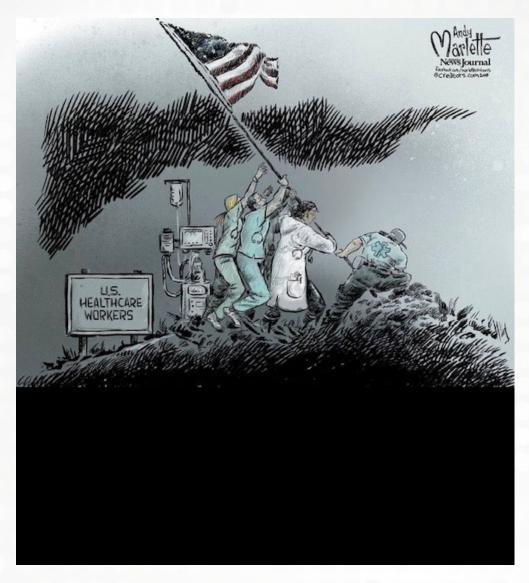
### Caring for the Caregiver

**Contacts:** 

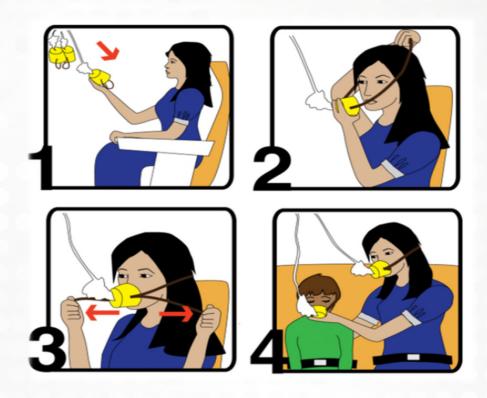
Jeff Leichter, PhD.

Jeffrey.Leichter@sanfordhealth.org

Craig Uthe, MD
Craig.Uthe@sanfordhealth.org



Thank You



It is important to take care of yourself.

You can only take care of others as well as you take care of yourself!



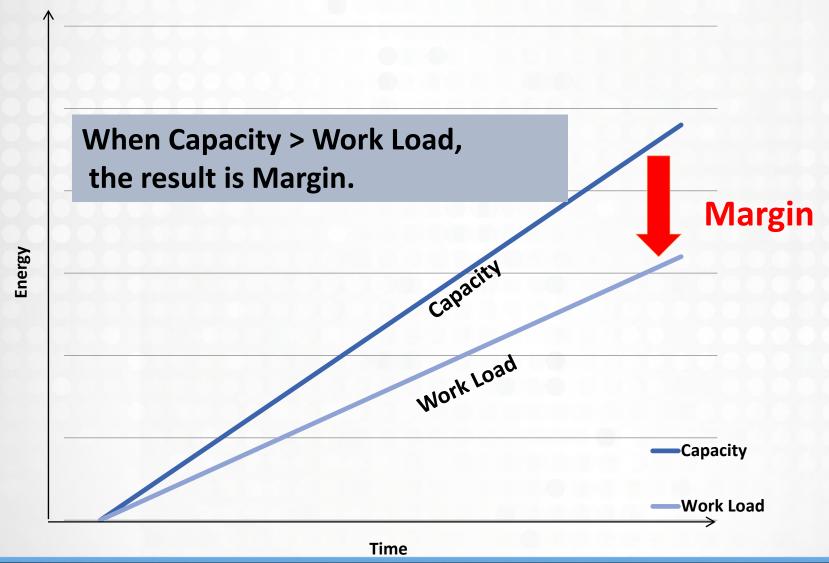
YOUR SPEED

39

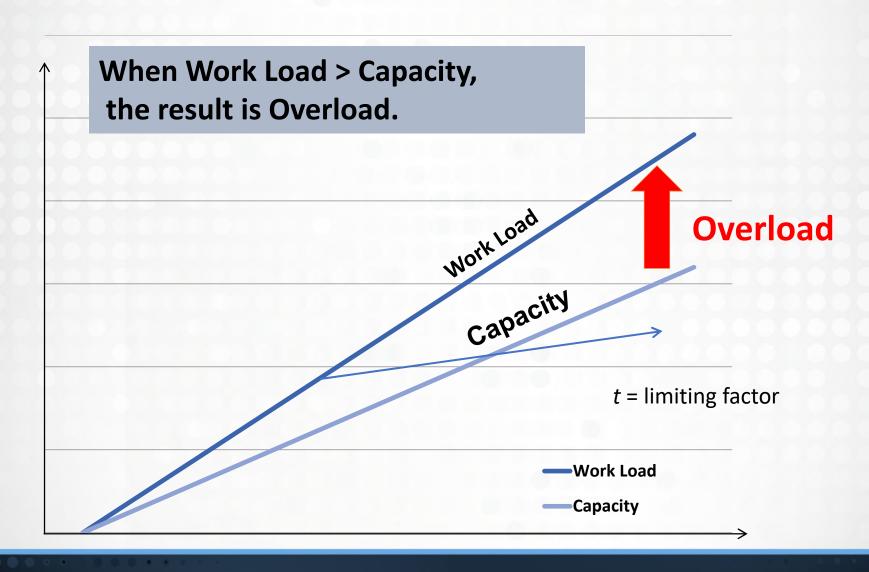
## Seek margin

Capacity - Workload = Margin

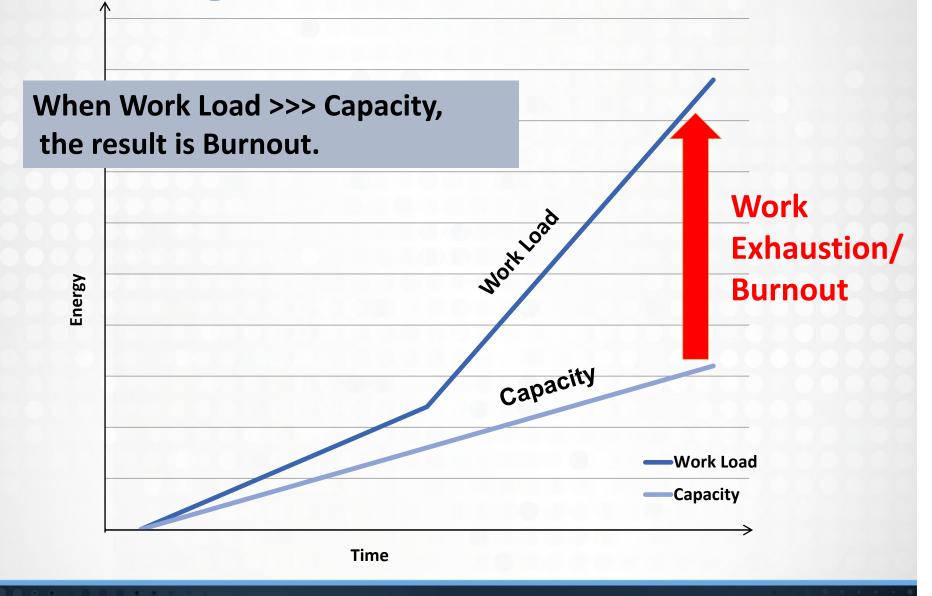
### Healthy environment



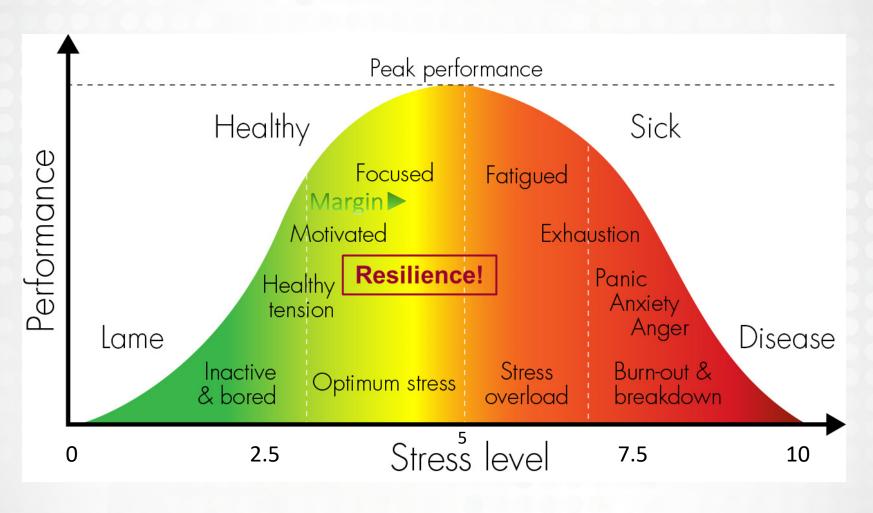
### Concerning environment



### Dangerous environment



### Spectrum of Peak Performance



### Personal Well-Being

#### Diet:

- Take time to eat avoid being hungry
- Take time to hydrate avoid being thirsty
- Eat healthy foods & beverages

#### Exercise:

- < 1000 steps sedentary</li>
- 1,000 to 10,000 steps (< 4 miles) lightly active
- 10,000 to 23,000 steps (4 to 10 miles) active
- 23,000 steps (10 miles) highly active

#### Sleep:

- Get at least 7 hours of sleep
- Establish a relaxing bedtime routine
- Turn off electronic devices at least 30 mins before bedtime
- Reduce your fluid intake before bedtime

# Stress and coping during times of crisis..

- · High levels of stress can affect you in many ways:
- 1. Physical: Fatigue, pain, GI upset, poor concentration
- 2. Behavioral: Irritability, restlessness, uncertainty
- 3. Emotional: Sadness, fear, worry
- EVERYONE REACTS DIFFERENTLY TO STRESS BASED ON PERSONALITY, UPBRINGING, AND PRIOR EXPERIENCES
- Tips to help manage the stress:
- A. Stay informed through reputable sources (CDC, WHO, Sanford Facts over Fear)
- B. Avoid being a news addict (limit exposure to constant stream of sensationalism)
- C. Separate what you can control from what you can't control (serenity prayer)
- D. Employ strategies that make YOU feel safe and secure (avoiding excessive caffeine and alcohol)
- E. <u>Stay in the present!</u> Worrying about what MIGHT happen or already happened leads to more stress...
- F. Honor your service!

### Connect to thrive....



- What is social connection?: The subjective experience of feeling close to, and a sense of belongingness, to others.
- What are the benefits of social connection?: Research shows lowered stress, depression and anxiety, greater immune competence, greater resilience, better emotion regulation skills.
- Dangers of not connecting during times of stress?: Worse for health than smoking 15 cigarettes/day, increased blood pressure, poorer emotional regulation.
- How do I stay connected during pandemic?
- ✓ Phone calls, skype, social media with friends/family/community
- ✓ Check in and check out with your co-workers every day
- ✓ Never worry alone!
- Not just connecting, but HOW you connect (authenticity, sharing, listening, presence)

### Healthy vs. unhealthy coping during stressful times

Healthy	Unhealthy
Exercise	Sedentary
Connection to others/regular check-in	Isolation and withdrawal
Good nutrition	Excessive caffeine, junk food, alcohol, tobacco or use of food to self-medicate
Good night's sleep	Skipping sleep or isolating in bed
Accurate self-talk	"Musts, should, ought," and other distorted self statements ("it would be selfish to take a break" "Only I can do")
Time outs for basic body care and refreshment	Superman/Superwoman Syndrome
Self monitoring	Ignoring physical, emotional, and psychological symptoms