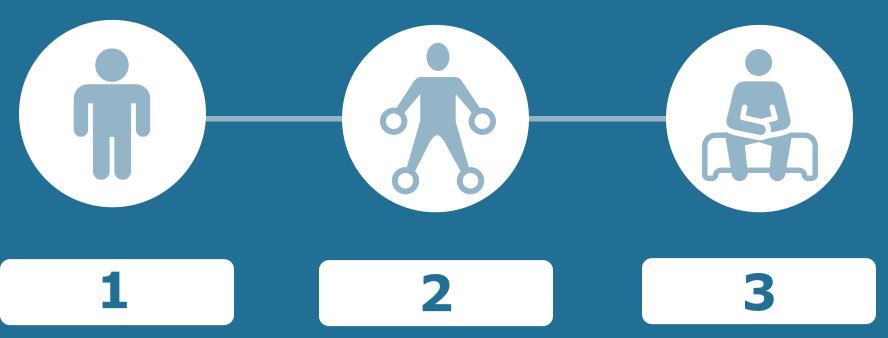


"Awakening the Qi"



Stand tall with feet a little wider than shoulder width apart. Bend your knees 2 to 3 inches. Keep your spine long, tall, but not stiff. Close your eyes and breathe DEEP into your diaphragm, letting all your muscles get soft. Focus inward and imagine you have roots growing from your feet 8 feet into the ground. Slow your breathing as best as you can.

On your next inhale, let your arms softly float up in front of you, like a slow wave. Let them rise to about shoulder height. Then on the exhale, let them float them back down in front of your hips again.

Do 10 to 15 SLOW repetitions of "Awakening the Qi," movement. This can be done standing upright as described in Step 1. If mobility is an issue, it can also be done seated -- just keep a long spine and do the arm movements in front of you from a chair. As you finish, take a moment to just smile and be still.

How Qigong Can Help Us



Boosts our body's natural immunity system



Increases our bio-electric energy ("Qi")



Helps reduce our cortisol levels and stress



Cools, calms, & regulates our emotions

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