Tips for Getting a Good Night's Sleep in the Dorm

Loss of sleep is a major concern for many college students, expert offers advice

The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

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NEWS PACKAGE

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SUGGESTED TEASE	STILL TO COME, IT'S ONE OF THE HARDEST LESSONS TO LEARN WHEN HEADING OFF TO COLLEGE. HOW DORM LIFE CAN DESTROY GOOD SLEEP HABITS, AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT IT. NEXT IN HEALTH NEWS.
ANCHOR LEAD	THIS FALL MORE THAN 20-MILLION ¹ YOUNG PEOPLE WILL HEAD OFF TO COLLEGE - MANY FOR THE FIRST TIME. AND ONE OF THE FIRST LESSONS STUDENTS LEARN WHEN THEY ARRIVE ON CAMPUS IS THAT SLEEP CAN BE HARD TO COME BY. DORMS CAN BE HOT, NOISY AND UNCOMFORTABLE, WHICH CAN ROB STUDENTS OF SLEEP AND COST THEM IN THE CLASSROOM. SO, HERE TO OFFER A CRASH COURSE ON GETTING A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP IN THE DORM IS CLARK POWELL.
(PACKAGE START)	(Nats - Opening door to dorm room) :02
CG: Courtesy: The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center	ASHLEE CHADWICK KNEW COMING INTO COLLEGE THAT THE COURSES WOULD BE CHALLENGING AND HER SCHEDULE WOULD BE HECTIC.
Shots of Ashlee going into dorm Shots of Ashlee reading at night	WHAT SHE DIDN'T ANTICIPATE WAS HOW MUCH SHE WOULD HAVE TO ACCOMPLISH WITH SO LITTLE SLEEP. :09
CG: Ashlee Chadwick College sophomore	"I definitely pulled a few all-nighters before some midterms and the days leading up to a midterm because you're so busy and then the test comes, and you'd rather get a good grade on that test than a good night's sleep the night before." :11
Shots of Ashlee studying	THAT'S NOT UNCOMMON. IT'S ESTIMATED THAT 70 PERCENT OF COLLEGE <u>STUDENTS</u> ² ARE SLEEP DEPRIVED, WHICH HAS A WIDE RANGE OF EFFECTS. :07

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CG: Aneesa Das, MD "Number one, it can affect how we perform in school, **Ohio State Wexner Medical Center** number two it can affect our immunity.":06 DOCTOR ANEESA DAS (uh-NEE-suh DOSS) IS A Shots of Dr. Das with patient SLEEP EXPERT AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER - WHO OFTEN MEETS Shots of patient exam STUDENTS TO OFFER TIPS FOR GETTING A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. Wide shot of dorm room / CG: SHE SAYS LACK OF SLEEP MAKES STUDENTS -Infections MORE VULNERABLE TO EVERYTHING FROM -Diabetes INFECTIONS TO DIABETES TO HIGH BLOOD -High Blood Pressure PRESSURE. SO GETTING A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP SHOULD Move camera to window or light BE THE FIRST LESSON YOU LEARN IN COLLEGE. switch AND IT STARTS WITH CONTROLLING LIGHT. :16 "We want that room cool, dark and quiet. And then when we wake up in the morning, when we have to CG: Dr. Das (CG'd earlier) shift our clock forward, try to get really bright light as soon as you wake up.":08 THE ONE TYPE OF LIGHT YOU WANT TO AVOID AT NIGHT IS FROM ELECTRONICS. TURN ALL Wide shot - move camera to tablet/ SCREENS OFF 30 MINUTES BEFORE BED - AND phone /TV/computer NEVER FALL ASLEEP WITH A TV OR COMPUTER ON. :09 "That's actually one of the worst things you can do CG: Dr. Das (CG'd earlier) because that blue light that is emitted affects our ability to fall asleep.":06 AVOID RELYING ON PILLS THAT HELP YOU Wide shot - move camera to pills SLEEP AND COFFEE TO HELP YOU STAY AWAKE and coffee pot BOTH CAN MASK SLEEP PROBLEMS. IF IT'S TOO LOUD, KEEP EARPLUGS NEARBY Move camera to earplugs then to AND IF IT'S TOO HOT, TAKE A SHOWER - BUT NOT shower caddy A COLD ONE. :11 "Actually taking a warm shower, as much as you can CG: Dr. Das (CG'd earlier) tolerate, 2 two hours before bedtime so that as the body naturally cools down it induces sleep.": 10 LASTLY, AVOID ALL-NIGHTERS AT ALL COSTS -Wide shot of Ashlee studying in the BECAUSE ONCE YOU LOSE SLEEP, YOU NEVER dark GET IT BACK. AT OHIO STATE WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER,

(PACKAGE END) -----
EXERCISING CAN ALSO HELP YOU SLEEP

BETTER AT NIGHT, BUT DOCTOR DAS SAYS YOU

ANCHOR TAG

Turning out light / going to bed

THIS IS CLARK POWELL REPORTING.:08

WANT TO WORK OUT IN THE AFTERNOON

INSTEAD OF AT NIGHT.

EXERCISING TOO CLOSE TO BEDTIME CAN
ACTUALLY MAKE IT HARDER FOR YOU TO FALL
ASLEEP.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Share it! Suggested tweet:

Experts @OSUWexMed offer a crash course on getting good night's sleep in the dorm: bit.ly/2a8xcOV

Suggested post:

One of the first lessons students learn at college is that sleep can be hard to come by. Dorms can be noisy, hot and uncomfortable, and losing sleep can not only affect a student's grades but their health, as well.

Experts at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center offer tips to help students get a good night's sleep in the dorm: bit.ly/2a8xcOV

EXTRA BITES

Dr. Das talks about dorm life and scheduling challenges - "When freshmen go to college, going to the dorms for the first time, it's often the first time they are in charge of their own schedule and no one's there to tell them what to do."

Dr. Das says learning to sleep around others can be tough "At home many of us have our own bedroom or we
share with a sibling where we've established the rules
of the bedroom. Once we get to a dorm we might be
sharing our room with up to three or four people."

Dr. Das says to avoid taking sleep aids & focus on routines "Taking something external is usually being done
because we aren't creating the best sleep habits. So
the recommendations are is create an environment
that's conducive to sleep."

Dr. Das suggests avoiding stimulants to stay awake "If you're in a crunch and you need it, that's one thing, but using it regularly, one: causes dependence, and two: isn't really fixing the problem because all it's doing is masking the effects of the sleep deprivation."

Ashlee talks about the challenges of adjusting to dorm sleep

CG: Ashlee Chadwick College sophomore

CG: Aneesa Das, MD

Ohio State Wexner Medical Center

"It's kind of hard getting used to all of those noises and then the noises of people right next door because the walls aren't the very thickest, and then I lived right next to the stairwell. So it was just kind of like those everyday noises and then the noises of my roommate, you know, shifting in the bed above me."

Ashlee talks about getting used to college life "I was just like trying to get used to the schedule and
everything in college and the changes from living where
you were before to now in the dorms and on campus.
And then, balancing your social life with your academic
life and everything you had to do now that you were
independent."

References

¹Enrollment in elementary, secondary, and degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by level and control of institution, enrollment level, and attendance status and sex of student: Selected years, fall 1990 through fall 2024. National Center for Education Statistics, 2016. Online: http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d14/tables/dt14_105.20.asp?current=yes

²Causes and consequences of sleepiness among college students, **Nature and Science of Sleep, June 2014.** Online: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4075951/

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