

## **Obesity** Why bother losing weight?

The benefits of weight loss and improving your lifestyle are endless. Not only do you physically feel better and regain any lost self-esteem, your risks of heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, gall bladder trouble, hiatus hernia, high blood pressure and arthritis (especially hips and knees) will decrease considerably.

## **Fattening foods**

In order to lose weight, it is essential to cut down on foods that are high in calorie intake and low in nutritional benefit such as:

- Fats
- Refined carbohydrates (Eg. Sugar, cakes, soft drinks, sweets, biscuits, white bread). Alternatively, go for complex carbohydrates such as wholegrains and vegetables that provide sustained energy
- Alcohol

## **Physical activity**

- 20-30 minutes of moderate to vigorous exercise per day, whether it be a brisk walk or jog.
- Other activities such as tennis, swimming, golf and cycling are encouraged. These activities are also great for socialising.

## Weight loss tips

- Don't crash diet! Have a 3 to 6 month plan to achieve your goals
- Don't be disheartened by slow weight loss; the scales aren't always the best indicator of decreased fat or increased muscle mass, try doing waist measurements as well

- Strict diet without exercise fails
- Go for natural foods
- Snack on high fibre foodsDon't skip meals or go hungry
- Avoid having seconds and leftovers
- Eat slowly; enjoy your food!

We would appreciate your feedback or topics you would like to hear about at business.manager@emfp.com.au