# **LAUGH IT OFF!**

Health Benefits of Laughter =



#### **LAUGHTER** relaxes the whole body

A good, hearty laugh relieves physical tension and stress, leaving your muscles relaxed for up to 45 minutes.

#### **LAUGHTER** boosts the immune system

Laughter decreases stress hormones and increases immune cells and infection-fighting antibodies, thus improving your resistance to disease.

## **LAUGHTER** releases endorphins

Endorphins are the body's natural feel-good chemicals- which promote an overall sense of well-being and can even temporarily relieve pain.



Laughter improves the function of blood vessels and increases blood flow, which can help protect you against a heart attack and other cardiovascular problems.



## **LAUGHTER** reduces negative emotions

Nothing diffuses anger and conflict faster than a shared laugh. Looking at the funny side can put problems into perspective and enable you to move on from confrontations without holding onto bitterness or resentment.

#### LAUGH for a LONG and FULL life!

Laughter may even help you to live longer. A study in Norway found that people with a strong sense of humor outlived those who don't laugh as much. The difference was particularly notable for those battling cancer.



