



## **Stress Management**

- Definition of Stress
  - Feeling of discomfort in the body
  - o Distinguished from stressors
    - Events and factors external to us
- Identifying job stressors
  - Exercise: write out what causes you stress at work
    - Change, workload, conflict with boss or coworkers, lack of authority to meet responsibilities, expectations of others, personal dissatisfactions
  - Exercise: go through a check list, identifying stressors and rating their severity
- > Working with the components of stress
  - o Body response
    - Identify the pain in your body
  - o Behavior
    - Identify what you do under these circumstances
  - o Feelings
    - Identify your feelings
  - o Thinking
    - Identify what your thinking is
- Changing body, thinking and behavior to deal with stress more effectively
  - Relaxation techniques
    - Deep breathing
  - Modifying thoughts and beliefs
    - Identify irrational thoughts, find rational alternatives
  - Develop behavioral strategies to deal effectively with stressors
    - Conflict resolution techniques
- Developing other coping strategies
  - o Time management
  - o Developing assertiveness
  - o Balancing home and work
  - o Adaptation
  - o Exercise, Nutrition

