Dietary Protein and Healthy Aging: Controversies and Mechanisms

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States of Amino Acid Nutrition



Insufficient for growth; but is this unhealthy?

Dietary protein: obsession and controversy



Adapted from:

http://detox-fit.com/fighting-worlds-protein-obsession/ https://hpjmh.com/2011/03/14/where-do-you-get-your-protein/ https://thevegandatabase.com/incomplete-plant-proteins-myth/

Dietary restriction: do macronutrients matter?



Cell 161, March 26, 2015



Ageing Research Reviews 39 (2017) 78-86

European Journal of Nutrition (2018) 57 (Suppl 2):S15-S34

Dietary Paradigms for Metabolic Health and Longevity

- Calorie restriction
- Protein restriction
- Less animal protein, replace with plant protein
- Essential amino acid restriction
- Sulfur amino acid restriction

Sulfur Amino Acid Restriction (SAAR) extends lifespan and is associated with a lean, metabolically younger phenotype



Orentreich et al. Low methionine ingestion by rats extends life span. J Nutr. (1993) 123(2):269-74.



Lees et al. Methionine restriction restores a younger metabolic phenotype in adult mice with alterations in fibroblast growth factor 21. *Aging Cell* (2014) 13:817-827. doi: 10.1111/acel.12238

Sulfur Amino Acid Restriction: Mechanisms



What's so special about SAAR?

SAAR has stronger metabolic effects versus leucine restriction (LR).

	Compared to Control diet:	
Measured after 8 wk:	<u>SAAR</u>	LR
Food intake	↑ ↑ (+38%)	↑ (+22%)
Body weight	↓↓ (-25%)	↓ (-16%)
% body fat mass	↓↓ (-30%)	↓ (-22%)
Fasting insulin	↓↓ (-81%)	↓ (-48%)
Fasting glucose	\downarrow	\leftrightarrow
Glucose clearance	↑ ↑	\uparrow
Circulating FGF21	$\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow$	\leftrightarrow
Liver triglyceride content	\downarrow	\leftrightarrow
Liver lipogenic genes	\downarrow	\leftrightarrow

Biofactors. 2015 November 12; 41(6): 391–402. doi:10.1002/biof.124 SCIENTIFIC REPORTS | 7: 9977 | DOI:10.1038/s41598-017-10381



Adapted from: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/276164612_Thiol_redox_homeostasis_in_neurodegenerative_disease/figures?lo=1

Proposed Mechanisms for how Dietary Restriction Promotes Healthspan



Integrated Stress Response



ISR Functions Adaptation Hormesis Preconditioning



Potential Areas for Collaboration:

Mechanisms linking dietary restriction with aging biology.

- Nutrient sensing pathways (ISR, mTOR)
- Proteostasis control (UPR, autophagy)
- Environmental factors (temperature, light, physical activity/exercise as medicine)

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Thank you! Questions?