

The Science of a Healthier Life®

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September 2020

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PLUS: HARVARD GENETICIST Dr. George Church

Seeks to Protect Humans from Viruses and Aging





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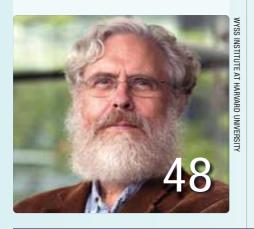
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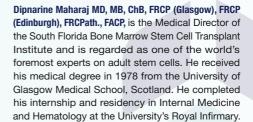
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Fracture Prevention

About 1 in 2 women and 1 in 5 men will suffer an OSteoporotic fracture after age 49.1



WILLIAM FALOON

A report published in the Journal of the American Medical **Association** analyzed the degree of **osteoporotic fracture** reduction that occurred in response to vitamin **D** and **calcium** supplementation.¹

This **meta-analysis** found that combining low doses of vitamin D (400 IU to 800 IU) with high calcium intake (1,000 mg to 1,200 mg) reduced risk of any fracture by 6% and hip fracture by 16%.

The problem is that more than two million fractures occur each year in the United States related to osteoporosis.2

If people rely only on calcium and vitamin D. this means 1.9 million fractures will continue to occur each year.

To put today's **vitamin D** <u>deficit</u> in perspective, baseline vitamin D blood levels in the vitamin D only segment of this meta-analysis ranged from 10.6 ng/mL to 26.3 ng/mL.

This is far less than the **50 ng/mL** to 80 ng/mL of 25-hydroxyvitamin **D** blood levels that many groups consider optimal.

Observational studies included in this meta-analysis found that for each 10 ng/mL increase in 25-hydroxyvitamin D there was an associated 7% reduced relative risk for any fracture and 20% reduced relative risk for hip fracture.

The analysis published in the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) further validates how low-cost **nutrients** can decrease today's osteoporosis/ fracture epidemic.

This editorial describes other methods to lower fracture risk.



Insufficient Potencies

The expectation that calcium and/or vitamin D can meaningfully protect against osteoporosis and fracture risk has caused a lot of studies to be designed in ways that often fail to show comprehensive bone benefits.

A meta-analysis published in JAMA showed a reduced fracture risk in response to vitamin D and calcium supplements. There was no benefit when taking vitamin D alone.1

A look at studies on vitamin D supplementation alone (included in this analysis) reveals baseline vitamin D **blood levels** ranging from deficiency at 10.6 ng/mL to an insufficient level of 26.3 ng/mL of 25-hydroxyvitamin D.

The average vitamin D3 dose used in these studies was 833 IU a day.

Among the clinical trials in the vitamin D-only part of the meta-analysis, this low vitamin D dose (833 IU/ day) was associated with a median blood level change of 8.4 ng/mL of 25-hydroxyvitamin D.

This means virtually none of the people evaluated in the JAMA study achieved optimal blood levels of 25-hydroxyvitamin D.

Studies using low potencies have been the subject of misguided media reports claiming there is no value to taking bone-building supplements.

The reality is no single nutrient can be counted on to maintain bone integrity when confronted with the degenerative changes that occur with normal skeletal aging.

Vitamin Deficits Increase Fractures

A 2019 study linked vitamin K deficits and other deficiencies to increased fracture rates.3

In this study, a Japanese group looked at associations of multiple vitamin deficiencies and incident fractures in women.3

They used homocysteine blood levels as an indicator of **B-vitamin** status. Homocysteine is higher in people deficient in certain B-vitamins.

Blood levels of 25-hydroxyvitamin D were used to assess vitamin D status.

Vitamin K status was evaluated by measuring a protein (undercarboxylated osteocalcin) that vitamin K favorably influences to maintain bone density.

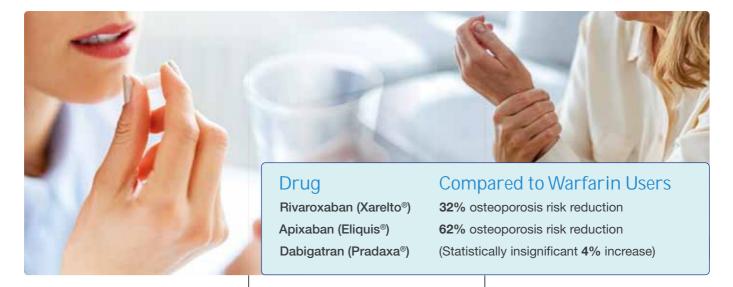
The human study subjects were divided into four groups:

- No vitamin deficiency
- Single deficiency (of either vitamin D, vitamin K or B-vitamins)
- Double deficiencies (of either vitamin D, vitamin K or B-vitamins)
- Triple deficiencies (of vitamin D, vitamin K and B-vitamins)

A total of 889 women were included in this analysis, with an average age of about 68 and average follow-up of about 6.3 years.

Incident fractures were observed in 29.7% of subjects This finding alone shows how frequent fractures are in women averaging only 68 years.





The study found that the <u>number</u> of vitamin deficiencies was associated with a 25% increased risk of incident fracture. This association persisted even after adjustment for sources of potential confounding.

The authors of this study concluded:

> "Accumulation of vitamin deficiencies was related to incident fractures."

This study supports data Life Extension® reported in the 1990s showing the role of vitamin/mineral deficiencies in osteoporosis and fracture risk.4

Warfarin Users Beware

Those with atrial fibrillation, aortic valve replacement, deep vein thrombosis, and other conditions require powerful anti-coagulant drugs to reduce the risk of a clot forming inside a blood vessel (thrombosis).

For decades, the drug of choice in these situations was a vitamin K antagonist drug called warfarin (Coumadin®). Warfarin works by inhibiting the synthesis and activation of vitamin K.5,6

Not only does warfarin disable beneficial vitamin K activity (such as keeping calcium in bones and out of arteries), but warfarin users are put on strict diets that are extremely low in **vitamin K**.

As a result, long-term warfarin users may suffer vascular calcification and bone loss, as has been shown in some studies.7,8

Fractures in Warfarin Users

A study published in October 2019, conducted in Denmark, looked at osteoporotic fracture incidence in people prescribed various types of anti-coagulant drugs. Warfarin was the only vitamin K antagonist drug while the other drugs did not have vitamin K antagonistic effects.9

This study found overall fracture risk was low in this population, but that those prescribed nonwarfarin anticoagulant drugs (like Xarelto® and Eliquis®) had significantly lower risk of osteoporotic fractures.

A similar study published in January 2020 conducted in Taiwan looked at atrial fibrillation patients treated with warfarin or non-vitamin K antagonist drugs.¹⁰

Compared to warfarin treatment, drugs that did not block vitamin K were associated with an 18% lower risk of osteoporosis.

The box at the top of this column shows the data obtained in the sub-group analysis of this study relating to different anti-coagulant drugs.

The study authors noted the lower osteoporosis risk became significantly better in those with longer treatment duration and concluded:

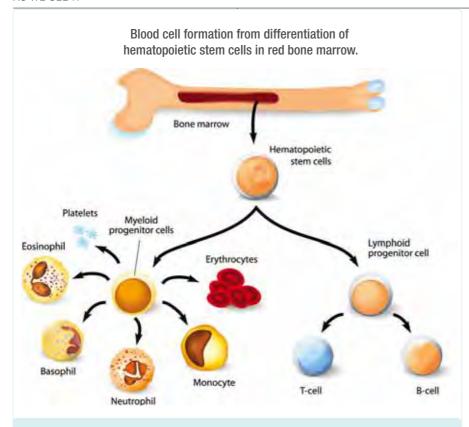
"Compared with warfarin, rivaroxaban and apixaban were associated with a significantly lower risk of osteoporosis in patients with atrial fibrillation."

Life Extension® has suggested for decades that warfarin users consult their doctor about supplementing with a low dose of vitamin K2 (45 mcg a day) and adjusting warfarin dose slightly upward to maintain desired INR/pro-thrombin time levels. This can enable one to achieve anti-coagulant benefits without completely depriving the body of vitamin K. More about vitamin K and warfarin can be reviewed at: www.LifeExtension.com/warfarin

Effect of Vitamin K on **Bone Density and Fractures**

As scientific debates continue, studies published in 2019-2020 point to a role that vitamin K has in maintaining healthy bones.

One meta-analysis of randomized, controlled trials found that the odds for a clinical fracture were lower in those supplementing with vitamin K compared to controls.11



Protecting Bone Marrow

The spongy tissue inside our bones is known as the bone marrow. It contains stem cells that can develop into immune cells, red blood cells, mesenchymal stem cells, and platelets.

Given the involvement of bone-marrow-derived cells in the maintenance and formation of the different blood cellular components, a group of researchers investigated how the vitamin K antagonist drug warfarin can adversely impact the bone marrow microenvironment including mesenchymal stem cells, macrophage immune cells and vital hematopoietic stem cells.13

Using various in vitro assays, this group showed how vitamin K antagonists adversely alter bone physiology and cause a staggering eight-fold reduction in functional hematopoietic stem cells.

These scientists pointed out that vitamin K antagonist drugs (like warfarin) are not directly toxic to hematopoietic stem cells but impair them via other mechanisms.

Without providing a causal link, this paper associates the use of vitamin K antagonists with a potential increased risk of myelodysplastic syndrome.

About three out of every 10 patients with myelodysplastic syndrome (about 30%) develop leukemia,14 which is notoriously difficult to treat.

More human research is needed to assess the ability of vitamin K in maintaining healthy bone marrow.

The authors of this same study, however, said there was "insufficient" evidence to confirm these findings in post-menopausal or osteoporotic patients and that:

> "There are too few trials to draw conclusions for other patient groups."

My rebuttal to these pessimistic conclusions is that many vitamin K trials use <u>lower</u>-than-optimal doses of vitamin K and some use only vitamin K1, which does not convert into vitamin K2 in all persons. 12

And of course, I would never say vitamin K2 by itself is enough to provide comprehensive skeletal support, as evidenced by the Japanese study cited earlier whereby multiple nutrient deficiencies markedly increase fracture incidence.

Review of Accumulated Evidence

A review of the accumulated evidence that vitamin K plays a protective role in age-related disorders such as cardiovascular disease, osteoarthritis and osteoporosis was published in August 2019.15

This assessment identified novel roles that have emerged for vitamin K that extend beyond its ability to keep calcium in bones and out of one's arteries and soft tissues.

Of interest was evidence that vitamin K reduces "inflammaging" by suppressing NF-kB (nuclear factorkappa B).15

This 2019 review highlights the valuable **whole-body** benefits that can be attained with proper vitamin K status.

Bones Need Hormones

The major regulator of bone remodeling in men and women is the sex hormone estrogen.¹⁶

Other hormones that influence bone density include testosterone, DHEA, and growth hormone. 17,18

With aging, many of these hormone levels plummet and accelerate loss of bone density.

Many men and women use bioidentical hormone replacement therapy to maintain youthful hormone levels and support healthy bones.

Comprehensive blood tests enable maturing men and women to achieve optimal hormone balance.

Pregnenolone is a "mother" hormone that can cascade in the body into bone-supporting hormones estrogen, progesterone, testosterone, and DHEA.

A review article published in **2020** describes many of the anti-aging properties of **DHEA** including its potential to help maintain strong bones.17

Restore Bone Integrity

No single therapy adequately protects against skeletal deterioration that occurs with normal aging.

A comprehensive set of interventions should be considered. including cutting back on unhealthy lifestyle choices and ensuring that adequate potencies of every bonebuilding nutrient and hormone are consumed.

Some individuals may wish to consider bioidentical hormone replacement to ensure optimal hormone balance.

I know that many of you are engaging in intermittent fasting or other forms of reduced calorie intake.

While there are enormous benefits to these practices, a potential downside is that one may not ingest enough calcium, magnesium, boron, vitamins D and K, and other nutrients required to maintain bone density.

The good news for consumers is that bone-building, multi-nutrient formulas are affordable because the ingredients they contain (calcium + magnesium + boron + vitamins D + K) are <u>not</u> expensive.

You can further enhance bone health by avoiding lifestyle factors that increase fracture risk and discuss with your doctor whether any of your medications (such as warfarin or proton pump inhibitors) might be undermining your bone strength.

What Causes Bone Loss?

Bone is living tissue that undergoes a continual self-regeneration process called remodeling. Remodeling removes old bone and replaces it with new bone. 19,20

With aging this balance shifts to favor greater bone removal (resorption) and less new bone formation.

The result is osteoporosis and increased fracture risk.21

A variety of factors markedly accelerate loss of bone density and strength. Of course menopause is one, but also the use of drugs like corticosteroids and proton-pump inhibitors (PPIs), smoking tobacco, drinking excess alcohol, and anti-testosterone treatment for prostate cancer (known as hormone ablation) are a few of the most notable culprits.²²⁻²⁵

Weight-bearing exercise, good nutrition, and maintaining hormone balance help protect aging bones.^{26,27}

Health-conscious individuals are often surprised when a bone density test reveals osteopenia (loss of bone density, but not to a degree that increases fracture risk) or osteoporosis (deterioration in bone density with increased fracture risk).28

Maturing people should recognize that bone density peaks early in life (between 18-30 years) and progressively declines thereafter.29



In This Month's Issue...

Calorie restriction can extend healthy longevity, but few people consistently adhere to reduced food intake. Certain nutrients are discussed on page 36 that mimic biological effects that occur in response to reduced food intake.

A hallmark of cellular aging is damaged DNA. An article on page 58 describes the ability of tocotrienols to protect against DNA damage that accelerates systemic aging.

If you wonder where all this is leading, page 48 has an exclusive interview with Harvard geneticist Dr. George Church who is developing gene therapies aimed at eliminating all human viruses and reversing biological aging.

The steps taken to protect against degenerative aging today will enable more of you to benefit from extended healthy lifespans that may be less than 10 years away.

For longer life,

William Faloon, Co-Founder Life Extension Buyers Club



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MALE PANEL

METABOLIC PROFILE

Glucose Insulin

Hemoglobin A1c

Serum Magnesium

Kidney function tests: creatinine, BUN, uric acid, BUN/creatinine ratio Liver function tests: AST, ALT, LDH, GGT, bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase Blood minerals: calcium, potassium, phosphorus, sodium, chloride, iron Blood proteins: albumin, globulin, total protein, albumin/globulin ratio

CARDIAC MARKERS

Apolipoprotein B (ApoB)

Homocysteine

C-Reactive Protein (high sensitivity)

LIPID PROFILE

Total Cholesterol

LDL (low-density lipoprotein)
HDL (high-density lipoprotein)

Triglycerides

COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT (CBC)

Red Blood Cell count including: hemoglobin, hematocrit, MCV, MCH, MCHC, RDW

White Blood Cell count including:

lymphocytes, monocytes, eosinophils,

neutrophils, basophils

Platelet count

CANCER MARKER

PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen)

HORMONES

Free and Total Testosterone

DHEA-S

Estradiol (an estrogen)

TSH (thyroid function)

Vitamin D

FEMALE PANEL

METABOLIC PROFILE

Glucose Insulin

Hemoglobin A1c

Serum Magnesium

Kidney function tests: creatinine, BUN, uric acid, BUN/creatinine ratio Liver function tests: AST, ALT, LDH, GGT, bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase Blood minerals: calcium, potassium, phosphorus, sodium, chloride, iron Blood proteins: albumin, globulin, total protein, albumin/globulin ratio

CARDIAC MARKERS

Apolipoprotein B (ApoB)

Homocysteine

C-Reactive Protein (high sensitivity)

LIPID PROFILE

Total Cholesterol

LDL (low-density lipoprotein)

HDL (high-density lipoprotein)

Triglycerides

COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT (CBC)

Red Blood Cell count including: hemoglobin, hematocrit, MCV, MCH, MCHC, RDW

White Blood Cell count including: lymphocytes, monocytes, eosinophils, neutrophils, basophils

Platelet count

HORMONES

Progesterone

Estradiol

(an estrogen)

Free and

Total Testosterone

DHEA-S

TSH

(thyroid function)

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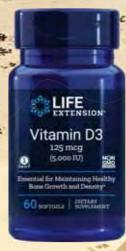
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CAUTION: Individuals consuming more than 50 mcg (2000 IU)/day of vitamin D (from diet and supplements) should periodically obtain a serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D measurement. Do not exceed 10000 IU per day unless recommended by your doctor. Vitamin D supplementation is not recommended for individuals with high blood calcium levels.



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Life Extension® offers two vitamin K formulas:

SUPER K is the best-selling **vitamin K** formula for bone and heart health. It costs only **25 cents** a day and provides *higher* potencies than most commercial brands. **Super K** is comprised of:

Vitamin K1	1,500 mcg
(converts to K2 in some people)	
Vitamin K2 (MK-4)	1,000 mcg
(for bone & vascular health)	
Vitamin K2 (MK-7)	100 mcg
(long-acting protection)	

Super K Elite provides 2 <u>additional</u> forms of vitamin K and even *higher* potencies of K1, MK4 and MK7. **Super K Elite** costs **60 cents** a day and provides:

Vitamin K1	2,000 mcg
(converts to K2 in some people)	
Vitamin K2 (MK-4)	1,500 mcg
(for bone & vascular health)	
Vitamin K2 (MK-7)	181 mcg
(long-acting protection)	
Vitamin K2 (MK-9)	43 mcg
(added cardiovascular support)	
Vitamin K2 (MK-6)	11 mcg
(added cardiovascular support)	



Super K Item #02334 • 90 Softgels

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Super K Elite Item #02335 • 30 Softgels

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CAUTION: If you are taking anticoagulant or antiplatelet medications, or have a bleeding disorder, consult with your healthcare provider before taking these products.





In the News



Supplementation with Vitamin C Associated with **Boost to Immunity**

A randomized, double-blind trial reported in BMJ Military Health showed that daily vitamin C supplementation resulted in a lower risk of contracting the common cold.*

In their discussion of the findings, the researchers remarked that vitamin C boosts immunity by improving white blood cell function against viruses. It also has an antihistamine action that helps reduce cold symptoms.

The trial included 1,444 men. For a period of 30 days, 695 participants received 2,000 mg of vitamin C three times per day. The other individuals were given a placebo.

The subjects supplemented with vitamin C were less likely to catch a cold compared to the placebo group.

The protective effect of vitamin C was found to be stronger among those who had never smoked.

Editor's Note: The study participants were enlisted military members in the army of South Korea, whose average age was 21.7 years.

* BMJ Mil Health. 2020 Mar 5; bmjmilitary- 2019-

Vitamin K Deficiency **Associated with Harmful Calcium Accumulation**

Vitamin K deficiency plays a role in the development of a disease called calciphylaxis, according to a study published in the Journal of the American Society of Nephrology.1

In calciphylaxis, calcium accumulates in the small blood vessels of fat and skin tissues. It occurs mainly in patients on dialysis, and can cause blood clots, skin ulcers, skin infections, and ultimately, death.

In a study that included 20 hemodialysis patients with calciphylaxis and 20 without it, researchers found that people with the disease had higher plasma levels of inactive matrix Gla protein (MGP).

MGP is a potent inhibitor of vascular calcification, but in order to work properly, MGP needs to be activated by an enzyme that requires vitamin K.

The researchers found that patients with calciphylaxis had a lower concentration of activated MGP. In fact, for each **0.1 unit reduction** in relative active MGP concentration, there was a more than 2-fold increase in calciphylaxis risk.

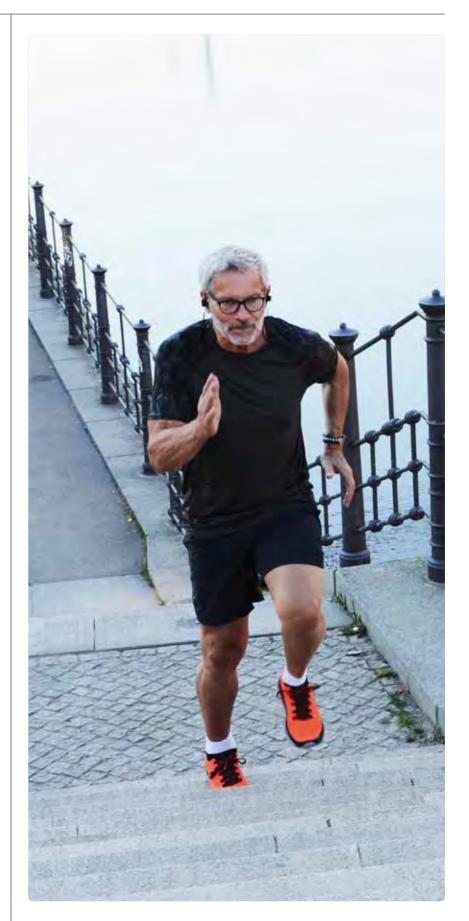
They also found that vitamin K deficiency was associated with a lower concentration of activated GMP.

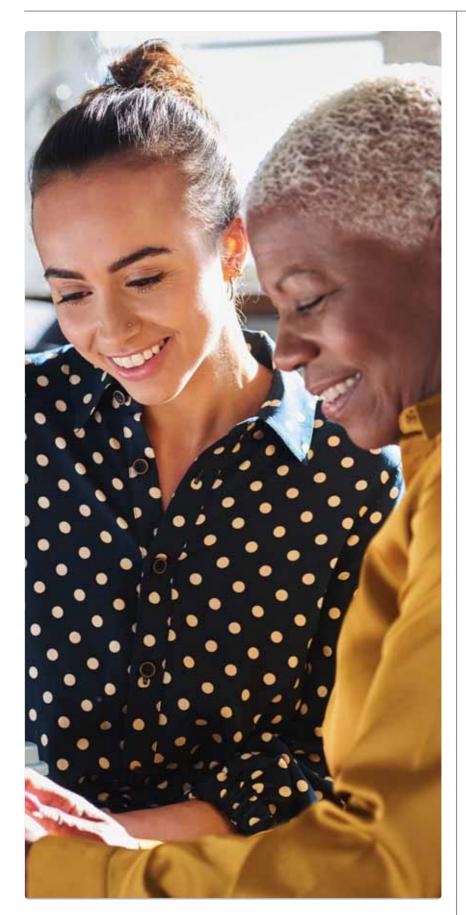
This study indicates that adequate vitamin K is essential for processes that help prevent calciphylaxis in people on dialysis.

Editor's Note: In a separate study, researchers found that vitamin K showed promise for treating calciphylaxis.2

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Connection Between Gum Disease and Alzheimer's Disease Confirmed

A study published in the Journal of Clinical Investigation was the first to connect the presence of the gingivitis pathogen Porphyromonas gingivalis in the brain to factors associated with Alzheimer's disease.*

Previously, numerous studies had shown that periodontitis (gum disease) is closely associated with cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease.

And studies done **post-mortem** had found that the periodontal pathogen Porphyromonas gingivalis is present in the brains of Alzheimer's patients.

In the more recent study, researchers induced experimental gingivitis in mice by giving them repeated oral doses of Porphyromonas gingivalis for 22 weeks. Another group of mice served as a control group.

Testing revealed that in the mice that received Porphyromonas gingivalis, the pathogen was present in the brain tissue in the hippocampus (the area of the brain that plays a major role in learning and memory).

In addition, the study showed that the presence of this pathogen added to numerous processes contributing to Alzheimer's disease, including:

- Neuroinflammation,
- Neurodegeneration,
- · Microgliosis and astrogliosis (an indication of brain injury),
- Formation of amyloid plague, and
- Formation of neurofibrillary tangles.

Editor's Note: The researchers concluded that, "The neuropathological features observed in this study strongly suggest that low grade, chronic periodontal pathogen infection can result in the development of neuropathology that is consistent with that of [Alzheimer's disease]."

* PLoS One. 2018 Oct 3;13(10):e0204941.

Nicotinamide Shows Promise for Treating Fibrotic Eve Diseases

Nicotinamide, a form of vitamin B3, has been identified as a possible treatment for fibrotic eye diseases and could potentially prevent vision loss, according to a study published in Stem Cell Reports.*

Fibrotic eye diseases occur when aggressive cell transformations during wound healing lead to scar tissue, retinal detachment, and ultimately, vision loss and blindness.

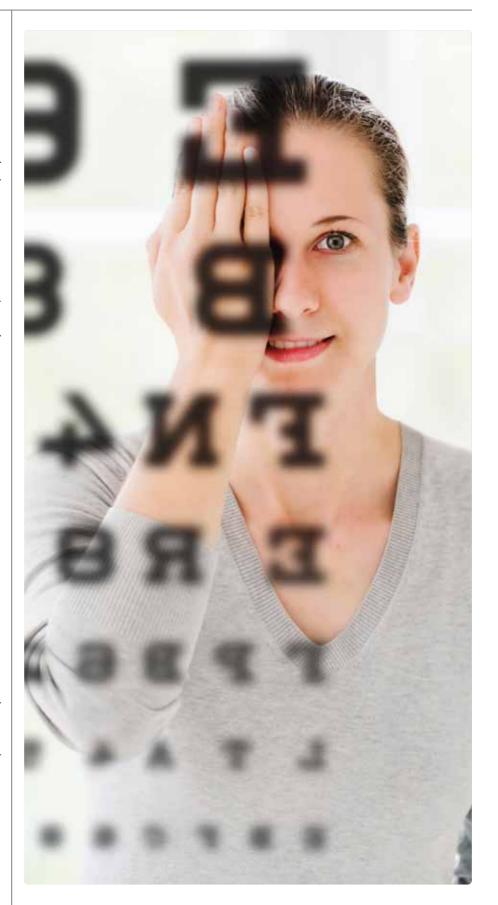
When researchers applied nicotinamide to human adult cells in vitro, they found that nicotinamide had three key mechanisms that make it a possible treatment for fibrotic eye diseases:

- 1. It inhibits harmful cell transformations.
- 2. It reverses the development of membranes associated with scar tissue.
- 3. It slows the development of eye diseases that can lead to vision loss and blindness.

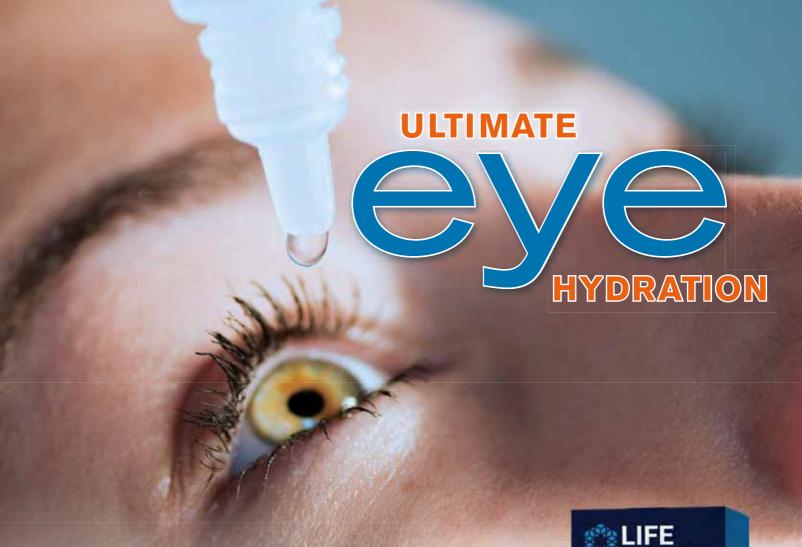
Timothy Blenkinsop, Ph.D., the study's co-lead investigator, said, "This discovery helps evolve our understanding of wound healing, as well as good inflammation versus bad inflammation. Good inflammation essentially nudges the system into a regenerative response, while bad inflammation can create harmful scar tissue formation."

Editor's Note: "This is an exciting time to understand how this compound [nicotinamide] can be used to treat and reverse not only fibrotic diseases of the retina but other diseases too," Dr. Blenkinsop said.

* Stem Cell Reports. 2020 Apr 14;14(4):631-47.







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* PLoS Med. 2005 Sep;2(9):e307;author reply e309.



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Nutrients to *Charge Up*BRAIN FUNCTION

BY JASON MCNEIL

Nootropics are compounds that *enhance* **cognition** and facilitate **learning**.

They differ from nutrients that protect against brain aging.

Nootropics are for people seeking to *improve* brain **processing speed** and **mental alertness**.

Nutrients with **nootropic** properties have become popular for people of all ages to improve thinking speed and accuracy.

Nootropics Tune Up Your Mind

Nootropics are a different type of brain and cognition supplement. Their goal is to boost cognitive performance *now*.

Nootropics are meant to improve and recall recent and old memories.

Nootropic compounds boost cognitive efficiencies by helping brain cells operate at **peak power**.

Scientists have identified nutrients shown in clinical (human) studies to improve cognitive function, processing speed, and memory.





Bacopa Monnieri Improves Learning

As we age, our ability to process and absorb new information begins to decline.

In seeking to create a plant-based nootropic, researchers focused on compounds associated with cognitive enhancement in human studies. One key aspect of improved cognition is improving the brain's ability to *learn* and *retain* information.

Research on the flowering herb Bacopa monnieri reveals improved memory. In ancient times, the herb was given to scholars to improve their learning and memorization of vast religious texts that were orally handed down from generation to generation.1

In several clinical trials, standardized extracts of Bacopa have been shown to sharpen several aspects of cognitive function, specifically learning rate and retention of information.2-9

These human studies also show that Bacopa improved additional aspects of cognitive functions such as:

- Auditory verbal learning speed,
- Speed of visual processing,
- Working memory,
- Formation of new memories,
- Recall of memories, and
- Power and speed of attention.

In animal studies, standardized extract of Bacopa also improved brain activity by promoting the growth of neuron connections in the hippocampus and amygdala, another part of the brain involved in perception of emotions. 10-12 The hippocampus is one of the most important brain regions for the formation of new memories. Other benefits included:1,12,13

- Improved spatial learning,
- Increased dendritic length and branching,
- Modulation of neurotransmitter production,
- Increased synaptic concentration,
- Reduced brain inflammation,
- Increased cerebral blood flow, which reduces oxygen and nutrient deficits, and
- Increased nourishment of neurons.

Gotu Kola Improves Reaction Time and Accuracy

The next step in creating a multi-function nootropic was investigating the herb gotu kola.

Gotu kola is a flowering herb native to Asia. It has also been used to boost brain power in traditional Eastern medicine for centuries.



Neuroenhancement Neuroprotection Role in the brain Cell function Cell viability Cognitive and visual benefit Membrane stabilisation & modulation (fluidity, ion exchange) Neuronal integrity & communication Antioxidant & anti-inflammatory action: Enhancement Structural Membrane Mitochondrial health of gap junctional integrity of Modulation of Protection against DNA damage the dynamic instability communication myelin - Protection of PUFAs in membranes of microtubules Regulation of inflammation-

Lutein + Zeaxanthin Supports Neuronal Communication

Lutein and zeaxanthin: The possible contribution, mechanisms of action and implications of modern dietary intake for cognitive development in children. HRB Open Res. 2019;2:8.

In one clinical trial of healthy, older adults, daily intake of standardized extract of gotu kola for two months led to significant improvements in several aspects of brain function.14

Using electroencephalography (EEG), the electrical activity of the brain was recorded and combined with cognitive testing. Researchers saw evidence of improved attention and reaction time in mental tasks just one hour after supplementation. These improvements in reaction time indicate improved brain processing speed.

By the end of the two-month study, other improvements in cognitive function were seen, including short-term working memory, word recognition, spatial memory and picture recognition, and alertness.

Gotu kola also improved mood and calmness. This has implications for managing anxiety and depression, which can interfere with peak mental clarity.15

In another study, patients with generalized anxiety disorder who supplemented with gotu kola noted significantly improved levels of anxiety and stress.16

Gotu kola has also demonstrated benefits in animal studies.^{17,18} In a mouse model of **dementia**, animals given extracts of gotu kola performed significantly better than untreated animals in tests of learning and memory.18

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

related genes

A Powerful Nootropic Formula

- **Nootropics** are compounds and nutrients meant to enhance cognitive abilities in healthy individuals.
- Life Extension® scientists have identified four such plant nutrients, which have individually demonstrated the ability to improve brain function.
- The carotenoids **lutein** and **zeaxanthin** and standardized extracts of the flowering herbs gotu kola and Bacopa monnieri have each been shown in clinical trials to enhance cognitive abilities, improve memory and learning, brain processing speed, and more.

The Eye-Brain Connection

Carotenoids are a group of pigments found in many fruits and vegetables.

Two closely related carotenoids, lutein and zeaxanthin, are taken up and concentrated in the retina of the eye, the tissue that senses light and sends information to the brain for visual recognition via the optic nerve.

Lutein and zeaxanthin have long been shown to protect macular density necessary for visual function. 19-24 These carotenoid pigments help maintain sharp sight while protecting the retina from damage due to blue light, chronic inflammation, and other threats.

Scientists have discovered that significant amounts of **lutein** and **zeaxanthin** also concentrate in the **brain**.

This isn't very surprising, since the retina is technically an extension of the brain that contains nerve cells similar to those found in the brain itself.25-29

Levels of **lutein** and **zeaxanthin** in the eye and the brain are directly correlated.²⁵⁻²⁹ That means testing their levels in the eye, which is easier to do, allows scientists to also estimate the levels of lutein and zeaxanthin in the brain.

People with the *highest* plasma and macular levels of lutein and zeaxanthin also have the highest cognitive function. 27,30-35

Using advanced MRI imaging technology, researchers were able to show that *higher* levels of **carotenoids** in the **brain** were associated with better **efficiency of** the brain cells during tests of learning, memory, perception, decision-making, and motor coordination.33

Human Studies of Lutein and Zeaxanthin

Based on findings that lutein and zeaxanthin function as nootropics, researchers identified a source derived from marigold flowers.

The combination of **lutein** and **zeaxanthin** has been tested in nine human studies on brain function in a wide age range.36-44

Scientists found that oral intake of lutein-zeaxanthin leads to improvements in brain speed, efficiency, and overall cognitive function.

Research shows that lutein and zeaxanthin improved **brain function** through:^{43,45}

- Improved neuronal communication,
- Increased neural integrity,
- Enhanced memory retention, and
- Increased processing of visual signals.

In healthy young adults, 10 mg of lutein and 2 mg of **zeaxanthin** daily resulted in significant improvements in memory, reasoning, and complex attention—the ability to hold complicated ideas in the mind, assess them, and quickly act on them.41

This improvement in complex attention indicates that brain processing speeds were increased, allowing individuals to better assess complex stimuli and react appropriately.





Similar findings have been seen in older adults. The same dosage of lutein and zeaxanthin improved complex attention and other aspects of cognition in subjects averaging 73.7 years of age.40

In another study of older adults, oral lutein and zeaxanthin helped maintain learning and memory while improving brain blood flow, while these functions deteriorated in participants who received a placebo.39

Scientists believe lutein and zeaxanthin work, in part, by wedging themselves into the walls of brain cell membranes.^{25,45-48} This may boost the membrane's functional properties and improve other aspects of membrane integrity.

Summary

The field of **nootropics** research aims to find compounds and nutrients that can boost cognitive performance.

A combination of nootropic compounds has been formulated to enhance brain function.

The carotenoids **lutein** and **zeaxanthin**, which are concentrated in the eye and brain, can improve and protect visual and mental function.

Standardized extracts of gotu kola and Bacopa monnieri each enhanced several aspects of cognitive function and mood in clinical trials.

This combination may help people of all ages achieve their full neurological potential.

If you have any questions on the scientific content of this article, please call a Life Extension® Wellness Specialist at 1-866-864-3027.

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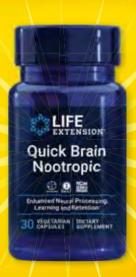
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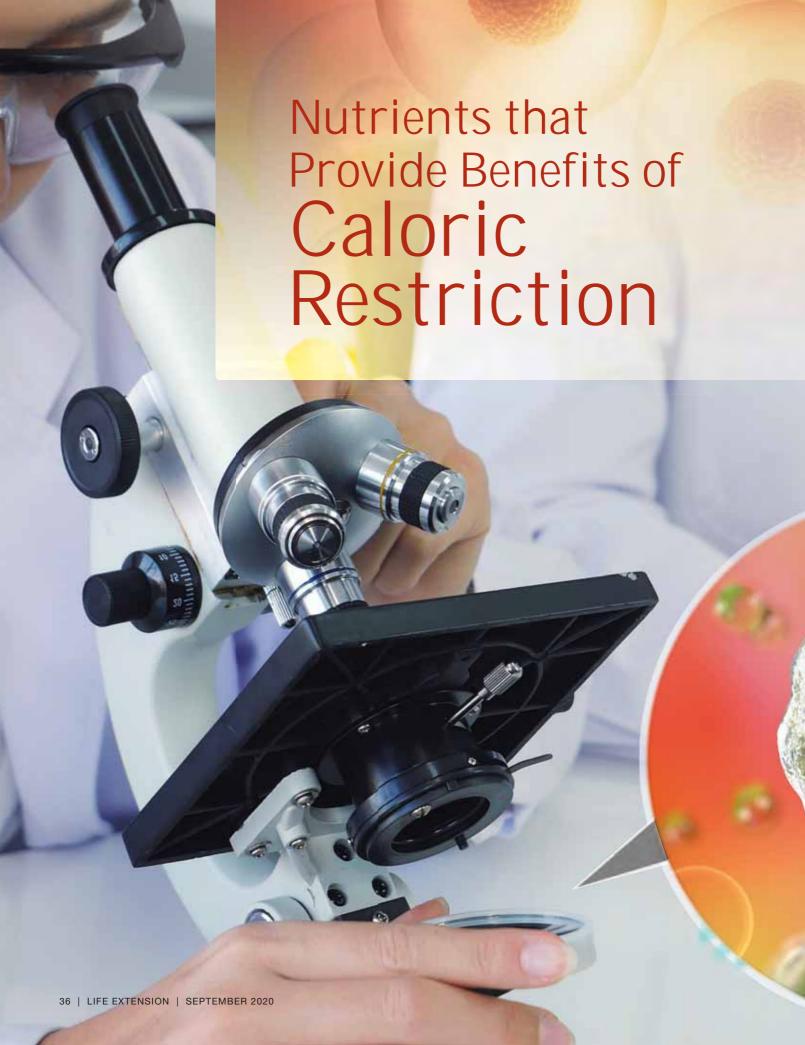
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BY NANCY KOVACS

Published studies on a wide range of organisms show:

Caloric restriction can improve health and extend life. 1-3

But people are challenged when trying to chronically reduce their food intake.¹

Even those who initially succeed often return to regular eating, losing out on the **longevity** benefits that caloric restriction can offer.

Researchers have identified **plant-derived** compounds that help **activate** similar health-promoting cellular responses as **caloric restriction**.





How Caloric Restriction Prolongs Life

Caloric restriction means limiting the number of calories consumed each day, while avoiding malnutrition.

Restricting calories extends life and reduces agerelated chronic disease in many organisms.^{2,3} These effects have been observed in a wide range of animal models, including mammals.

When caloric intake is *low*, during what's known as a fasting state, cells switch into protective mode. They activate processes that rejuvenate themselves and defend against potential threats and stressors.

These changes have long-term benefits for overall health, and possibly for life extension as well.

On the flip side is the dietary excess plaguing modern societies. This chronic, surplus calorie ingestion contributes to a variety of health problems.

Surging rates of obesity, type II diabetes, neurodegenerative disorders, and cancer have all been linked to excessive calorie intake.

Scientists have pinpointed some of the specific cellular changes that occur with caloric restriction. The most practical ways of achieving these benefits are:4-10

- 1. Boosting function of **sirtuins**, proteins that regulate cellular health,
- 2. Increasing activity of AMPK, an enzyme that regulates metabolism,
- 3. Reducing activity of **mTOR**, a protein linked to aging and chronic disease,
- 4. Blocking cellular senescence, when older cells become dysfunctional, and
- 5. Encouraging autophagy, cellular "housekeeping."

These actions protect against many forms of chronic disease and accelerated aging.4,6-10



Caloric Restriction and **Intermittent Fasting "Mimetics"**

Sticking to a restrictive diet is difficult.

It can also be unpleasant. For some, substantial caloric restriction may lead to loss of strength and stamina, loss of libido, loss of bone density, depression, and other undesirable effects.1

Research is increasingly finding that there are alternatives to severe dietary restriction. Several compounds have been shown to target some of the same cellular pathways as caloric restriction, without side effects.5,7-9,11

These compounds are known as caloric restriction mimetics. A mimetic is something that mimics the effects of something else.

Some of the nutrients found to be caloric restriction mimetics are health-promoting polyphenols.

For each of the five major cellular changes spurred by caloric restriction, science has discovered mimetics that have the same effects.

1. Boosting Sirtuin Function

One way caloric restriction extends lifespan is by ramping up the activity of signaling proteins called sirtuins, particularly SIRT1.6-8

Sirtuins regulate cellular health and defend cellular components in times of stress. They shield **DNA** from damage that speeds the aging process and makes cells susceptible to disease. 12,13

Studies show that improving sirtuin function extends lifespan of various organisms. 12,14-18

The polyphenol **resveratrol**, found in minute quantities in red wine, grapes, and berries, activates **SIRT1**. 14-16,19,20

In mice, resveratrol helps mimic the changes induced by dietary restriction, reducing the signs of aging.11

Resveratrol has been shown to stabilize DNA and extend lifespan of yeast by a whopping **70%**. 19

While resveratrol activates sirtuins, a cofactor called NAD+ (nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide) is required for **sirtuins** to *function* properly. With advancing age, **NAD**⁺ levels drop.^{12,13}

The oral **NAD**⁺ precursor nicotinamide riboside boosts NAD+ cellular levels rapidly, helping to support healthy **sirtuin** function.²¹⁻²³

Taken together, resveratrol and nicotinamide riboside maximize the benefits for cellular health and longevity.



2. Activating AMPK

Another longevity-promoting change spurred by caloric restriction is increased activity of an enzyme called AMPK.

Stimulating AMPK has a critical impact on metabolism. It helps prevent weight gain, improves insulin sensitivity, and reduces high blood glucose levels.²⁴⁻²⁷

The most commonly prescribed medication for type II diabetes is **metformin**, which works partially by activating AMPK.

A number of plant-derived compounds are also potent activators of AMPK.

Gynostemma pentaphyllum is known as the "immortality herb" in some Asian cultures. Cell and animal studies have shown that Gynostemma extracts activate AMPK, resulting in health benefits that include reduced body weight and improved cholesterol levels.28-32

In a 2019 study of mice fed an obesity-inducing diet, Gynostemma prevented weight gain, reduced fat mass, and improved blood lipid markers.33

AMPK also stimulates SIRT1. In this 2019 study, animals receiving **Gynostemma** had an approximately **4.5-fold** increase in SIRT1 expression compared to untreated animals.

Hesperidin is a plant compound found in citrus fruits that has also been shown to amplify AMPK activity.³⁴⁻³⁷ In mice, it lowers body weight and lipid levels while improving insulin sensitivity and glucose control.35

In humans, 500 mg of hesperidin daily was found to lead to improvements including better blood vessel reactivity and reduced body-wide inflammation.36

The Benefits of Caloric Restriction Without Fasting

- Caloric restriction has powerful antiaging effects, reducing chronic disease and extending life, as shown in many studies.
- Restrictive diets are difficult to adhere to and have potential unpleasant side effects.
- Scientists have identified crucial cell changes that are induced by dietary restriction. These include sirtuin activation, boosting AMPK, reducing **mTOR** activity, protecting against cell senescence, and promoting beneficial autophagy.
- Several plant-derived nutrients mimic the cellular effects of restricting calories, producing some of the same protective benefits.
- Resveratrol, nicotinamide riboside. Gynostemma pentaphyllum, hesperidin, curcumin, quercetin, theaflavins, and apigenin are nutrients that closely imitate the beneficial effects of restrictive diets.

3. Decreasing mTOR Activity

mTOR stands for the "mechanistic target of rapamycin."

In youth, balanced **mTOR** activity enables rapid growth.

If mTOR activity remains stuck in high gear as people age, it contributes to a number of deleterious effects.

When nutrients are plentiful, **mTOR** activity goes up. If mTOR is not balanced, aging individuals could accumulate unwanted fat stores even when they don't ingest calories excessively.

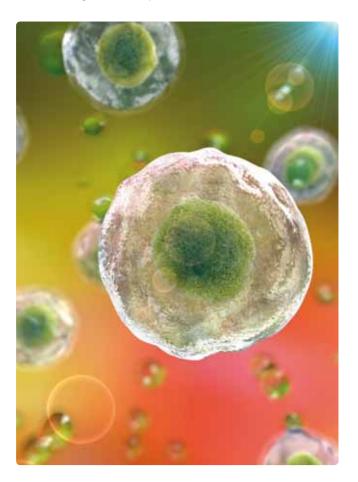
Caloric restriction decreases mTOR activity, protecting health.8

Research shows that resveratrol and curcumin, a compound found in turmeric root, have mTOR-inhibiting activity.38-42

4. Preventing Cellular Senescence

As cells age, many become dysfunctional and lose the ability to grow or divide. This is referred to as cellular senescence.

Senescent cells secrete compounds that damage surrounding cells and promote chronic inflammation.



Cellular senescence is a major driver of aging of tissues, loss of function, and development of disease.

Caloric restriction limits the development of senescent cells, shielding tissues from their harmful effects.6

Compounds called **senolytics** can help reduce the senescent cells' burdens without caloric restriction.

The most studied senolytic therapy combines the plant pigment quercetin, found in many fruits and vegetables, with the chemotherapy drug dasatinib.

Several studies show this two-compound cocktail (dasatinib + quercetin) decreases the number of senescent cells in tissues, reducing signs of aging and diminishing the occurrence and severity of chronic disease.48-51

Early human trials of this therapy are showing promising results, but dasatinib is a synthetic pharmaceutical drug. 48,52 As a result, many people today would prefer a safer **senolytic** compound.

Scientists have found another way to remove senescent cells, using plant-based nutrients found in commonly consumed food and beverages.

Quercetin on its own possesses senolytic properties,53 and theaflavins from black tea act in similar cell signalling ways as dasatinib.54-56

Recently, researchers have made another advance in senolytic therapy. They've found that apigenin (a plant compound) reduces harmful compounds that senescent cells emit.57,58

By combining a highly absorbable quercetin with theaflavins and apigenin, scientists have created a plant-based formula, available without a prescription, that provides senolytic action without resorting to pharmaceutical drugs.

And even more exciting is the advent of bioavailable fisetin that may be the most effective way to remove senescent cells from aging bodies. Look forward to a novel and low-cost bioavailable fisetin in the near future.

5. Enhancing Autophagy

As cells get older, they accumulate damaged and worn-out components that interfere with the proper functioning of the cell.

In earlier stages of their life, cells do a kind of "housekeeping" on a regular basis. This involves removing older, damaged components inside cells and replacing them with new, healthy components. This process is referred to as autophagy.

With advancing age and poor diet, autophagy declines and cell clutter builds up, robbing tissues of their healthy cellular function. Deficient autophagy contributes to many diseases of older age.59

Caloric restriction has been shown to stimulate autophagy, refreshing and rejuvenating cells.4

A number of nutrients found in plants, particularly resveratrol and curcumin, have also been shown to stimulate healthy autophagy. 59-63

Studies indicate this has protective effects against cancer, neurodegenerative disorders like Alzheimer's disease, and other chronic diseases. 59-63

Look forward to specific plant-derived autophagyinducers being introduced in 2021. In the meantime, it's good to know that nutrients most readers of this magazine already supplement with have internal cellcleansing properties.

Summary

Caloric restriction is one of the most widely studied methods to prevent disease and extend lifespan.

For people, adhering to rigorous dietary regimens can be difficult, if not impossible.

Scientists have identified cellular processes that are favorably altered by calorie-restricting diets.

Several plant-derived nutrients have been shown to mimic many of the effects of dietary restriction.

Resveratrol and nicotinamide riboside boost and maintain healthy levels of protective sirtuin function.

Gynostemma pentaphyllum and hesperidin activate the metabolism-regulating enzyme AMPK.

Resveratrol and curcumin limit harmful activity of the protein mTOR, while stimulating autophagy, or cellular "housekeeping."

Theaflavins and highly absorbable quercetin reduce the numbers of old, dysfunctional senescent cells in tissues. And apigenin reduces harmful compounds that senescent cells emit.

These effects help mimic the longevity-promoting impact of caloric restriction.

If you have any questions on the scientific content of this article, please call a Life Extension® Wellness Specialist at 1-866-864-3027.



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Human Age Reversal on CBS NEWS 60 Minutes

BY BILL FALOON



I first described the work of Harvard geneticist **George Church** in **2015**.

Dr. Church predicted that **human aging** could be eradicated by the year **2030**.

Many of our advisors concurred.

The therapy that aims to **reverse aging** in people involves **gene modification** at the cellular level.

Human Rejuvenation Goes Mainstream

On **December 8, 2019**, CBS News *60 Minutes* reported on Dr. Church's pioneering research that aims to make humans immune from all **viruses** <u>and</u> **reverse** biological **aging**.

This **60 Minutes** broadcast represents a transformational tipping point as it relates to the concept of **human age reversal**. Until recent years, no one thought that old people could grow biologically **younger**.

To view the **60 Minutes** program, visit www.LifeExtension.com/60minutes

This website enables you to view the *60 Minutes* segment about Dr. Church's **age reversal** research.

It provides a link to subscribe to **CBS All Access** with a <u>free</u> 7-day trial available.

Scott Pelley: "We Need Age Reversal"

The following excerpt from Dr. Church's 60 Minutes interview (© CBS NEWS) is an example of how the mainstream is embracing the science of age reversal:

Scott Pelley: One of the things your lab is working on is reversing aging.

Dr. Church: That's right.

Scott Pelley: How is that possible?

Dr. Church: Reversing aging is one of these things that is easy to dismiss to say either we don't need it or is impossible or both.

Bill Faloon: Dr. Church expected the typical inane question as to why we want to reverse aging. Look at Scott Pelley's reply:

Scott Pelley: Oh, we need it.

Bill Faloon: Scott Pelley clearly states, "we need to reverse it," i.e. aging. This succinct answer represents a gigantic leap forward in the mainstream's view on aging research.

Dr. Church: Okay. We need it. That's good. We can agree on that. Well, aging reversal is something that's been proven about eight different ways in animals where you can get, you know, faster reaction times or, you know, cognitive or repair of damaged tissues.

Scott Pelley: Proven eight different ways. Why isn't this available?

Dr. Church: It is available to mice.



Scott Pelley (voiceover): In lucky mice, Dr. Church's lab added multiple genes that improved heart and kidney function and levels of blood sugar. Now he's trying it in spaniels.

Scott Pelley: So is this gene editing to achieve age reversal?

Dr. Church: This is adding genes. So, it's not really editing genes. It's, the gene function is going down, and so we're boosting it back up by putting in extra copies of the genes.

Scott Pelley: What's the time horizon on age reversal in humans?

Dr. Church: That's in clinical trials right now in dogs. And so that veterinary product might be a couple years away and then that takes another 10 years to get through the human clinical trials.

Will You Make it to Year 2030?

The dilemma is that some of us will not be alive in the year 2030.

This is why current age-delay protocols are so critical, in addition to everything else we do to reduce degenerative disease risks.

Not only may George Church's gene therapy reverse aging, but in the process, it will likely shield all our cells from viral infections.

The evidence also points to gene therapy as becoming a virtual universal treatment for all diseases, including cancer.

The Allure of Systemic Rejuvenation

Think of how healthy most of us were in youth. Everything seemed to work well until around age 35-50.

Imagine going back to the biological age of 25 and staying there. If you wonder why I have not taken a day off since learning about George Church, it's to identify methods to stay alive until the time when aging becomes a relic of the past, just as smallpox is todav.

On the next page is an exclusive interview conducted by Dr. Shelly Xuelai Fan for *Life Extension*® magazine. In this interview, Dr. Church discusses the promise of gene therapy in reversing the aging process. We've condensed the conversation for our readers.

Gene Therapy to Reverse Aging

Harvard's Dr. George Church is pioneering a way to help turn back the aging clock

BY DR. SHELLY XUELAI FAN

Reversing aging was considered impossible until recently.

But renowned scientist Dr. George Church says it's within our reach.

He believes gene therapy holds the key to eliminating many of our toughest age-related chronic illnesses: diabetes, heart disease, cancer, kidney disease, cognitive decline, and more.

And he envisions a time when a few shots of his gene therapy cocktail will slow, or even reverse the aging process.

An "anti-aging vaccine" may sound like science fiction. But if anyone can make it a reality, it's Dr. Church.

A professor of genetics at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Church is a master at manipulating genes, the instructions that build life, that are tucked inside every cell.

He helped improve the quality and cost of whole genome sequencing by a million-fold, and he's one of the scientists responsible for developing the breakthrough gene editing tool CRISPR.

His company, Rejuvenate Bio, doesn't focus on editing genes themselves. It focuses on the expression of genes, turning them "on" or "off."

As we age, genes that promote youthful functions shut off. If we can switch these genes on again, the negative consequences of aging can be counteracted as our biological clocks are turned back.

The idea has proven successful in mice with different age-related disorders. Dr. Church is now pursuing the rejuvenation treatment in aging dogs.

If all goes well, **human** trials will follow.

LE: Most scientists focusing on "life extension" are either trying to increase lifespan, the length of life, or healthspan, the years someone is healthy. Which are you focusing on?

Dr. Church: I would add another one, "aging reversal." This is a bit different than extending lifespan or healthspan. Anything with "span" in it refers to a long period of



Dr. George Church

time, projecting if you will still be healthy 20 years from now. With aging reversal, you can see in a few weeks if the therapy is working. You can measure biomarkers at a doctor's office. But more importantly, you can see it in the things you care about, such as strength, mobility, and the healing of damaged tissue and organs. Aging reversal is what we're focusing on. The therapies are easier to get approved by the FDA, and it's fundamentally what everyone wants.

LE: How can genes slow down aging or reverse age-related damage?

Dr. Church: We're talking about epigenetics, changing how genes work throughout the body. It's not about changing the code of your genes, just how they're expressed [turned on or off]. As you get older, the level of key genes that help maintain life decline in how much they're turned on. You want to boost them back up. So what we're tinkering with using gene therapy isn't "genetic." We're not changing the genes, but rather focusing on turning youth-boosting genes back on.

LE: How has your anti-aging gene therapy worked

Dr. Church: We're looking at both specific diseases and overall health. The traditional method is to fix one symptom of one disease. But you can also get at the core causes of aging, the hormones that are dropping. If you boost these up enough, they'll reinforce each other in a positive, virtuous cycle. If we see enough positive changes with a particular gene therapy, we know we hit one of the core causes.

In our first study, we took three genes that impacted five different age-related diseases and changed their levels in mature mice and found that they functionally improved. This is key: Biomarker improvements are great, but you want to see improvements that impact everyday life, like strength, speed, and organ health.

LE: What are the next steps in this research, and who do you think would benefit most from the gene therapy?

Dr. Church: We've already begun clinical trials in aged dogs, which are good models for humans. This will help us determine which ages of humans would best benefit, but we think we'll be able to help people who are already quite old and show signs of decline. We're also looking at extending absolute lifespan, but it's a much longer experiment and reliable results take years.

In the near term, we're also looking to expand the group of age-related diseases that we can treat. With the three genes we've been testing, we've already helped reverse **osteoarthritis**, high-fat **obesity** and **diabetes**, **heart damage**, and **kidney disease**. We're hoping to soon add **cancer** and **neurodegenerative** diseases to the list.

LE: Which diseases do you think we'll see gene therapy impact first?

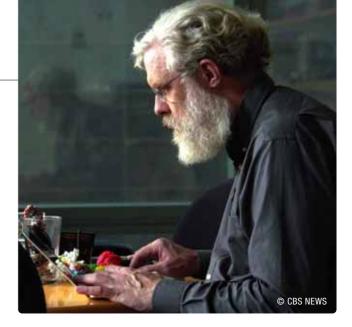
Dr. Church: If our idea is correct, we should be able to impact all of them at the same time when we target the core causes of aging. When you're rejuvenating cells, you're also boosting all their repair mechanisms. It's possible that certain negative biological changes are rather permanent and hard to restore, but they would be incredibly drastic. The challenge for the near future is using artificial intelligence to design "delivery shuttles" that carry gene therapy where you want it to go. But if we can convince the cells that they're young by giving them a dose of youth-promoting genes, their own repair factory should kick in and restore lots of damage from aging.

Trying to convince every cell in the body is very difficult. Some life-extending, non-gene therapies are trying. We believe that youth-promoting hormones and other biological factors shared from cell to cell hold the key.

Using gene therapy, even if we hit just a few cells, they'll amp up hormone production, diffuse them throughout the body, and immediately amplify the gene therapy's initial effect.

LE: You helped develop **CRISPR**, which *does* alter gene sequences. That's not part of your age-reversal research?

Dr. Church: We did not use CRISPR, even though we helped initiate it as a technology. We need to distinguish between CRISPR and gene therapy, which aren't synonymous. CRISPR is mostly used to eliminate or turn *down* genes and functionality. Classic gene therapy is adding or *boosting* genes. At Rejuvenate Bio, our focus is on the latter.



LE: Many age-related diseases such as Alzheimer's and cancer are due to faulty genes. In those cases, is it possible to use CRISPR to correct those genes and extend life?

Dr. Church: Yes. We need to cast a wide net. There's a gene therapy trial for Alzheimer's that replaces **APOE4**, a gene that greatly increases your chance of Alzheimer's, with the lower-risk version, **APOE2**. But to make the gene therapy work, you'll need to go into many brain cells and swap the gene out with high efficiency, and that's hard but improving rapidly.

In mice, manipulating tumor suppressor genes plus targeting **telomeres**, [the protective end caps of genes that shorten with age] which APOE does, can delay cancer and aging.

Unlike **APOE**, we are aiming for more than a single rare disease, and unlike the telomere strategy, we don't need to target every cell because the genes we're manipulating make "regulatory factors," like hormones, which diffuse out and impact far more than just the cell that gets the gene therapy. This amplifies the effect of the treatment: One dose can hit just a few cells and you could be set for years.

We're focused on boosting pro-youth hormones and enzymes that spread in the body. We think this is most promising, and hence the strategy we're pursuing.

If you have any questions on the scientific content of this article, please call a **Life Extension®**Wellness Specialist at 1-866-864-3027.

Dr. Shelly Xuelai Fan is a science journalist based in San Francisco. She completed her PhD and post-doctoral training in neurodegeneration, brain aging, and rejuvenation.



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* Aging Cell. 2015 Aug;14(4):644-58.

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1. Br J Nutr. 2018 Apr;119(8):928-36.

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Natural killer cell activity declines with normal aging, which can affect immune function.

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Clinical Studies

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The Most Potent Form of Vitamin E

Tocotrienols are emerging as interesting and complex members of the vitamin E family.

Tocotrienols come in four varieties:5

- Alpha-tocotrienol
- **Beta-tocotrienol**
- **Gamma-tocotrienol**
- Delta-tocotrienol

These forms of **vitamin E** are different from "regular" forms of vitamin E that are called tocopherols.5

Tocotrienols generally have higher potency than tocopherols, and they act on a wider range of targets.

For example, alpha-tocotrienol prevents neurodegeneration at very small concentrations.5

Aging and DNA **Damage Prevention**

The unique structure and potency of tocotrienols make them valuable for defending aging tissues. A primary tocotrienol mechanism is the ability to protect against **DNA damage**, an underlying factor in most aging processes.1

In a randomized, clinical trial, middle-aged and older adults took either 160 mg of mixed tocotrienols/tocopherols or a placebo for six months. By three months, there was a significant reduction in **DNA damage**, a benefit that persisted through the six-month mark.1

The ability to reduce DNA damage shows that tocotrienols can help slow aging at the cellular level.3

Because DNA damage contributes to cellular senescence, supplementing with tocotrienols represents a unique way to delay age-related decline.

Human studies have shown that tocotrienols can help lower the risk of cardiovascular disease, support bone health, and preserve cognitive function. These benefits make this unique form of vitamin E an interesting player in the fight against premature aging and disease.3,5-10

Cardiovascular Disease **Risk Reduction**

DNA damage contributes to the aging of blood vessels—a major risk factor for heart attacks and strokes. 11-13

High levels of cholesterol and triglycerides contribute to plaque buildup on artery walls that causes arteries to become hard and stiff. This restricts blood flow and increases the risk of cardiovascular complications.

Tocotrienols act in numerous ways to lower the risk of cardiovascular disease. This was shown in a study of people on chronic hemodialysis for kidney failure.





Kidney failure patients have an extremely high risk of cardiovascular disease.

The patients took either a daily dose of 180 mg of tocotrienols plus 40 mg of tocopherols (traditional vitamin E) or a placebo for 16 weeks. In the supplemented group, by week 12, triglyceride levels had declined by a significant 33 mg/dL and then dropped by 36 mg/dL at 16 weeks. No change was found in the placebo group.¹⁴

Tocotrienols have also been shown to decrease arterial stiffness. When patients took 100 mg/day and 200 mg/day of tocotrienols, they experienced significant reductions in two measures of arterial stiffness after just two months, substantially reducing cardiovascular risk.15

Boosting the Aging Immune System

DNA damage directly contributes to immune senescence, or a dysfunctional immune system. 16,17

Immune senescence increases an older person's risk of infections, while also increasing the likelihood of an inappropriate immune response that can lead to excessive inflammation and autoimmune disorders.18

Another consequence of immune senescence is poor response to vaccines. This puts lives at risk because we rely on vaccines to prevent viral infections.

Tocotrienols have a broad range of

cell- and tissue-protecting activities.

- Tocotrienols are instrumental in preventing the DNA damage that accumulates over time and is one of the central causes of aging and disease.
- Studies show that tocotrienol supplementation slows DNA-damagerelated aging and protects against heart disease, immune senescence, neurodegeneration, and osteoporosis.

A randomized, placebo-controlled trial showed that taking 400 mg of mixed tocotrienols/tocopherols daily significantly enhanced the **immune** response to a test dose of a vaccine. This was seen through increased production of protective interferon gamma, increased production of antibodies following the vaccine, and a reduction in immune-dampening IL-6.19

These results suggest that tocotrienol/tocopherol supplementation can reverse major components of immune senescence, lowering the risk for preventable infections and malignancies.



Neuroprotection

DNA damage is one of the earliest detectable events in neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. The white matter lesions associated with dementia are also DNA damage related.20,21

In one study, adults with white matter lesions were randomly assigned to take either 200 mg of mixed tocotrienols or a placebo twice daily for two years. While the lesions grew significantly in placebo recipients during that time, they remained stable in supplemented people. This demonstrates the ability of tocotrienols to help slow the progression of the disease.²²

Animal studies have also shown that tocotrienol supplementation led to improved learning and memory as a result of reduced DNA damage.2

Better Bone Health

DNA damage in bone tissue promotes bone mineral loss, or osteoporosis, by elevating inflammatory markers and reducing the numbers of bone-forming cells.^{23,24}

Animal studies have shown that tocotrienols protect bone tissue. These benefits were confirmed by a recent study of postmenopausal women (a group at high risk for osteoporosis).

This clinical trial showed that 12 weeks of supplementation with 430 mg/day or 860 mg/day of mixed

tocotrienols decreased the excessive bone breakdown seen in osteoporosis and improved healthy bone turnover, compared with a placebo group.²⁵ Among the mechanisms were reductions in inflammation which, in turn, suppressed the aggressive bone resorption that typifies osteoporosis.

Anti-Aging Impact

Tocotrienols are complex nutrients with numerous interactions in cells and tissues.

This broad spectrum of actions means that tocotrienols can inhibit an array of unhealthy, destructive processes, reducing their negative impacts while potentially creating positive changes as well.

The following are six features of tocotrienols that contribute to their anti-aging properties:

- Tocotrienols reduce oxidative stress.
 - Tocotrienols are potent antioxidants that protect against chemical- and radiation-induced DNA damage.1,2,26-28
- Tocotrienols reduce the activity of HMG-CoA Reductase. This enzyme participates in chemical reactions that play a role in cholesterol production inside the body, in cancer, and in osteoporosis.8,28-30

Tocotrienols enhance immune function.

They elevate production of signaling molecules that recruit immune cells and instruct them in their duties, as well as interferon-gamma, a signaling molecule that enhances anti-tumor surveillance.31

Tocotrienols reduce inflammation.

They act by suppressing major pro-inflammatory signaling pathways, including NF-kappaB, called the "master inflammation regulator."8

- Tocotrienols reduce unwanted new blood vessel formulation. This is an important way to fight cancer (which needs new vessels for nutrition) and cardiovascular disease (in which tiny, new blood vessels that grow inside of atherosclerotic plaques contribute to the growth of those plaques).32 Tocotrienols fight the kind of new blood vessel formation that may contribute to cancer and heart disease. 10,33
- Tocotrienols boost mitochondrial energy production. This property has value in energizing heart and brain tissues during aging.34

Summary

DNA damage is a common underlying factor in numerous age-related disorders.

Studies show that tocotrienols can fight DNA damage and slow the aging process in tissues throughout the body.

In human studies, tocotrienols have now demonstrated benefits in regard to DNA-damage-related aging, heart disease, immune regulation, neuroprotection, and bone health.

Formulations of mixed tocotrienols are available as supplements for those seeking this age-decelerating nutrient. •

If you have any questions on the scientific content of this article, please call a Life Extension® Wellness Specialist at 1-866-864-3027.



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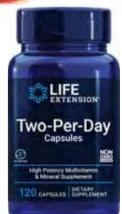
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Dr. Terry Burns

Neurosurgeon Discusses the Future of Neuroregeneration

BY LAURIE MATHENA

To date, most regenerative therapies have been studied in mice. but Burns believes true success will only come from studying the human brain itself.

Dr. Terry Burns could have chosen to pursue any number of professional fields.

With a music scholarship to college, as an undergraduate he traveled with the New England Symphonic Ensemble from Europe to Jamaica and played his French horn in prestigious venues like Carnegie Hall in New York City.

His passion for travel and photography has taken him all over the world, capturing magazinequality photographs in places like Africa and Australia.

But ultimately, it was his fascination with the brain that led him to pursue a career as a neurosurgeon and scientist.

Burns, an MD, PhD splits his time between the operating room, where he removes brain tumors, and the laboratory, where he has one primary goal in mind:

To fix the brain.

A Personal Calling

Like so many people who are passionate about their calling, Burns' interest in the brain is personal. His grandmother died from Alzheimer's disease. She was just one of many people in his family who suffered from neurological issues.

Burns is in a unique position to have an impact on the lives of not only his individual patients, but also of anyone suffering from a neurodegenerative disease like Alzheimer's or Parkinson's.

That's because Burns is one of the leading figures in the field of neuroregeneration.



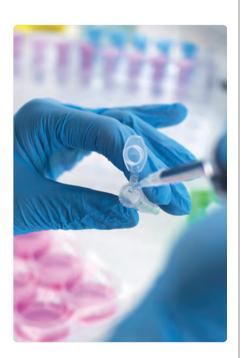
"When I was trying to figure out which residency path to pursue after medical school, one of my advisors advised against becoming a neurosurgeon, due to the notorious demands of a neurosurgeon's schedule. 'What kind of research do you think you're going to be able to do as a neurosurgeon without any time?' she asked."

"The answer," said Burns, "is the research that really matters. Research on the *human brain*."

And that's exactly what he's doing. In addition to his work as a brain surgeon, Burns is working on developing regenerative strategies to optimize neurological function in patients with brain tumors as well as those with neurodegenerative diseases.

To date, most regenerative therapies have been studied in mice, but Burns believes true success will only come from studying the human brain itself.

"Why do we have all of these cures for mice, but we don't have anything that works for patients?" asked Burns. "Our brains are different than those of mice. If I'm going to fix the



brain, I need access to the brain. We need to be putting the drugs in the brain and see what happens. I came up with this strategy of in vivo drug testing, which is the long-term focus of my lab. We need to put the drugs in the human brain and figure out what the biomarkers are that predict whether or not the drug is working or not working and understand why."

Scheduled Brain Trauma

As a tumor neurosurgeon, Burns sees firsthand the damaging effects of radiating the brain to treat brain tumors. Radiation is necessary and extends life, but it comes at a price: It causes significant problems with memory, concentration, attention, and more.

"The effects of radiation are very much like accelerated aging. The DNA is damaged by the radiation," said Burns. "I've started calling radiation an iatrogenic (caused by therapy) neurodegenerative state."

This presents a unique opportunity for Burns to test neuroregenerative therapies.

Currently, in mouse studies, the most effective treatments for neurodegenerative diseases are given prior to the trauma.

"We don't have that opportunity with conditions like stroke or traumatic brain injury," said Burns. "But radiation is essentially scheduled brain trauma. It gives us unique access to these patients to study the human brain of individual patients before, during, and after the injury. Not only will this help improve outcomes of patients with brain tumors, but we believe these insights can help us figure out how to treat patients with other neurological diseases."

The Future of Regenerative Medicine

One main area of focus for Burns and his research team is in a relatively new field called **senolytics**, which are compounds that remove harmful senescent cells.

Senescent cells have become damaged, but instead of dying off, they stick around and become toxic to the cells around them.

"After patients have had brain radiation, their brain has a lot of these senescent cells, which we believe is a primary issue underlying the side effect of cognitive dysfunction," said Burns. "These negative effects appear to be improved with senolytic drugs."

But senescent cells are present in both the radiated brain and in neurodegenerative conditions like stroke and Alzheimer's. So, studying the use of senolytics in the context of radiation, or "scheduled brain trauma," may have broader applications for a variety of neurological diseases.

Burns is currently working with a multidisciplinary team to determine if selectively removing senescent cells will combat damage to the central nervous system in conditions like aging, Alzheimer's, and exposure to brain radiation.

Recent results suggest that certain key mechanisms involved in cognitive performance—like the creation of new brain cells—are enhanced by the effects of senolytic drugs.

An Exciting Work in Progress

One particularly promising senolytic treatment Burns mentioned is the combination of **dasatinib** and **quercetin**. Dasatinib is an anti-cancer drug, and guercetin is simply a flavonoid found in natural substances like apples and onions.

Animal studies have shown that this combination selectively removes senescent cells, and as a result. both lifespan and healthspan are improved.

Additionally, Burns explained that a polyphenol called fisetin, which is simply a compound found in foods like strawberries, seems to offer specific protection for the brain. There have been positive results in preclinical trials, and now the first clinical trials are about to get started testing fisetin for the treatment of Alzheimer's or mild cognitive impairment.

But the promise of senolytics extends far beyond preventing radiation damage—or even improving other neurological diseases.

Indeed, preclinical studies have shown that removing senescent cells with senolytics successfully treated conditions including frailty, cardiac dysfunction, vascular calcification, diabetes, osteoporosis, pulmonary fibrosis, radiation-induced damage, and more.

"It's an exciting work in progress," said Burns.

Paradigm Shift

In general, Burns believes the best success for treating neurological diseases will come from utilizing a combination of technologies.

"These diseases are complicated. The likelihood that any one drug by itself is ever going to work is very low," he said. "We need a dose of humility, and we need to work together."

Burns explained that the problem with drugs is that pharmaceutical companies tend to want a drug that only works on one pathway.

"Instead, we need drugs that do multiple things," Burns said. "Those are probably more likely to result from nutraceuticals, Chinese herbs, and other remedies that haven't yet been rigorously studied. The problem is that since nutraceuticals can't be patented, they're not being studied. It's a process that's slowing us down."

Burns believes that increasingly available technologies will allow doctors to learn mechanistically, in real time, how the individual patient's brain responds to whatever therapy is tried. This would allow them to continue to fine tune, layering on the components of the therapeutic cocktail as needed to restore function and optimize resiliency against disease.

Fortunately, Burns says that the process with pharmaceutical companies is starting to become more interactive and collaborative.

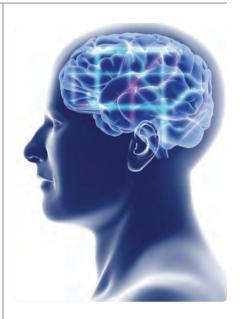
"Until now it's been all about the drug-recruit patients to test the drug and decide if the drug is a success or a failure. We need to turn that upside down. I don't care about the drug-this is all about the patient. We must use whatever combination of technologies and therapies is needed to achieve the best outcome for that patient," said Burns.

Making Alzheimer's a **Distant Memory**

In the end, the goal is to find a treatment that won't just help patients live longer, but to live better.

And while there are many roadblocks in this complicated field, Burns is optimistic about the future.

"We have challenges to overcome,



but I think we are really seeing the needed tools and understanding come into focus," he said. "All of this is totally doable. Within our lifetime, I'm optimistic we'll be able to make diseases like Alzheimer's a distant memory." •

Terence (Terry) Burns, MD, PhD, is a neuroscientist. In addition to his work as a brain surgeon, he is developing regenerative strategies to optimize neurological function and quality of life for patients with brain tumors, neurological injuries, and neurodegenerative diseases.

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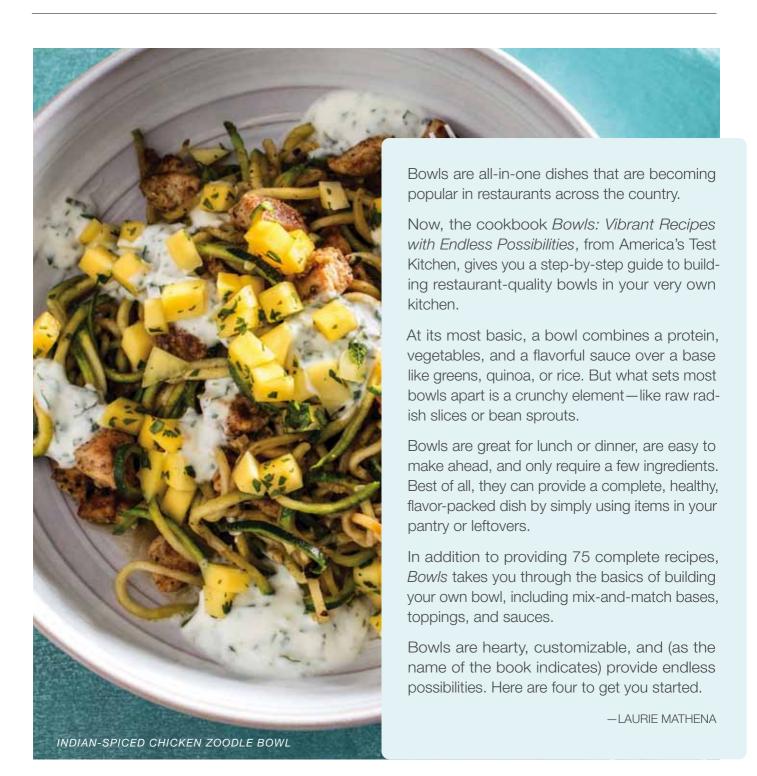




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Bowls

Vibrant Recipes with Endless Possibilities



Quinoa Taco Salad Bowl

Serves 2

- 1 cup cooked quinoa
- ½ cup chopped fresh cilantro, divided
- 2 teaspoons lime juice
- 2 teaspoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon minced canned chipotle chile in adobo sauce
- ½ small head escarole (6-ounces), trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 scallions, sliced thin
- ½ cup Chipotle-Yogurt Sauce*, divided
- ½ cup canned black beans, rinsed
- 4 ounces cherry tomatoes, quartered
- ½ ripe avocado, sliced thin

Combine quinoa, ¼ cup cilantro, lime juice, oil, and chipotle in bowl and toss to coat; season with salt and pepper to taste.

Toss escarole, scallions, and remaining ¼ cup cilantro with half of sauce to coat then season with salt and pepper to taste.

Divide among individual serving bowls then top with quinoa mixture, beans, tomatoes, and avocado. Drizzle with remaining dressing. Serve.

CUSTOMIZE IT

Kick it up a notch: Crumbled queso fresco would add creamy texture here, or add feta cheese for briny, tangy flavor.

Instead of quinoa: You could use any hearty grain, such as farro, barley, or bulgur.

Instead of escarole: You could use any hearty salad green in this recipe.

Add crunch: Top with store-bought tortilla chips.

* See Chipotle-Yogurt Sauce recipe on page 79.



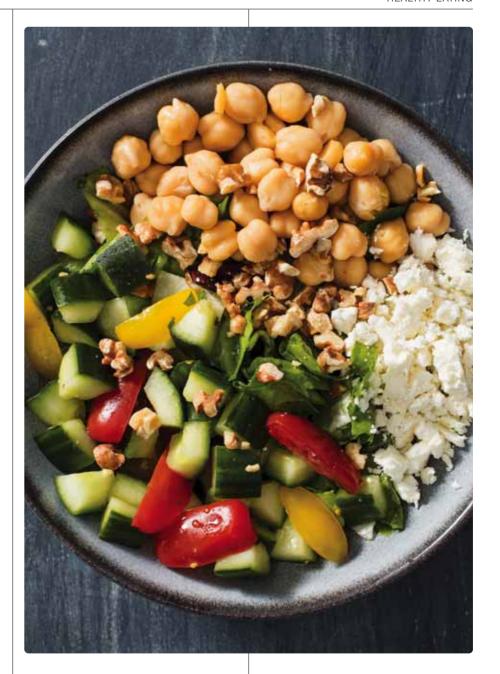
Mediterranean Chopped Salad Bowl

Serves 2

- ½ cucumber, halved lengthwise, seeded, and cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 2 ounces grape tomatoes, quartered
- ½ teaspoon table salt, divided
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 4 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- ½ small head escarole (6-ounces), trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/4 cup pitted kalamata olives, chopped
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
- 1 cup canned chickpeas, rinsed
- 1 ounce feta cheese, crumbled (1/4 cup)

Toss cucumber and tomatoes with 1/4 teaspoon salt and let drain in colander for 15 minutes.

Whisk oil, lemon juice, remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt, and pepper together in bowl. Toss escarole, olives, and parsley with half of vinaigrette to coat, then season with salt and pepper to taste. Divide among individual serving bowls then top with drained cucumbertomato mixture, chickpeas, and feta. Drizzle with remaining vinaigrette. Serve.



CUSTOMIZE IT

Add crunch: Chopped, toasted walnuts provide pleasant texture.

Instead of escarole: Use romaine.

Instead of feta: Goat cheese would add creamy tang to this salad.

Make it vegan: You can omit the feta and the bowl will still taste great.

Shakshuka Bowl

Serves 2

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, sliced thin
- 1½ teaspoons tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1 teaspoon hot smoked paprika
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 2 cups canned crushed tomatoes
- 1 (15-ounce) can cannellini beans, rinsed
- 1 cup roasted bell peppers, chopped. (To simplify, use jarred roasted red peppers.)
- 2 large eggs
- 1 ounce feta cheese, crumbled (¼ cup)
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh mint

Heat oil in 12-inch skillet over medium heat until shimmering. Add garlic, tomato paste, coriander, paprika, cumin, and pepper flakes and cook, stirring constantly, until rust-colored and fragrant, about 1 minute. Stir in tomatoes, beans, and roasted red peppers and bring to simmer. Cook, stirring occasionally, until warmed through, about 2 minutes.

Off heat, using back of spoon, make 2 shallow indentations in sauce. Crack 1 egg into each indentation then spoon sauce over edges of egg whites so that whites are partially covered and yolks are exposed.



Bring to simmer over medium heat, cover, and cook until yolks film over and whites are softly but uniformly set, 4 to 6 minutes. Divide among individual serving bowls, then sprinkle with feta and mint. Serve.

CUSTOMIZE IT

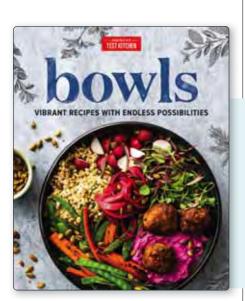
For crunch: Serve with crusty bread or croutons.

Add more herbs: Cilantro, chives, and parsley would make great additions to the mint.

Indian-Spiced Chicken 700dle Bowl

Serves 2

- ½ mango, peeled and cut into 1/4-inch pieces
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger
- 4 teaspoons vegetable oil, divided
- 2 teaspoons garam masala, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon table salt, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper, divided
- 8 ounces boneless, skinless chicken breasts, trimmed and cut into ½-inch pieces
- 12 ounces zucchini noodles, cut into 6-inch lengths, divided
- ½ cup Herb-Yogurt Sauce*



Combine mango, cilantro, and lemon juice in bowl; season with salt and pepper to taste and set aside until ready to serve. Whisk garlic, ginger, 1 teaspoon oil, 1 teaspoon garam masala, 1/8 teaspoon salt, and 1/8 teaspoon pepper together in medium bowl, then add chicken and toss to coat.

Heat 1 teaspoon oil in 12-inch nonstick skillet over medium-high heat until shimmering.

Add chicken and cook until browned on all sides, 4 to 6 minutes. Transfer to clean bowl, cover with aluminum foil to keep warm, and set aside until ready to serve.

Heat 1 teaspoon oil in now-empty skillet over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add ½ teaspoon garam masala, pinch salt, pinch pepper, and half of zucchini noodles and cook, tossing frequently, until crisp-tender, about 1 minute. Transfer to individual serving bowl and repeat with remaining 1 teaspoon oil, remaining ½ teaspoon garam masala, remaining pinch salt, remaining pinch pepper, and remaining zucchini noodles. Top zucchini noodles with chicken, mango mixture, and sauce. Serve.

Yogurt Sauce

Makes 1 cup

- 1 cup plain whole-milk yogurt (Do not substitute low-fat or nonfat yogurt here.)
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest plus 2 tablespoons juice
- 1 garlic clove, minced

Whisk all ingredients together in a bowl. Cover and refrigerate until flavors meld, at least 30 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste. (Sauce can be refrigerated for up to 4 days.)

VARIATIONS

Chipotle-Yogurt Sauce

Substitute lime zest and juice for lemon zest and juice. Add 1 tablespoon minced canned chipotle in adobo sauce.

*Herb-Yogurt Sauce

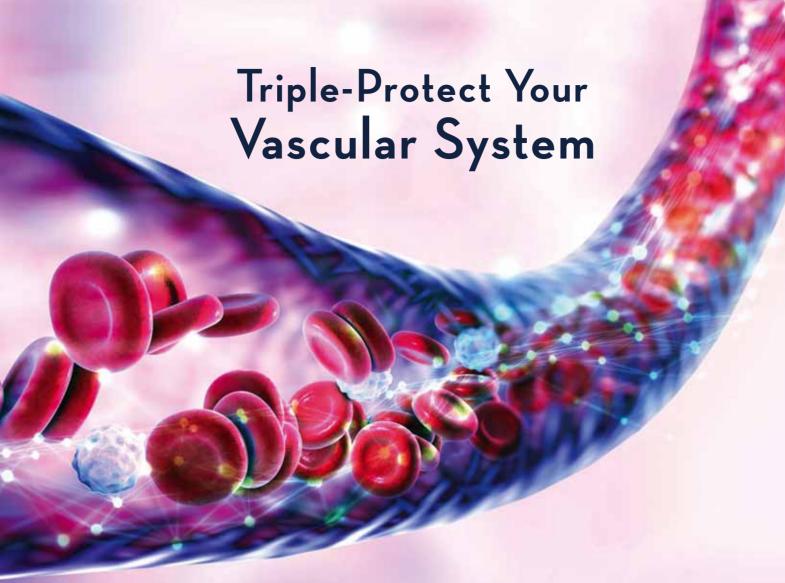
Add 2 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro and 2 tablespoons minced fresh mint.

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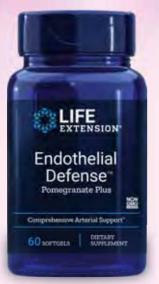
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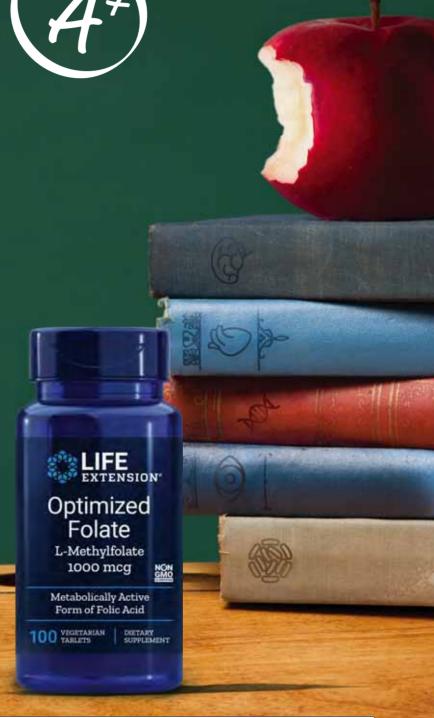
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Digestive Wellness

Strengthen the Immune System & Prevent Disease Through Healthy Digestion

BY DR. ELIZABETH LIPSKI



Hippocrates famously said that all disease begins in the gut.

Now, modern research is proving that everything in the body is connected, and that the center of that connection is the gut.

A healthy digestive system does more than prevent gas, bloating, and other intestinal upsets. It helps you sleep better, think more clearly, boost your energy levels, and fight disease.

In Digestive Wellness, 5th Edition, Elizabeth Lipski, PhD, CNS, FACN, IFMCP, professor of clinical nutrition. and author of numerous books on digestion, provides the latest scientific research on the connection between faulty digestion and conditions ranging from migraines and skin issues to arthritis and fibromyalgia.

In addition to covering topics like the gut-brain connection, leaky gut syndrome, prebiotics and probiotics, and cancer prevention, *Digestive* Wellness provides natural remedies for common gastrointestinal disorders like acid reflux, celiac disease, and irritable bowel syndrome.

In this interview with *Life Extension*®. Dr. Lipski explains how optimizing digestive wellness can help prevent disease and enhance your overall quality of life.

-LAURIE MATHENA

LE: Can you explain the basic concept of your book, Digestive Wellness?

Dr. Lipski: Doctors are trained to identify diseases by where they are located. If you have asthma, it's considered a lung problem; if you have rheumatoid arthritis, it must be a joint problem; if you are overweight, you must have a metabolism problem.

Doctors who understand health this way are both right and wrong. Sometimes the causes of your symptoms do have some relationship to their location, but that's far from the whole story.

As we come to understand disease in the 21st century, our old ways of defining illness based on symptoms and location in the body are not very useful.

Instead, by understanding the origins of disease, and the way in which the body operates as a whole, integrated ecosystem, we now know that symptoms appearing in one area of the body may be caused by imbalances in an entirely different system.

Everything is connected. The center of that connection is the gut.

If your skin is bad or you have allergies, can't seem to lose weight, suffer from an autoimmune disease, struggle with fibromyalgia, or have recurring headaches, the real reason may be that your gut is unhealthy.

This may be true even if you have never had any digestive complaints.

LE: How do you go about treating aut-related issues?

Dr. Lipski: In conventional medicine, a clinician makes a diagnosis and there are standard therapies for each diagnosis. In functional medicine, there is no cookie-cutter approach. Finding the underlying mechanisms of disease rather than focusing on symptom relief is the goal.

Two people with the same diagnosis may need completely different therapies. At the same time, two people with completely dissimilar diagnoses may benefit from the same therapy.

For example, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), migraine headaches, attention deficit disorder, and fibromyalgia may seem like different diagnoses, but they may all have the underlying cause of leaky gut syndrome or food intolerances.

LE: How do you begin looking for underlying mechanisms?

Dr. Lipski: It's called the DIGIN approach. No matter what the diagnosis, by looking at your symptoms and diagnoses through the DIGIN model, you'll find ways to move toward health.

DIGIN is an acronym for the five primary categories of digestive imbalances: Digestion/ absorption, Intestinal permeability, Gastrointestinal (GI) microbiota, Immune function and inflammation, and enteric Nervous system.

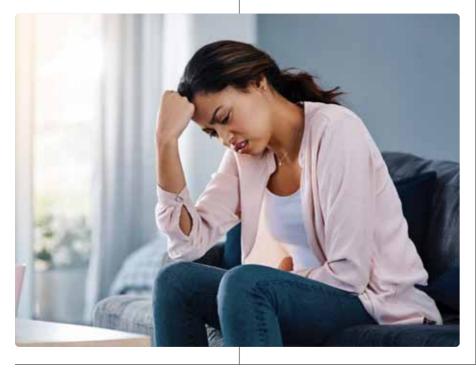
By assessing each of these areas, you can discover how to best get your body back into balance.

LE: Let's talk a little more about just one of these areas. To what conditions has intestinal permeability been connected?

Dr. Lipski: Leaky gut syndrome is really a nickname for increased intestinal permeability, which underlies an enormous variety of illnesses and symptoms.

The list of health conditions associated with increased intestinal permeability grows each year as we increase our knowledge of the synergy between digestion and the immune system. Currently there are more than 13,800 research articles on intestinal permeability.

Depending on our own susceptibilities, we may develop a wide variety of signs, symptoms, and health problems.





Leaky gut syndrome is associated with the following medical problems: allergies, celiac disease, Crohn's disease, HIV, and malabsorption syndrome.

Leaky gut is a triggering factor in every autoimmune condition. These include multiple sclerosis, lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, and psoriasis.

It's also found in people with AIDS, liver diseases including hepatitis and cirrhosis, lung conditions including asthma and bronchitis, and other conditions.

LE: How can something like a leaky gut have an impact on so many areas of the body?

Dr. Lipski: When there is increased intestinal permeability, substances larger than particle size—bacteria, fungi, potentially toxic molecules, and undigested food particles—are allowed to pass directly through the weakened cell membranes into the bloodstream, activating antibodies and alarm substances called cvtokines.

The cytokines alert our lymphocytes (white blood cells) to battle the particles. Oxidants are produced in the battle, causing irritation and inflammation far from the digestive system.

LE: What are some steps you can take to restore gut integrity?

Dr. Lipski: If you believe you suffer from leaky gut, it's best to work with a health professional who can help you determine the underlying factors. Fortunately, you can find many ways to heal your gut.

Some involve changing your habits, like chewing your food more completely; others involve taking specific supplements that will help your body repair itself.

Bone broths are a way to use food to heal the gut lining.

LE: What specific supplements could be beneficial?

Dr. Lipski: Glutamine is the first nutrient I think of to repair a leaky gut. Glutamine is alkalizing to the body. It decreases the incidence of infection and stimulates the production of slgA. Glutamine has also been shown to decrease the risk of bacterial translocation.

Dosages can range from 1 gram to 30 grams daily, depending on your needs. Begin with 1 gram to 3 grams daily.

I also think about quercetin, which heals the gut lining, works as an antihistamine, and also regulates the immune system.

Be sure to get a high-quality quercetin product. Take between 500 mg and **3,000 mg** daily.

Zinc may [also] be an essential nutrient for gut repair. The type that shows the most promise for digestive healing is zinc carnosine.

A typical dose is 75 mg of zinc carnosine twice daily.

LE: What role does the microbiome play in overall health?

Dr. Lipski: In the last decade, research on the human microbiome has mushroomed. There are several emerging concepts and theories about the microbiome:

- 1. The emerging research suggests that the microbes that we evolved with play an enormous role in determining our overall health.
- 2. Having a wide diversity of microbes gives us great healthy resilience.
- 3. Modern people are missing chunks of microbes that used to give us greater diversity. Current research suggests that diversity is the key to optimal health.

The microbiome functions much like an organ, and it acts as a major part of the immune system. It protects us from microbial and parasitic diseases, influences the effects of drugs, affects whether we are fat or thin or happy or sad, determines our nutritional status and overall health, and contributes to our rate of aging.

LE: How can prebiotics help improve the health of your microbiome?

Dr. Lipski: Prebiotics are the food for the gut microbes. They nourish and stimulate growth of lactobacilli and bifidobacteria in the microbiome, while reducing disease-causing bacteria such as Colstridium difficile, Klebsiella, and Enterobacter.

They help build bone, keep blood sugar and insulin levels regulated, lower ammonia levels in people with liver disease, normalize serum triglyceride levels, prevent constipation and diarrhea, and protect against colon cancer.

LE: Can you explain how faulty digestion contributes to something like arthritis?

Dr. Lipski: The dietary connection between rheumatoid arthritis and food sensitivities was first noted by Michael Zeller in 1949 in *Annals of Allergy*. He found a direct cause and effect by adding and eliminating foods from the diet.

Since then, other studies have been done on the relationship between food sensitivities and arthritis. In a study of 43 people with arthritis of the hands, a water fast of three days brought improvement in tenderness, swelling, strength of grip, pain, joint circumference, function, and sedimentation (SED) rate (a simple blood test that determines a breakdown of tissue somewhere in the body).

There is documentation in the literature about arthritis and deficiencies of nearly every known nutrient. When the needed nutrients are supplied, the body can begin to balance itself.

Though many nutritional and herbal products help arthritis sufferers, no one thing works for everyone, so persist until you find the therapies that work best for you. Give each one at least a three-month trial before giving up on it.

LE: What about something like cardiometabolic health?

Dr. Lipski: As research unfolds about the microbiome, it appears that the drivers of liver disease, diabetes, and obesity are tied closely back to gut health. This is a mutual relationship that goes in both directions.

As dysbiosis increases, we also see increases in gut permeability and bacterial lipopolysaccharide (LPS), inflammation, weight gain, insulin resistance, and metabolic syndrome.

As we improve health by changing diet and lifestyle, losing weight, and rebalancing the gut and microbiome through the DIGIN model, balance is improved and risk is lessened.

LE: Once you identify the problem, what is the solution?

Dr. Lipski: The principles of repair in functional medicine are fairly simple. As one of the pioneers in the field, Sidney Baker, MD, said: Get rid of what you don't need, and get what you do need.

Remove: Nutrient-depleted food, processed foods, poor-quality fats and oils, parasites, molds, metals, chemicals, infections, and foods that don't agree with us. Remove relationships and stressors that no longer serve us.

Replace: Processed foods with whole foods, nutrients, digestive enzymes, hydrochloric acid (HCI), and bile salts. Also, replace poor lifestyle habits with better ones.

Reinoculate: Beneficial probiotics and prebiotics from food and supplements.

Repair: Using foods and supplements such as glutamine, gamma-oryzanol, duodenum glandular, N-acetyl glucosamine, fiber, Boswellia, geranium, licorice, quercetin, and more.

Rebalance: Discover your "new normal," which may be the healthiest you've ever felt or not quite as great as you'd like.

LE: It seems like this approach could take some trial and error.

Dr. Lipski: If at first you don't find major improvement, keep working at it. You may not have found the best remedy or combination of therapies on the first try.

Patience and perseverance bring the best results. It takes time to resolve chronic illnesses.

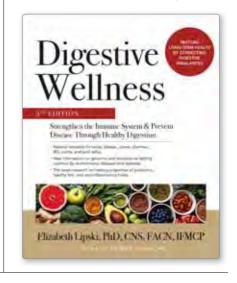
If you have any questions on the scientific content of this article, please call a **Life Extension**® Wellness Specialist at 1-866-864-3027.

Dr. Elizabeth Lipski holds a PhD in Clinical Nutrition, has two board certifications in clinical nutrition (CNS and BCHN), is certified in Functional Medicine (IFMCP), and is a Fellow of the American College of Nutrition (FACN). She is a professor and the director of the Academic Development for the Nutrition programs in Clinical Nutrition at Maryland University of Integrative Health. She is also the founder of InnovativeHealing.com and Innovative Healing Academy.

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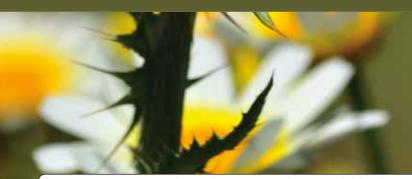
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01825 FLORASSIST® Balance

02125 FLORASSIST® GI with Phage Technology

01821 FLORASSIST® Heart Health

02250 FLORASSIST® Mood Improve

02208 FLORASSIST® Nasal

02120 FLORASSIST® Oral Hygiene

02203 FLORASSIST® Prebiotic

01920 FLORASSIST® Throat Health

52142 Jarro-Dophilus® for Women

00056 Jarro-Dophilus EPS® • 60 veg capsules

21201 Jarro-Dophilus EPS® • 120 veg capsules

01038 Theralac® Probiotics

01389 TruFlora® Probiotics

SKIN CARE

80157 Advanced Anti-Glycation Peptide Serum

80165 Advanced Growth Factor Serum

80170 Advanced Hyaluronic Acid Serum

80154 Advanced Lightening Cream

80155 Advanced Peptide Hand Therapy

80175 Advanced Probiotic-Fermented Eye Serum

80177 Advanced Retinol Serum

80152 Advanced Triple Peptide Serum

80140 Advanced Under Eye Serum with Stem Cells

80137 All-Purpose Soothing Relief Cream

80139 Amber Self MicroDermAbrasion

80118 Anti-Aging Mask

80151 Anti-Aging Rejuvenating Face Cream

80153 Anti-Aging Rejuvenating Scalp Serum

80176 Collagen Boosting Peptide Cream

80156 Collagen Boosting Peptide Serum 80169 Cucumber Hydra Peptide Eye Cream 80141 DNA Support Cream 80167 Environmental Support Serum 80163 Eye Lift Cream 80123 Face Rejuvenating Anti-Oxidant Cream 80109 Hyaluronic Facial Moisturizer 80110 Hyaluronic Oil-Free Facial Moisturizer 80138 Hydrating Anti-Oxidant Facial Mist 00661 Hydroderm 80103 Lifting & Tightening Complex 80168 Melatonin Advanced Peptide Cream 80114 Mild Facial Cleanser 80172 Multi Stem Cell Hydration Cream 80159 Multi Stem Cell Skin Tightening Complex 80122 Neck Rejuvenating Anti-Oxidant Cream 80174 Purifying Facial Mask 80150 Renewing Eye Cream 80142 Resveratrol Anti-Oxidant Serum 01938 Shade Factor™ 02129 Skin Care Collection Anti-Aging Serum 02130 Skin Care Collection Day Cream 02131 Skin Care Collection Night Cream 80166 Skin Firming Complex 02096 Skin Restoring Ceramides 80130 Skin Stem Cell Serum 80164 Skin Tone Equalizer 80143 Stem Cell Cream with Alpine Rose 80148 Tightening & Firming Neck Cream 80161 Triple-Action Vitamin C Cream 80162 Ultimate MicroDermabrasion 80173 Ultimate Peptide Serum 80160 Ultra Eyelash Booster 80101 Ultra Wrinkle Relaxer 80113 Under Eye Refining Serum 80104 Under Eye Rescue Cream 80171 Vitamin C Lip Rejuvenator 80129 Vitamin C Serum 80136 Vitamin D Lotion 80102 Vitamin K Cream **SLEEP** 01512 Bioactive Milk Peptides 02300 Circadian Sleep 01551 Enhanced Sleep with Melatonin 01511 Enhanced Sleep without Melatonin 02234 Fast-Acting Liquid Melatonin 01669 Glycine 02308 Herbal Sleep PM 01722 L-Tryptophan 00329 Melatonin • 1 mg, 60 capsules 00330 Melatonin • 3 mg, 60 veg capsules 00331 Melatonin • 10 mg, 60 veg capsules 00332 Melatonin • 3 mg, 60 veg lozenges

01668 Melatonin • 300 mcg, 100 veg capsules 01083 Melatonin • 500 mcg, 200 veg capsules 02201 Melatonin IR/XR 01787 Melatonin 6 Hour Timed Release 300 mcg, 100 veg tablets 01788 Melatonin 6 Hour Timed Release 750 mcg, 60 veg tablets 01786 Melatonin 6 Hour Timed Release 3 mg, 60 veg tablets 01721 Optimized Tryptophan Plus 01444 Quiet Sleep 01445 Quiet Sleep Melatonin

VITAMINS 01533 Ascorbyl Palmitate 00920 Benfotiamine with Thiamine 00664 Beta-Carotene 01945 BioActive Complete B-Complex 00102 Biotin 00084 Buffered Vitamin C Powder 02229 Fast-C® and Bio-Quercetin Phytosome 02075 Gamma E Mixed Tocopherol Enhanced with Sesame Lignans 02070 Gamma E Mixed Tocopherol/Tocotrienols 01913 High Potency Optimized Folate 01674 Inositol Caps Liquid Emulsified 02244 Liquid Vitamin D3 • 2,000 IU, 1 fl oz 02232 Liquid Vitamin D3 • 2,000 IU, 1 fl oz, mint 01936 Low-Dose Vitamin K2 01536 Methylcobalamin • 1 mg, 60 veg lozenges 01537 Methylcobalamin • 5 mg, 60 veg lozenges 00065 MK-7 00373 No Flush Niacin 01939 Optimized Folate (L-Methylfolate) 01217 Pyridoxal 5'-Phosphate Caps 01400 Super Absorbable Tocotrienols 02334 Super K 02335 Super K Elite 01863 Super Vitamin E 02028 Vitamin B5 (Pantothenic Acid) 01535 Vitamin B6 00361 Vitamin B12 02228 Vitamin C and Bio-Quercetin Phytosome 1,000 mg, 60 veg tablets 02227 Vitamin C and Bio-Quercetin Phytosome 1,000 mg, 250 veg tablets 01753 Vitamin D3 • 25 mcg (1,000 IU), 90 softgels 0 0 0 0 0 0

02040 Vitamins D and K with Sea-lodine™ WEIGHT MANAGEMENT & BODY COMPOSITION 00658 7-Keto® DHEA Metabolite • 25 mg, 100 capsules 02479 7-Keto® DHEA Metabolite • 100 mg, 60 veg capsules 01509 Advanced Anti-Adipocyte Formula 01807 Advanced Appetite Suppress 02207 AMPK Metabolic Activator 02478 DHEA Complete 01738 Garcinia HCA 01292 Integra-Lean®
00658 7-Keto® DHEA Metabolite • 25 mg, 100 capsules 02479 7-Keto® DHEA Metabolite • 100 mg, 60 veg capsules 01509 Advanced Anti-Adipocyte Formula 01807 Advanced Appetite Suppress 02207 AMPK Metabolic Activator 02478 DHEA Complete 01738 Garcinia HCA
02479 7-Keto® DHEA Metabolite • 100 mg, 60 veg capsules 01509 Advanced Anti-Adipocyte Formula 01807 Advanced Appetite Suppress 02207 AMPK Metabolic Activator 02478 DHEA Complete 01738 Garcinia HCA
01509 Advanced Anti-Adipocyte Formula 01807 Advanced Appetite Suppress 02207 AMPK Metabolic Activator 02478 DHEA Complete 01738 Garcinia HCA
01807 Advanced Appetite Suppress 02207 AMPK Metabolic Activator 02478 DHEA Complete 01738 Garcinia HCA
02207 AMPK Metabolic Activator 02478 DHEA Complete 01738 Garcinia HCA
02478 DHEA Complete 01738 Garcinia HCA
01738 Garcinia HCA
01292 Integra-Lean®
01908 Mediterranean Trim with Sinetrol™-XPur
01492 Optimized Irvingia with Phase 3™ Calorie Control Complex
01432 Optimized Saffron with Satiereal®
00818 Super CLA Blend with Sesame Lignans
01902 Waist-Line Control™
02151 Wellness Code® Appetite Control

WOMEN'S HEALTH

01942	Breast Health Formula
01626	Enhanced Sex for Women 50+
04004	E . C . M.

01894 Estrogen for Women

01064 Femmenessence MacaPause®

02204 Menopause 731[™] 02319 Prenatal Advantage

01441 Progesta-Care®

01649 Super-Absorbable Soy Isoflavones



Melatonin Timed Release 300 mcg 100 vegetarian tablets

Price: \$9 Item # 01787



Melatonin 3 mg

60 vegetarian capsules

Price: \$6 Item # 00330



Melatonin 500 mcg

200 vegetarian capsules

Price: \$13.50 Item# 01083



Melatonin 3 mg

60 vegetarian lozenges

Price: \$6 Item# 00332



Choose the Melatonin That's Right For You

Healthy sleep is one of the best ways to feel revitalized and maintain optimal health.

While many people find melatonin helps improve sleep, others take it nightly for its **immune** protection effects.

Individual doses range from **300 mcg** to **10 mg** taken 30-60 minutes before going to sleep.

Caution: Consult your health care provider before taking this product if you are being treated for a medical condition (especially autoimmune or depressive disorders). This product is not intended for children, pregnant or lactating women, or women trying to become pregnant. Do not consume alcohol, drive or operate machinery after taking this product.

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For occasional sleeplessness.



Melatonin Timed Release 750 mcg 60 vegetarian tablets

Price: \$6 Item # 01788



Melatonin Timed Release 3 mg

60 vegetarian tablets

Price: \$9 Item # 01786



Melatonin 1 mg

60 capsules

Price: \$3.75 Item# 00329



Enhanced Sleep with Melatonin

30 capsules

Price \$16.50 Item# 01551



Melatonin 10 mg

60 vegetarian capsules

Price: \$21 Item# 00331



Enhanced Sleep without Melatonin

30 capsules

Price: \$16.50 Item# 01511



Melatonin 300 mcg

100 vegetarian capsules

Price: \$5.25 Item# 01668



Melatonin IR/XR

60 capsules

Price: \$9 Item# 02201



For full product description and to order any of these premium-grade Melatonin supplements, call 1-800-544-4440 or visit www.LifeExtension.com

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IN THIS EDITION OF LIFE EXTENSION® MAGAZINE





7 FRACTURE PREVENTION

Researchers are seeking ways to reduce **bone fracture risk** that impacts **50**% of women and **20**% of men after age **49**.



Plant-based **nootropics** are being used to **supercharge** brain processing speed, learning, and memory.





36 CALORIC RESTRICTION WITHOUT UNDER-EATING

Plant-derived compounds mimic some of the beneficial effects that occur in response to **calorie restriction**.



Harvard geneticist **Dr. George Church** is "turning on" **youth-promoting genes** that may enable older people to grow biologically **younger**. (Photo: WYSS INSTITUTE AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY)





58 TOCOTRIENOLS PREVENT DNA DAMAGE

Human studies show that **tocotrienols** reduce DNA damage and help protect against several degenerative disorders.

69 WELLNESS PROFILE

Neuroregeneration pioneer Dr.Terry Burns believes **senolytics** and other advances will make diseases like Alzheimer's a distant memory.

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