as a nurse/healthcare worker?

- Increasingly reactive to our surroundings
- Stress levels rise
- Exhaustion and fatigue increases errors
- Mental clarity is reduced
- ► Lack of enjoyment and fulfilment
- Reduced job satisfaction and retention



Long term affects

- Self-doubt and lack of confidence
- Worry, anxiety, overwhelm, panic
- ► Frustration, anger
- Exhaustion and burnout
- ► Poor physical health
- Mental health concerns



What happened next?

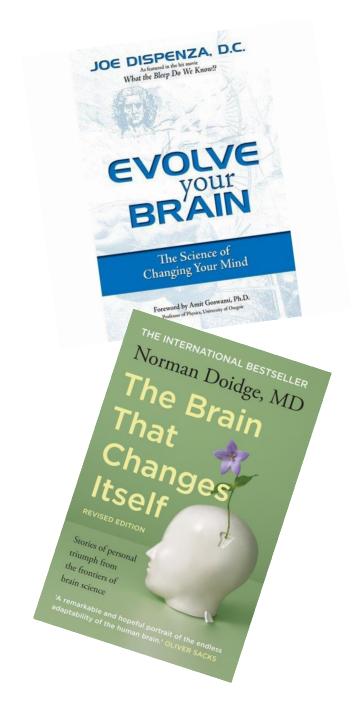
- ▶ I decided I wanted to feel happier with who I was
- ▶ I wanted to feel more fulfilled
- ▶ I believed life was meant to be easier
- ▶ I looked for the tools to change



The Siramarti Process

- ▶ Developed by two Australian women over 15 years ago: Suzie St George and Fiona McDougall.
- ► Based on the science of Neuroplasticity References 'The brain that changes itself' by Norman Doidge and 'Evolve your brain' by Joe Dispenza.
- ► Basic techniques are effective because they change the way the brain responds to day-to-day problems.





Stressed? Why?

- ► Hunter gatherer's lifestyle
- Quiet communities
- ► Energetic connection to nature and the earth
- Periods of rest in between bursts of work
- ► Little mental stress
- ► Entire physiology was designed with this existence in mind.





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21st Century!

- Unnatural environment
- ► No longer in nature
- Unpredictable change at all levels
- Demands for greater productivity
- Continuous pressure and lack of time
- Breakdown of relationship dynamics





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"Nerve cells that fire together, wire together"

Jo Dispenza

- ► Negative thoughts result in emotional responses that don't serve us eg fear, stress, overwhelm
- ► These pathways become our default mechanisms which lead to repeated behaviour
- By stimulating our neural pathways in new ways it is possible to change the way we respond to challenges permanently



With practice you can:

- Stay calm amidst daily challenges
- ► Reduce stress, worry, fatigue
- Conduct tasks with mental clarity
- Make decisions with confidence
- Improve your vitality
- ► Feel comfortable and work alongside others with ease



Bali Retreat 2016



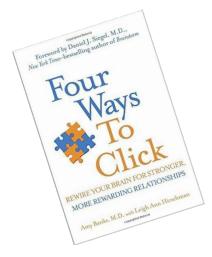
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The WellNurse Program

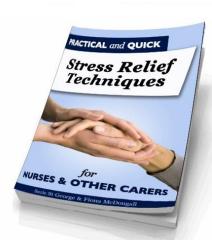


- ► WellNurse introduces health care workers to personal skills that can powerfully assist in relieving fatigue, stress, worry, overwhelm and more.
- If applied regularly you will steadily improve your ability to maintain a calm and centred approach to your work as a nurse/healthcare worker.





The WellNurse Model focuses on:



- Minimisation of internal stress, worry or discomforts through changing the way our brain responds to problems
- Self-awareness in the moment honest evaluation of what you are feeling
- ► Making the choice to dissolve discomforts
- ► Taking personal responsibility to make changes
- ▶ Dealing with pressures in a grounded step-by-step way by learning the art of self-care



Self-care for those who care

- Relaxation
- Learning
- Visualisations
- Mindfulness
- Sound Resonance Healing Session
- All meals and snacks

Of course I'm tired! I'm a nurse.



Geelong Conference Centre
Oct 10 2015
6 CPD points



Pre: WellNurse Facilitation

- ▶ 20% frequently stressed at work
- ► 65% felt stressed at times
- ▶ 50% lacked confidence at work
- ▶ 20% frequently reported feeling worried
- ▶ 25% frequently had trouble falling asleep
- ▶ 90% reported at times feeling overwhelmed by the day ahead



Post: WellNurse Facilitation

- ▶ 80% reported a reduction in stress
- ▶ 70% reported increased confidence
- ▶ 70% reported feeling less worried
- ▶ 80% reported feeling more satisfied
- ▶ 70% reported improved sleep

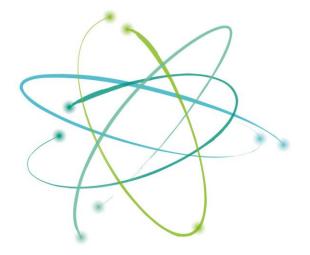


Thank you

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