the antiviral guide to

Sleep

Chris Aiken, MD April 6, 2020



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Improve Immunity

1

Sleep

7-8 hours per night

Exercise

Brisk walking or light aerobics 30 min a day

2

3

Eat Well

Mediterranean style. Fruits, vegetables, nuts, lean meat, whole grains, olive oil

Destress

Mindfulness. Skills for anxiety and family conflict

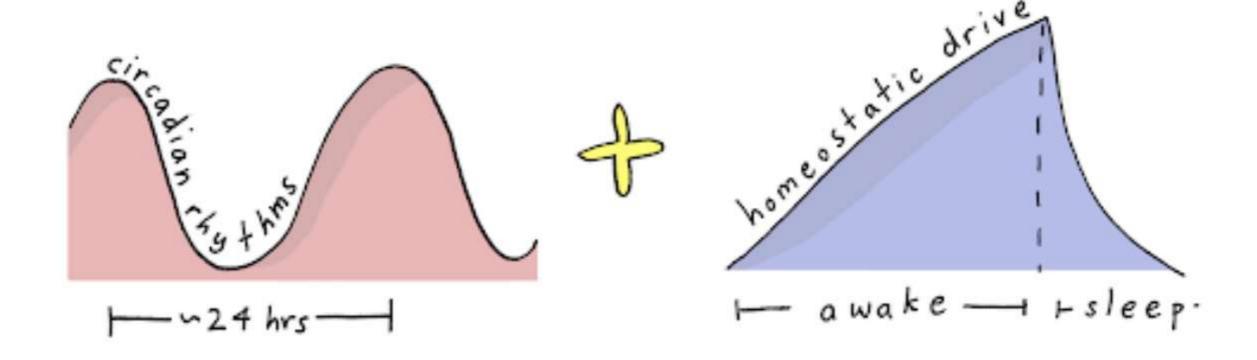




Sleep deprivation weakens the immune system

People who sleep less than 6 hours a night are 3-4 times more likely to catch viruses like the common cold or the flu than those who sleep 7 or more hours a night

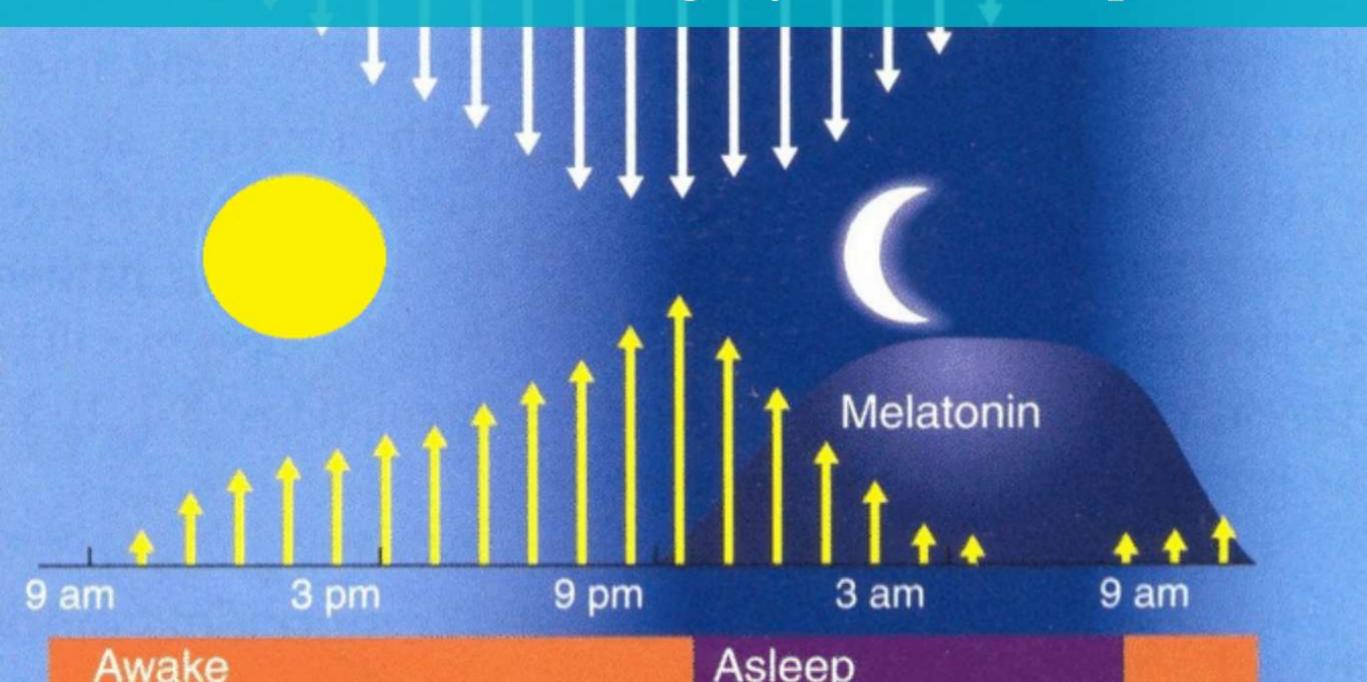




Two forces drive sleep

The Circadian Rhythm is a 24-hour cycle set by light, dark, and the time you wake up The Homeostatic Sleep Drive builds up the longer you stay awake

When the two forces align, you fall asleep



Top Sleep Rules

Awake at regular times

Stay out of bed during the day

Don't force it. Only go to bed when tired

Dark nights, bright mornings



awake

at regular times
The day starts when you stand up

Energizers

Walk out doors for 5 minutes
Pleasurable, melodic music
Cold shower or cold water on the face
Do stuff you enjoy and want to do more of

Breakfast

Whole grains
Fruit, vegetables
Protein, healthy fats
Tea

Dawn Simulators

Phillips Wake-up \$100-200



LightenUp \$20



windhovermfg.com



Evening Wind down

30-60 minutes before bed
Dim lights
Relaxing activity
Screen-free
Stretching

Warm Bath

2 hours before bed, 20 minutes
Soak up to your neck
Careful getting out:
blood pressure can drop

Cold Room

60-65 Degrees F Bundle up. Use a fan



Top Tracks

Marconi Union, Weightless

Beethoven, Moonlight Sonata, Symphony 9 Movement 3

Satie, Gymnopédie No. 1

Bach, Air Suite No. 3 in D Major BWV 1068

Brahms, Clarinet Quintet in B Minor

Debussy, Clair De Lune

Pachelbel, Canon in D

Mozart, Serenade No. 10

Barber, Adagio for Strings

Jules Massenet, Méditation from Thaïs

Kitaro, Lord of Wind

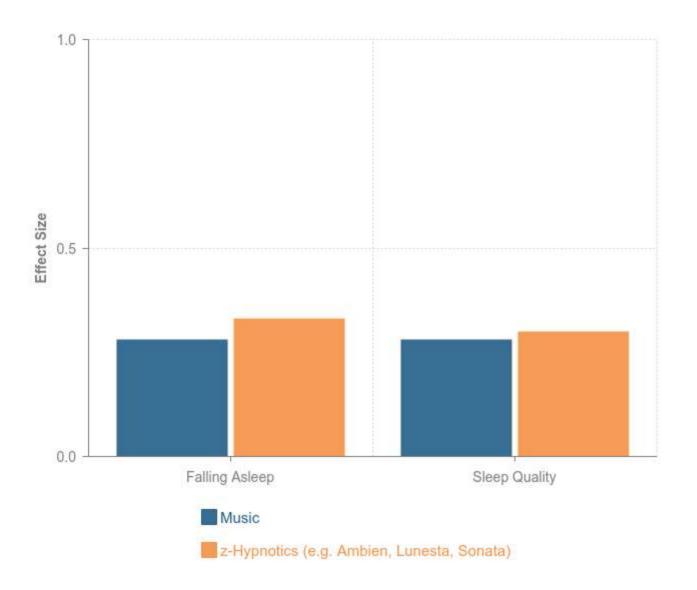
Yu-Xiao Guang, Everlasting Road

Binaural beats (5-7 Hz, theta)

Music therapy works as well as Ambien

Listen for 30-60 minutes before bed. Focus on each note. Auto-shut off after you fall asleep Slow, repetitive melodies with bass tones and no lyrics. Or nature sounds, white noise.

Music vs. Sleep Meds



Better than Audio Books

Music was compared to audio books, acupuncture, exercise, progressive muscle relaxation, and sleep hygiene

Sleep Meds > Placebo > Wait list

> Sleep meds helped people fall asleep 22
minutes faster than placebo
 > Placebo helped people fall asleep 17
minutes faster than wait list

Two Meta-analyses

3 Hypnotics: 4,378 subjects (Huedo-Medina et al, 2012)
Music: 1,339 subjects (Feng F et al, 2018)

Evening light causes

Obesity

Diabetes

Cancer (breast, prostate)

Heart disease

Neurologic diseases

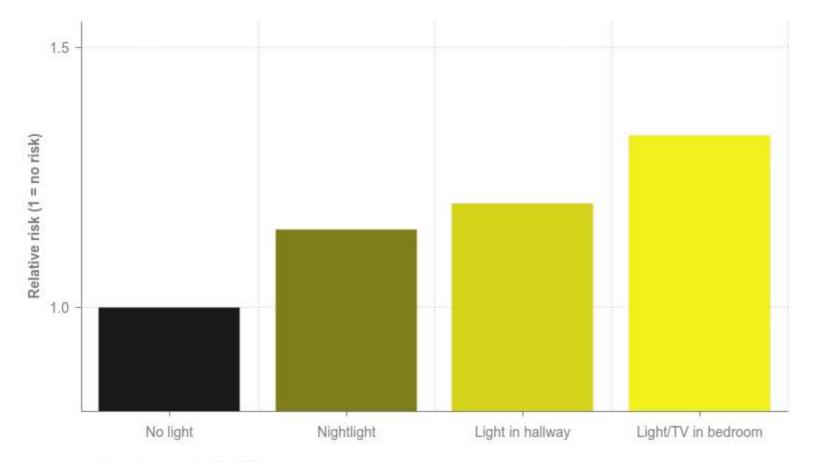
Stomach ulcers

Depression

Shrinks brain cells, impairs learning

Evening Light Causes Obesity

Obesity Risk and Bedroom Light



Park et al, 2019

Large study, long follow up

44,000 women age 35-74 followed for average of 6 years

Uncontrolled but adjusted for

2 Age, race, location,education, income, family size, menopause, stress, depression, and use of nicotine, alcohol, caffeine.

Replicated finding?

Yes, in animal studies and several large cross-sectional human studies.

Blue Light Blockers



Uvex Ultraspec 2000, S0360X \$7-10 on Amazon



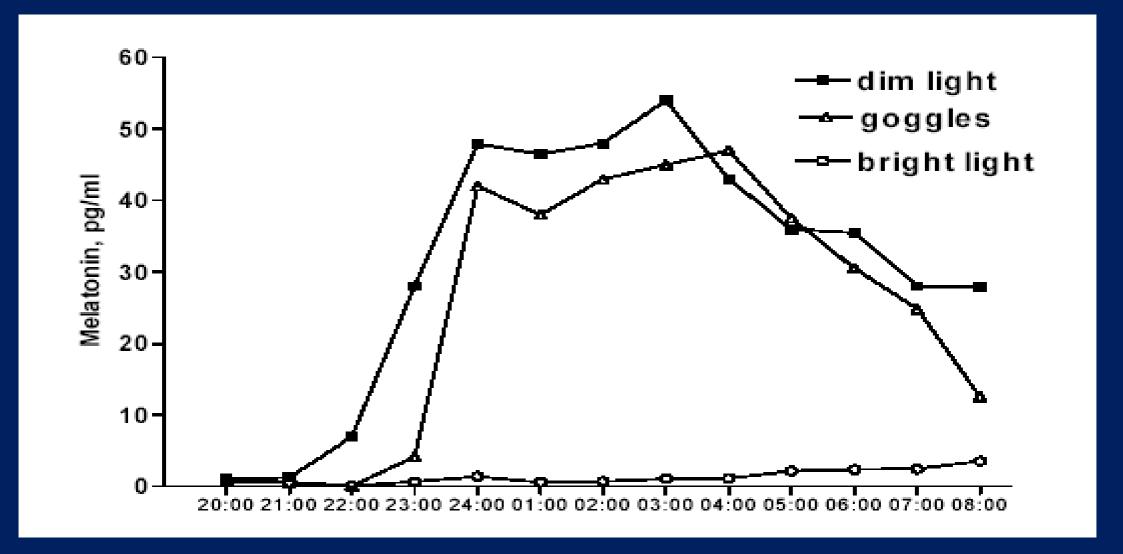
Uvex Skyper 3S1933X \$7-10 on Amazon



Lowbluelights.com \$70-80

Melatonin Rises

in Dim Light or with Blue-Light Blockers



Black out

- Blackout curtains (ShiftShade, or buy blackout fabric, attach with pins or Velcro)
- Electric tape over LED lights
- Sleep in basement

Low blue nightlights

- Maxxima MLN-16 Amber LED Night Light Plug
- SCS Nite-Nite Light Bulb or Sleep-Ready Light
- lowbluelights.com, somnilight.com
- Apps: f.lux, Apple Nightshift mode, Kindle Candle



depression and bipolar workbook

30 ways to lift your mood & strengthen the brain

Chris Aiken, MD

Therapy for Insomnia

Cognitive behavioral therapy
(CBT-i) works better than sleep meds.
And it improves immunity.

Read More

30 ways to lift mood, raise energy, and sharpen focus. Includes the full CBT-i program for insomnia

