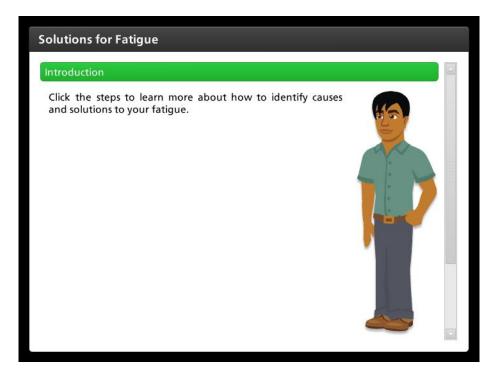
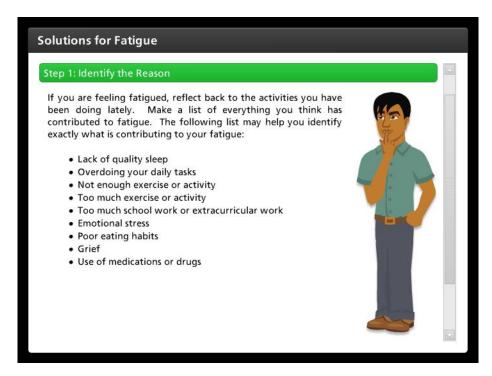
#### Introduction



Click the steps to learn more about how to identify causes and solutions to your fatigue.



### Step 1: Identify the Reason

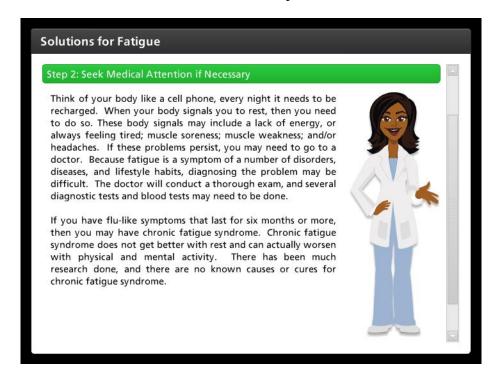


If you are feeling fatigued, reflect back to the activities you have been doing lately. Make a list of everything you think has contributed to fatigue. The following list may help you identify exactly what is contributing to your fatigue:

- Lack of quality sleep
- · Overdoing your daily tasks
- · Not enough exercise or activity
- Too much exercise or activity
- Too much school work or extracurricular work
- Emotional stress
- Poor eating habits
- Grief
- Use of medications or drugs



### **Step 2: Seek Medical Attention if Necessary**

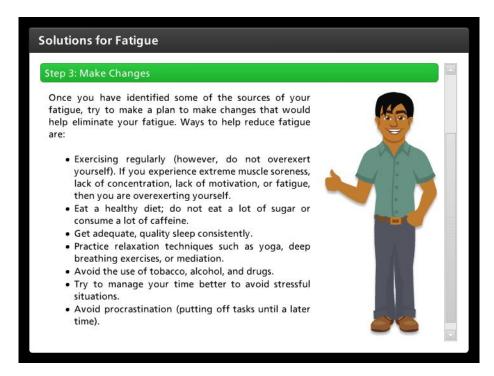


Think of your body like a cell phone, every night it needs to be recharged. When your body signals you to rest, then you need to do so. These body signals may include a lack of energy, or always feeling tired; muscle soreness; muscle weakness; and/or headaches. If these problems persist, you may need to go to a doctor. Because fatigue is a symptom of a number of disorders, diseases, and lifestyle habits, diagnosing the problem may be difficult. The doctor will conduct a thorough exam, and several diagnostic tests and blood tests may need to be done.

If you have flu-like symptoms that last for six months or more, then you may have chronic fatigue syndrome. Chronic fatigue syndrome does not get better with rest and can actually worsen with physical and mental activity. There has been much research done, and there are no known causes or cures for chronic fatigue syndrome.



### **Step 3: Make Changes**



Once you have identified some of the sources of your fatigue, try to make a plan to make changes that would help eliminate your fatigue. Ways to help reduce fatigue are:

- Exercising regularly (however, do not overexert yourself). If you experience extreme
  muscle soreness, lack of concentration, lack of motivation, or fatigue, then you are
  overexerting yourself.
- Eat a healthy diet; do not eat a lot of sugar or consume a lot of caffeine.
- · Get adequate, quality sleep consistently.
- Practice relaxation techniques such as yoga, deep breathing exercises, or mediation.
- Avoid the use of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs.
- Try to manage your time better to avoid stressful situations.
- Avoid procrastination (putting off tasks until a later time).

