## Health-E-Tips for November/December 2010

1 message

Medical Mutual of Ohio and its Family of Companies <member@mmoh-email.com> Mon, Nov 8, 2010 at 3:09 PM Reply-To: Medical Mutual of Ohio <reply-fe65167577640079751d-17043288\_HTML-294711398-10154032-0@mmoh-email.com>

Medical Mutual Presents: SuperWell Health E Tips

November 2010

## **Fighting the Winter Blahs**

As the days grow darker, does your mood grow dark, too? Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is brought on by winter's shorter days and harsh weather. Health experts believe the main cause is the lack of daylight and sun exposure.

The symptoms of SAD usually appear around the same time every year and tend to go away when spring arrives. Common symptoms include weight gain, fatigue, irritability and loss of interest things you usually enjoy.

While you can't stop the days from being dark or cold, you can fend off SAD with these easy tips:

- Make your home as bright as possible by opening blinds or curtains.
- Get outdoors whenever the sun comes out, even for a few minutes.
- Exercise regularly. Exercise boosts natural brain chemicals that help lift your mood. •
- Get enough sleep, eat a balanced diet and avoid depressants like alcohol.
- Socialize with people you enjoy. "Cabin fever" can make symptoms worse.

## New Newsletter for 2011

In 2011, Health-E-Tips and our monthly Member E-Newsletter will be combined. The new monthly newsletter will provide you with a wider range of helpful information about wellness and benefit management tools.

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A hearty laugh fires up and then cools down your stress response and increases your heart rate and blood pressure. The result? A good, relaxed feeling.

Log in to My Health Plan

We all know how important cardio is, but don't forget strength training. Weightbearing activity keeps your bones and muscles strong and improves your balance.

Don't skimp on seasoning. Herbs and spices not only enhance the flavor of your cooking, they do so without adding fat or sodium to your dish.

My Health Plan