## **HDL (High Density Lipoprotein**

## What is it?

- <u>HDL/High Density Lipoprotein</u> Good Cholesterol, can help protect you
  against a heart attack or stroke, HDL carries cholesterol from the body's
  tissues to the liver, low levels of HDL can increase the risk of heart disease
  - HDL Levels- < 40 mg/dL is high risk for heart disease, 40-59 mg/dL is less risk for heart disease, 60 mg/dL is desirable; when we measure the HDL, we measure how vigorously his blood vessels are being scrubbed free of cholesterol
  - <u>Cholesterol</u>- lipid or fat in the blood, if high can lead to a heart attack or stroke, tends to rise as we get older, detected by a blood test
  - How to Increase Your HDL- Aerobic Exercise (walking, jogging, bike riding for 20 to 30 minutes per day); duration of exercise rather than the intensity; **Lose Weight** especially if the excess is around the abdominal (waist & hip area), men look like apples & women look like pears; Stop Smoking; Cut Out the Trans Fatty Acids & on the label it has partially hydrogenated vegetable oils; 1 to 2 Drinks of Alcohol per Day can increase HDL levels but more than 2 can lead to substantial health problems including heart failure; Increase Monounsaturated Fats- canola oil, olive oil, avocado oil, soybean oils, peanut butter; add **Soluble Fiber**- oats, fruits, vegetables, legumes- at least 2 or more servings a day; **Increase**- cranberry juice, fish & other foods containing Omega 3 Fatty Acids- salmon, mackerel, lake trout, herring, albacore tuna, sardines, scallops, swordfish, walnuts, flax seeds, soybeans, navy & kidney beans, halibut, shrimp, tofu, snapper, scallops, winter & summer squash, raspberries, strawberries, broccoli, cauliflower, green beans, romaine lettuce, collard greens, wheat germ, free-range beef & poultry

## What can I do?

- See your Health Care Provider for more information
- See a Registered Dietitian- for help as needed
  - <u>Recommend</u>- eating fish 2-3 times per week
  - Goal- 4 grams of Omega 3 Fats/day- ¼ cup-Flax Seeds/7 gm, Walnuts/2.3 gm, 4 oz. Salmon/2.1 gm, Sardines/1.8 gm, Scallops/1.1 gm, Halibut/0.6 gm., Shrimp/0.4 gm, Snapper/0.6 gm, Tuna/0.3 gm, Cod/0.3 gm, Mackerel/2.2 gm, Swordfish/1.7 gm, Crab-0.6/gm. Bluefish/1.7 gm., 1 cup-Winter Squash/0.3 gm, Kidney Beans/0.3 gm,



