



**Lifespan Cardiovascular Institute**

Rhode Island Hospital • The Miriam Hospital  
Newport Hospital

*Delivering health with care.®*

Center For Cardiac Fitness  
Pulmonary Rehab Program  
The Miriam Hospital

## *Resistance Training Lecture*

*~“The method of conditioning which involves the use of any form of resistance to increase the ability to exert or resist force” ~*

### *Benefits:*

- ✓ *Improves cholesterol*
- ✓ *Reduces musculoskeletal/joint injury*
- ✓ *Improves balance*

*Increases...*

- ✓ *Weight loss*
- ✓ *Bone density*
- ✓ *Lean body mass*
- ✓ *Muscle strength/endurance*
- ✓ *Glucose tolerance/insulin insensitivity*

## Principles:

**Specificity** ~ The type of demand (training regimen) placed upon the body dictates the type of adaptation that will occur

**“If you want to get better at walking- strengthen your legs!”**

**Overload** ~ When assigned a workout or training regimen of greater intensity than the body or specific muscles are accustomed to doing

**“You need to feel like you are working (within reason-not causing pain)”**

**Progression** ~ Gradual overload needed to produce higher levels of performance (i.e increases in strength, power, endurance, and functional status)

**“As you get stronger, you need to gradually increase your exercise”**

**Detraining** ~ Upon cessation of a resistance program (not including recovery phase) you lose the adaptations accrued during training (i.e cellular to structural changes)

**“Once you stop exercising regularly-you start to lose the benefits”**

## **Guidelines:**

### **1. Adequately warm up!**

*Perform at least one aerobic exercise prior to starting your resistance training*

### **2. Range of Motion (ROM)**

*Perform each exercise through its full ROM to maintain or enhance joint mobility*

### **3. Proper Breathing**

*Maintain normal breathing pattern during execution of repetition (exhale against resistance phase);*

**DO NOT HOLD BREATH!**

### **4. Control Resistance**

*Perform both concentric (lifting phase) and eccentric (lowering phase) in a controlled manner*

*“Control the motion both when lifting and lowering”*

### **5. Proper Body Mechanics**

*Promote maximal stability and spinal support with appropriate body position*

*“Use good posture and technique to get the most out of the exercise”*

## **General Resistance Training Prescription:**

**Sets:** *1-2 per exercise*

**Repetitions:** *10-15 per set with onset of muscular fatigue (“somewhat hard”)*

**Frequency:** *2-3 Nonconsecutive sessions per week*

*“Do not lift the same weights 2 days in a row. The muscle needs to rest in order to get stronger and to avoid causing damage to the muscle tissue”*

**Rest interval:** *30 seconds to 1 minute between sets of the same muscle group “If you do one set of 15 repetitions, take a short rest before you do the next set”*

### **Progression:**

*#1 Perform initial load to a maximum of 15 reps*

*#2 If your able to complete load to 15 reps with proper form and RPE (Rating of Perceived Exertion) lessens to “moderate,” then you may increase the load (2-5 lbs at a time)*

*#3 Go ahead and add a second set!*

### **For Example:**

*If you have been doing biceps curls with a 2 pound weight for 2 sets of 15 repetitions and you feel that you are not working that*

*hard, then increase the weight to 3-5 pounds and start with 1 set of 15 repetitions. Work your way up to 2 sets of 15 repetitions with the new weight to progress more if you are not too sore or tired.*

**Rating of Perceived Exertion Scale**

*(How hard do you feel that you are working?)*

*0- Nothing at all*

*0.5-Very, very light (just noticeable)*

*1- Very Light*

*2- Light (weak)*

*3- Moderate*

**4**

*5- Heavy (strong)*

6

*7- Very Heavy*

8

9

*10- Very, very heavy (maximal)*

***You do not want to be working any harder than a 4 on this scale!***

***REMEMBER: Do Not Hold Your Breath While Using Weights!***