25.3 MILLION AMERICANS STRUGGLE WITH CHRONIC PAIN
"CHRONIC PAIN"

a term used to describe pain that persists for longer than the expected time frame of healing.
Depression
Sleep disturbance
Fatigue
Decreased physical & mental function overall
OPIOID TREATMENTS

20% of people in UT took opioid-based medications in a year

1/3 of those medications prescribed for long-term use appear to help

however a dependence can develop
CHRONIC PAIN:
WHY EXERCISE MATTERS
STRENGTH

- Posture
- Joint stability
- Muscular strength

REDUCED FATIGUE

- Productivity
- Blood flow

LESS INFLAMMATION

- AKA less pain
- Chemical messengers
- Autoimmune diseases
WHAT IS BEST?

ACTIVE > SEDENTARY

- No official guidelines
- Common consensus
- Customizable exercise plan
- Individual limitations
GOALS OF EXERCISE

1. Improve flexibility + strength
2. Improve endurance performance
3. Reduce intensity of pain
4. Reduce pain-related disabilities
FORMS OF EXERCISE
STRENGTH
FLEXIBILITY
PILATES?
MUSCULAR STRENGTH

- Improve joint stability
- Improve posture
- Reduce injury risk
FLEXIBILITY

- Total body stretching
- Emphasis on tender areas
- Start simple
PILATES

Studies show it can improve:

- Disability
- Pain
- Flexibility
- Balance
LISTEN TO YOUR BODY

- Individual limits
- Appropriate modifications
- Progression
HOW TO BEGIN AN EXERCISE PROGRAM
#1
TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR

#2
FIND LICENSED PROFESSIONALS

#3
TAKE A POSITIVE APPROACH
Chronic Pain and Exercise
QUESTIONS + FEEDBACK