



# Human Optimization

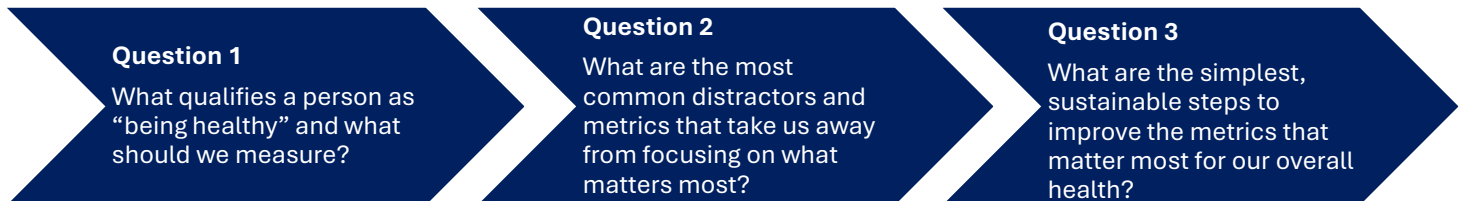
## Pod Club Discussion Questions



### E46 How to Tell if You Are Healthy: The Highest Impact Health Metrics You Need to Know

Guest: Stephen L. Kopecky MD, FACC, FAHA, MASPC, Professor of Medicine, Department of Cardiovascular Diseases, Division of Preventive Cardiology | Mayo Clinic – Rochester, MN

*The three big questions explored in the podcast:*



### Discussion Questions:

1. The podcast defines being healthy not just as the "absence of disease, but the presence of health," emphasizing "health span" over "lifespan." How does this definition resonate with your personal understanding of health, and how might it change your focus?
2. Dr. Kopecky introduces the "North, South, East, West" compass for health (Nutrition, Stress/Sleep/Spirits/Smoking/Social, Exercise, Weight). Which of these areas presents the biggest opportunity for your personal improvement?
3. The discussion highlights that less than 1% of Americans meet the full definition of health. What are some practical ways individuals or communities can address these challenges?
4. The podcast warns against "quick fixes," "one-size-fits-all" solutions, and products that overpromise. How do you personally evaluate health information, products, or services to distinguish between genuine benefits and hype?
5. Dr. Kopecky shares his personal motivation for focusing on prevention after his cancer diagnosis. Has there been a specific event or realization in your life that significantly shifted your perspective on health and wellness?
6. The episode suggests starting with small, sustainable changes, like "one bite at a time" or "one minute of relaxation." What is one small, actionable step you could take this week in one of the "North, South, East, West" categories to improve your health?
7. The discussion touches on the connection between different health factors (e.g., sleep and blood pressure, weight and liver health). How do you see this interconnectedness playing out in your own health or the health of those around you?

8. Based on this episode, what is one small change you are going to make to help improve in this area. How are you going to keep yourself accountable to that and measure your success? (Be sure to keep it simple, start small, and make it very clear).