

PAR-Q	OMB#: ####-#### EXP.DATE: ##/##/####
<p style="text-align: center;">NOTIFICATION TO RESPONDENT OF ESTIMATED BURDEN</p> <p>Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes for this questionnaire, including the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a current, valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to: NIH, Project Clearance Branch, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7974, Bethesda, MD 20892-7974, ATTN:PRA (####-####).</p>	

PARmed-X	OMB#: ####-#### EXP.DATE: ##/##/####
<p style="text-align: center;">NOTIFICATION TO RESPONDENT OF ESTIMATED BURDEN</p> <p>Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes for this questionnaire, including the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a current, valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to: NIH, Project Clearance Branch, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7974, Bethesda, MD 20892-7974, ATTN:PRA (####-####).</p>	

PAR-Q & YOU

(A Questionnaire for People Aged 15 to 69)

Regular physical activity is fun and healthy, and increasingly more people are starting to become more active every day. Being more active is very safe for most people. However, some people should check with their doctor before they start becoming much more physically active.

If you are planning to become much more physically active than you are now, start by answering the seven questions in the box below. If you are between the ages of 15 and 69, the PAR-Q will tell you if you should check with your doctor before you start. If you are over 69 years of age, and you are not used to being very active, check with your doctor.

Common sense is your best guide when you answer these questions. Please read the questions carefully and answer each one honestly: check YES or NO.

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Has your doctor ever said that you have a heart condition <u>and</u> that you should only do physical activity recommended by a doctor?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Do you feel pain in your chest when you do physical activity?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. In the past month, have you had chest pain when you were not doing physical activity?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Do you lose your balance because of dizziness or do you ever lose consciousness?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Do you have a bone or joint problem (for example, back, knee or hip) that could be made worse by a change in your physical activity?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Is your doctor currently prescribing drugs (for example, water pills) for your blood pressure or heart condition?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Do you know of <u>any other reason</u> why you should not do physical activity?

If
you
answered

YES to one or more questions

Talk with your doctor by phone or in person BEFORE you start becoming much more physically active or BEFORE you have a fitness appraisal. Tell your doctor about the PAR-Q and which questions you answered YES.

- You may be able to do any activity you want — as long as you start slowly and build up gradually. Or, you may need to restrict your activities to those which are safe for you. Talk with your doctor about the kinds of activities you wish to participate in and follow his/her advice.
- Find out which community programs are safe and helpful for you.

NO to all questions

If you answered NO honestly to all PAR-Q questions, you can be reasonably sure that you can:

- start becoming much more physically active — begin slowly and build up gradually. This is the safest and easiest way to go.
- take part in a fitness appraisal — this is an excellent way to determine your basic fitness so that you can plan the best way for you to live actively. It is also highly recommended that you have your blood pressure evaluated. If your reading is over 144/94, talk with your doctor before you start becoming much more physically active.

DELAY BECOMING MUCH MORE ACTIVE:

- if you are not feeling well because of a temporary illness such as a cold or a fever — wait until you feel better; or
- if you are or may be pregnant — talk to your doctor before you start becoming more active.

PLEASE NOTE: If your health changes so that you then answer YES to any of the above questions, tell your fitness or health professional. Ask whether you should change your physical activity plan.

Informed Use of the PAR-Q: The Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, Health Canada, and their agents assume no liability for persons who undertake physical activity, and if in doubt after completing this questionnaire, consult your doctor prior to physical activity.

No changes permitted. You are encouraged to photocopy the PAR-Q but only if you use the entire form.

NOTE: If the PAR-Q is being given to a person before he or she participates in a physical activity program or a fitness appraisal, this section may be used for legal or administrative purposes.

"I have read, understood and completed this questionnaire. Any questions I had were answered to my full satisfaction."

NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT _____

or GUARDIAN (for participants under the age of majority)

DATE _____

WITNESS _____

Note: This physical activity clearance is valid for a maximum of 12 months from the date it is completed and becomes invalid if your condition changes so that you would answer YES to any of the seven questions.



PAR-Q & YOU

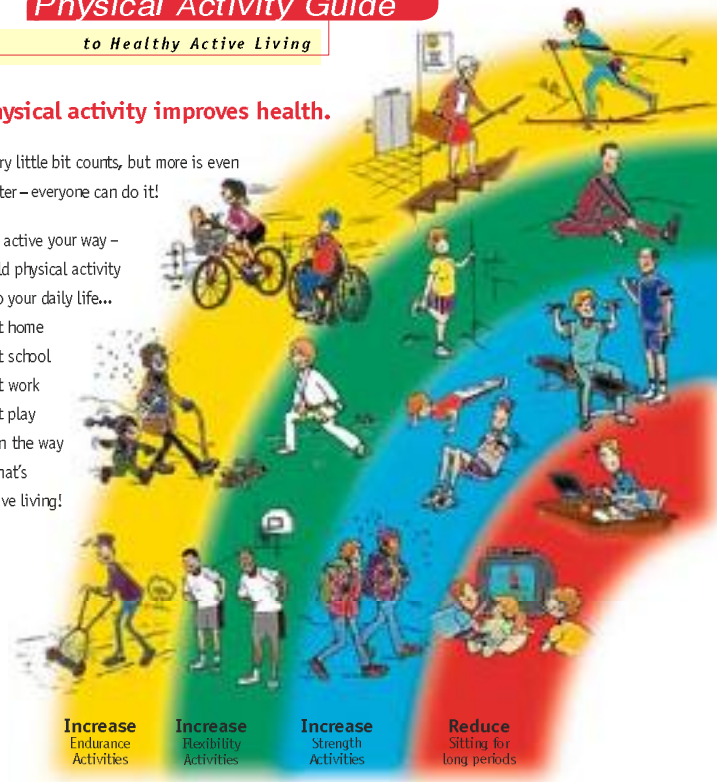
CANADA'S
Physical Activity Guide
to Healthy Active Living

Physical activity improves health.

Every little bit counts, but more is even better – everyone can do it!

Get active your way – build physical activity into your daily life...

- at home
 - at school
 - at work
 - at play
 - on the way
- ...that's active living!



- Increase** Endurance Activities
- Increase** Flexibility Activities
- Increase** Strength Activities
- Reduce** Sitting for long periods

Choose a variety of activities from these three groups:

Endurance
4-7 days a week
Continuous activities for your heart, lungs and circulatory system.

Flexibility
4-7 days a week
Gentle reaching, bending and stretching activities to keep your muscles relaxed and joints mobile.

Strength
2-4 days a week
Activities against resistance to strengthen muscles and bones and improve posture.

Starting slowly is very safe for most people. Not sure? Consult your health professional.

For a copy of the *Guide Handbook* and more information: 1-888-334-9769, or www.paguide.com

Eating well is also important. Follow *Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating* to make wise food choices.

Get Active Your Way, Every Day – For Life!

Scientists say accumulate 60 minutes of physical activity every day to stay healthy or improve your health. As you progress to moderate activities you can cut down to 30 minutes, 4 days a week. Add-up your activities in periods of at least 10 minutes each. Start slowly... and build up.

Time needed depends on effort				
Very Light Effort	Light Effort	Moderate Effort	Vigorous Effort	Maximum Effort
• Strolling • Dusting	60 minutes • Light walking • Volleyball • Easy gardening • Stretching	30-60 minutes • Brisk walking • Biking • Raking leaves • Swimming • Dancing • Water aerobics	20-30 minutes • Aerobics • Jogging • Hockey • Basketball • Fast swimming • Fast dancing	• Sprinting • Racing
Range needed to stay healthy				

You Can Do It – Getting started is easier than you think

Physical activity doesn't have to be very hard. Build physical activities into your daily routine.

- Walk whenever you can – get off the bus early, use the stairs instead of the elevator.
- Reduce inactivity for long periods, like watching TV.
- Get up from the couch and stretch and bend for a few minutes every hour.
- Play actively with your kids.
- Choose to walk, wheel or cycle for short trips.
- Start with a 10 minute walk – gradually increase the time.
- Find out about walking and cycling paths nearby and use them.
- Observe a physical activity class to see if you want to try it.
- Try one class to start – you don't have to make a long-term commitment.
- Do the activities you are doing now, more often.

Benefits of regular activity:	Health risks of inactivity:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better health • improved fitness • better posture and balance • better self-esteem • weight control • stronger muscles and bones • feeling more energetic • relaxation and reduced stress • continued independent living in later life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • premature death • heart disease • obesity • high blood pressure • adult-onset diabetes • osteoporosis • stroke • depression • colon cancer



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Source: Canada's Physical Activity Guide to Healthy Active Living, Health Canada, 1998 <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/paguide/pdf/guideEng.pdf>

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FITNESS AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS MAY BE INTERESTED IN THE INFORMATION BELOW:

The following companion forms are available for doctors' use by contacting the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology (address below):

The **Physical Activity Readiness Medical Examination (PARmed-X)** – to be used by doctors with people who answer YES to one or more questions on the PAR-Q.

The **Physical Activity Readiness Medical Examination for Pregnancy (PARmed-X for Pregnancy)** – to be used by doctors with pregnant patients who wish to become more active.

References:

- Arraix, G.A., Wigle, D.T., Mao, Y. (1992). Risk Assessment of Physical Activity and Physical Fitness in the Canada Health Survey Follow-Up Study. **J. Clin. Epidemiol.** 45:4 419-428.
- Mottola, M., Wolfe, L.A. (1994). Active Living and Pregnancy. In: A. Quinney, L. Gauvin, T. Wall (eds.), **Toward Active Living: Proceedings of the International Conference on Physical Activity, Fitness and Health**. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.
- PAR-Q Validation Report, British Columbia Ministry of Health, 1978.
- Thomas, S., Reading, J., Shephard, R.J. (1992). Revision of the Physical Activity Readiness Questionnaire (PAR-Q). **Can. J. Spt. Sci.** 17:4 338-345.

For more information, please contact the:

Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
202-185 Somerset Street West
Ottawa, ON K2P 0J2
Tel. 1-877-651-3755 • FAX (613) 234-3565
Online: www.csep.ca

The original PAR-Q was developed by the British Columbia Ministry of Health. It has been revised by an Expert Advisory Committee of the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology chaired by Dr. N. Gledhill (2002).

Disponible en français sous le titre «Questionnaire sur l'aptitude à l'activité physique - Q-AAP (révisé 2002)».



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Health Canada
Santé Canada

PARmed-X PHYSICAL ACTIVITY READINESS MEDICAL EXAMINATION

The PARmed-X is a physical activity-specific checklist to be used by a physician with patients who have had positive responses to the Physical Activity Readiness Questionnaire (PAR-Q). In addition, the Conveyance/Referral Form in the PARmed-X can be used to convey clearance for physical activity participation, or to make a referral to a medically-supervised exercise program.

Regular physical activity is fun and healthy, and increasingly more people are starting to become more active every day. Being more active is very safe for most people. The PAR-Q by itself provides adequate screening for the majority of people. However, some individuals may require a medical evaluation and specific advice (exercise prescription) due to one or more positive responses to the PAR-Q.

Following the participant's evaluation by a physician, a physical activity plan should be devised in consultation with a physical activity professional (CSEP-Certified Personal Trainer™ or CSEP-Certified Exercise Physiologist™). To assist in this, the following instructions are provided:

- PAGE 1:** • Sections A, B, C, and D should be completed by the participant BEFORE the examination by the physician. The bottom section is to be completed by the examining physician.
- PAGES 2 & 3:** • A checklist of medical conditions requiring special consideration and management.
- PAGE 4:** • Physical Activity & Lifestyle Advice for people who do not require specific instructions or prescribed exercise.
• Physical Activity Readiness Conveyance/Referral Form - an optional tear-off tab for the physician to convey clearance for physical activity participation, or to make a referral to a medically-supervised exercise program.

This section to be completed by the participant

<p>A PERSONAL INFORMATION:</p> <p>NAME _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>TELEPHONE _____</p> <p>BIRTHDATE _____ GENDER _____</p> <p>MEDICAL No. _____</p>	<p>B PAR-Q: Please indicate the PAR-Q questions to which you answered YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Q 1 Heart condition <input type="checkbox"/> Q 2 Chest pain during activity <input type="checkbox"/> Q 3 Chest pain at rest <input type="checkbox"/> Q 4 Loss of balance, dizziness <input type="checkbox"/> Q 5 Bone or joint problem <input type="checkbox"/> Q 6 Blood pressure or heart drugs <input type="checkbox"/> Q 7 Other reason: _____
<p>C RISK FACTORS FOR CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE: <i>Check all that apply</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 30 minutes of moderate physical activity most days of the week. <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive accumulation of fat around waist. <input type="checkbox"/> Currently smoker (tobacco smoking 1 or more times per week). <input type="checkbox"/> Family history of heart disease. <input type="checkbox"/> High blood pressure reported by physician after repeated measurements. <input type="checkbox"/> High cholesterol level reported by physician. <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Please note: Many of these risk factors are modifiable. Please refer to page 4 and discuss with your physician.</p> </div>	<p>D PHYSICAL ACTIVITY INTENTIONS:</p> <p>What physical activity do you intend to do?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

This section to be completed by the examining physician

<p>Physical Exam:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Ht</td> <td style="width: 15%;">Wt</td> <td style="width: 15%;">BP i) /</td> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>BP ii) /</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Conditions limiting physical activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiovascular <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Musculoskeletal <input type="checkbox"/> Abdominal <p>Tests required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ECG <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise Test <input type="checkbox"/> X-Ray <input type="checkbox"/> Blood <input type="checkbox"/> Urinalysis <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	Ht	Wt	BP i) /				BP ii) /		<p>Physical Activity Readiness Conveyance/Referral:</p> <p>Based upon a current review of health status, I recommend:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; float: right; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Further Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attached <input type="checkbox"/> To be forwarded <input type="checkbox"/> Available on request </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No physical activity <input type="checkbox"/> Only a medically-supervised exercise program until further medical clearance <input type="checkbox"/> Progressive physical activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> with avoidance of: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> with inclusion of: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> under the supervision of a CSEP-Certified Exercise Physiologist™ <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted physical activity—start slowly and build up gradually
Ht	Wt	BP i) /							
		BP ii) /							

PARmed-X PHYSICAL ACTIVITY READINESS MEDICAL EXAMINATION

Following is a checklist of medical conditions for which a degree of precaution and/or special advice should be considered for those who answered "YES" to one or more questions on the PAR-Q, and people over the age of 69. Conditions are grouped by system. Three categories of precautions are provided. Comments under Advice are general, since details and alternatives require clinical judgement in each individual instance.

	Absolute Contraindications	Relative Contraindications	Special Prescriptive Conditions	ADVICE
	Permanent restriction or temporary restriction until condition is treated, stable, and/or past acute phase.	Highly variable. Value of exercise testing and/or program may exceed risk. Activity may be restricted. Desirable to maximize control of condition. Direct or indirect medical supervision of exercise program may be desirable.	Individualized prescriptive advice generally appropriate: • limitations imposed; and/or • special exercises prescribed. May require medical monitoring and/or initial supervision in exercise program.	
Cardiovascular	<input type="checkbox"/> aortic aneurysm (dissecting) <input type="checkbox"/> aortic stenosis (severe) <input type="checkbox"/> congestive heart failure <input type="checkbox"/> crescendo angina <input type="checkbox"/> myocardial infarction (acute) <input type="checkbox"/> myocarditis (active or recent) <input type="checkbox"/> pulmonary or systemic embolism—acute <input type="checkbox"/> thrombophlebitis <input type="checkbox"/> ventricular tachycardia and other dangerous dysrhythmias (e.g., multi-focal ventricular activity)	<input type="checkbox"/> aortic stenosis (moderate) <input type="checkbox"/> subaortic stenosis (severe) <input type="checkbox"/> marked cardiac enlargement <input type="checkbox"/> supraventricular dysrhythmias (uncontrolled or high rate) <input type="checkbox"/> ventricular ectopic activity (repetitive or frequent) <input type="checkbox"/> ventricular aneurysm <input type="checkbox"/> hypertension—untreated or uncontrolled severe (systemic or pulmonary) <input type="checkbox"/> hypertrophic cardiomyopathy <input type="checkbox"/> compensated congestive heart failure	<input type="checkbox"/> aortic (or pulmonary) stenosis—mild angina pectoris and other manifestations of coronary insufficiency (e.g., post-acute infarct) <input type="checkbox"/> cyanotic heart disease <input type="checkbox"/> shunts (intermittent or fixed) <input type="checkbox"/> conduction disturbances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete AV block • left BBB • Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome <input type="checkbox"/> dysrhythmias—controlled <input type="checkbox"/> fixed rate pacemakers <input type="checkbox"/> intermittent claudication <input type="checkbox"/> hypertension: systolic 160-180; diastolic 105+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clinical exercise test may be warranted in selected cases, for specific determination of functional capacity and limitations and precautions (if any). • slow progression of exercise to levels based on test performance and individual tolerance. • consider individual need for initial conditioning program under medical supervision (indirect or direct).
Infections	<input type="checkbox"/> acute infectious disease (regardless of etiology)	<input type="checkbox"/> subacute/chronic/recurrent infectious diseases (e.g., malaria, others)	<input type="checkbox"/> chronic infections <input type="checkbox"/> HIV	variable as to condition
Metabolic		<input type="checkbox"/> uncontrolled metabolic disorders (diabetes mellitus, thyrotoxicosis, myxedema)	<input type="checkbox"/> renal, hepatic & other metabolic insufficiency <input type="checkbox"/> obesity <input type="checkbox"/> single kidney	variable as to status dietary moderation, and initial light exercises with slow progression (walking, swimming, cycling)
Pregnancy		<input type="checkbox"/> complicated pregnancy (e.g., toxemia, hemorrhage, incompetent cervix, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> advanced pregnancy (late 3rd trimester)	refer to the "PARmed-X for PREGNANCY"

References:

Arraix, G.A., Wigle, D.T., Mao, Y. (1992). Risk Assessment of Physical Activity and Physical Fitness in the Canada Health Survey Follow-Up Study. *J. Clin. Epidemiol.* 45:4 419-428.

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No changes permitted. You are encouraged to photocopy the PARmed-X, but only if you use the entire form.

Disponible en français sous le titre
«Évaluation médicale de l'aptitude à l'activité physique (X-AAP)»

Continued on page 3...

	Special Prescriptive Conditions	ADVICE
Lung	<input type="checkbox"/> chronic pulmonary disorders	special relaxation and breathing exercises
	<input type="checkbox"/> obstructive lung disease <input type="checkbox"/> asthma	breath control during endurance exercises to tolerance; avoid polluted air
	<input type="checkbox"/> exercise-induced bronchospasm	avoid hyperventilation during exercise; avoid extremely cold conditions; warm up adequately; utilize appropriate medication.
Musculoskeletal	<input type="checkbox"/> low back conditions (pathological, functional)	avoid or minimize exercise that precipitates or exasperates e.g., forced extreme flexion, extension, and violent twisting; correct posture, proper back exercises
	<input type="checkbox"/> arthritis—acute (infective, rheumatoid; gout)	treatment, plus judicious blend of rest, splinting and gentle movement
	<input type="checkbox"/> arthritis—subacute	progressive increase of active exercise therapy
	<input type="checkbox"/> arthritis—chronic (osteoarthritis and above conditions)	maintenance of mobility and strength; non-weightbearing exercises to minimize joint trauma (e.g., cycling, aquatic activity, etc.)
	<input type="checkbox"/> orthopaedic	highly variable and individualized
	<input type="checkbox"/> hernia	minimize straining and isometrics; strengthen abdominal muscles
	<input type="checkbox"/> osteoporosis or low bone density	avoid exercise with high risk for fracture such as push-ups, curl-ups, vertical jump and trunk forward flexion; engage in low-impact weight-bearing activities and resistance training
CNS	<input type="checkbox"/> convulsive disorder not completely controlled by medication	minimize or avoid exercise in hazardous environments and/or exercising alone (e.g., swimming, mountain climbing, etc.)
	<input type="checkbox"/> recent concussion	thorough examination if history of two concussions; review for discontinuation of contact sport if three concussions, depending on duration of unconsciousness, retrograde amnesia, persistent headaches, and other objective evidence of cerebral damage
Blood	<input type="checkbox"/> anemia—severe (< 10 Gm/dl)	control preferred; exercise as tolerated
	<input type="checkbox"/> electrolyte disturbances	
Medications	<input type="checkbox"/> antianginal <input type="checkbox"/> antiarrhythmic <input type="checkbox"/> antihypertensive <input type="checkbox"/> anticonvulsant <input type="checkbox"/> beta-blockers <input type="checkbox"/> digitalis preparations <input type="checkbox"/> diuretics <input type="checkbox"/> ganglionic blockers <input type="checkbox"/> others	NOTE: consider underlying condition. Potential for: exertional syncope, electrolyte imbalance, bradycardia, dysrhythmias, impaired coordination and reaction time, heat intolerance. May alter resting and exercise ECG's and exercise test performance.
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> post-exercise syncope	moderate program
	<input type="checkbox"/> heat intolerance	prolong cool-down with light activities; avoid exercise in extreme heat
	<input type="checkbox"/> temporary minor illness	postpone until recovered
	<input type="checkbox"/> cancer	if potential metastases, test by cycle ergometry, consider non-weight bearing exercises; exercise at lower end of prescriptive range (40-65% of heart rate reserve), depending on condition and recent treatment (radiation, chemotherapy); monitor hemoglobin and lymphocyte counts; add dynamic lifting exercise to strengthen muscles, using machines rather than weights.

*Refer to special publications for elaboration as required

The following companion forms are available online: <http://www.csep.ca>

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The **Physical Activity Readiness Medical Examination for Pregnancy (PARmed-X for PREGNANCY)** - to be used by physicians with pregnant patients who wish to become more physically active.

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202 - 185 Somerset St. West
Ottawa, ON K2P 0J2
Tel. 1-877-651-3755 • FAX (613) 234-3565 • Online: www.csep.ca

Note to physical activity professionals...

It is a prudent practice to retain the completed Physical Activity Readiness Conveyance/Referral Form in the participant's file.

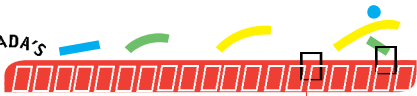


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Continued on page 4...

PARmed-X PHYSICAL ACTIVITY READINESS MEDICAL EXAMINATION

CANADA'S  to Healthy Active Living

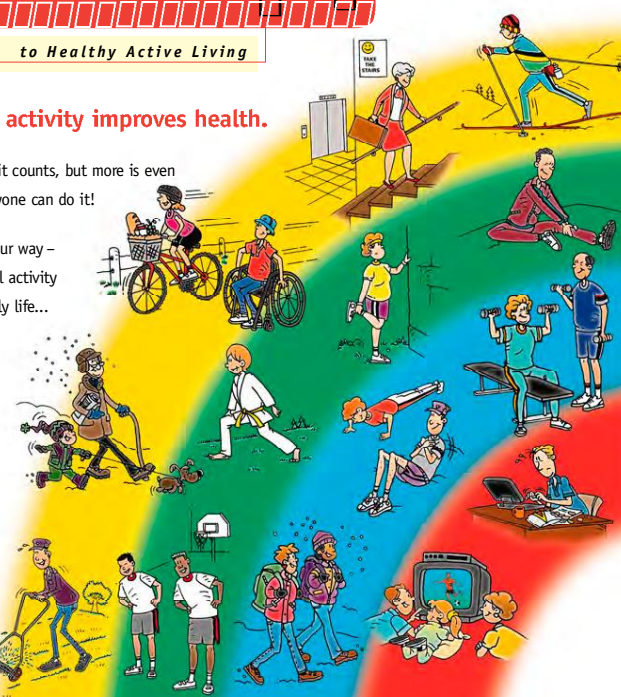
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- at school
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- at play
- on the way

...that's active living!



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Choose a variety of activities from these three groups:

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4-7 days a week
Continuous activities for your heart, lungs and circulatory system.

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Very Light Effort	Light Effort	Moderate Effort	Vigorous Effort
60 minutes	30-60 minutes	20-30 minutes	Maximum Effort
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	• Easy gardening	• Raking leaves	• Hockey
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			• Sprinting
			• Racing

Range needed to stay healthy

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Benefits of regular activity:	Health risks of inactivity:
• better health	• premature death
• improved fitness	• heart disease
• better posture and balance	• obesity
• better self-esteem	• high blood pressure
• weight control	• adult-onset diabetes
• stronger muscles and bones	• osteoporosis
• feeling more energetic	• stroke
• relaxation and reduced stress	• depression
• continued independent living in later life	• colon cancer



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PARmed-X Physical Activity Readiness Conveyance/Referral Form

Based upon a current review of the health status of _____, I recommend:

- No physical activity
- Only a medically-supervised exercise program until further medical clearance
- Progressive physical activity
 - with avoidance of: _____
 - with inclusion of: _____
 - under the supervision of a CSEP-Certified Exercise Physiologist™
- Unrestricted physical activity – start slowly and build up gradually

Further Information:

- Attached
- To be forwarded
- Available on request

Physician/clinic stamp:

_____ M.D.

_____ 20____
(date)

NOTE: This physical activity clearance is valid for a maximum of six months from the date it is completed and becomes invalid if your medical condition becomes worse.