



In Memory Of John Balatinecz



January 19, 1937 - August 6, 2017







The Big Ideas

- Cardiovascular disease is a *cholesterol sulfate* deficiency problem
- *Heparan sulfate* deficiency is a key factor in autism
- Most modern diseases that are on the rise are mechanisms to renew sulfate supply to the blood
- Glyphosate (the active ingredient in the pervasive herbicide Roundup) disrupts the body's ability to properly synthesize and utilize sulfate
- Taurine is a storage form of sulfate



Perinatal Taurine is Essential*

- Taurine accumulates in maternal tissues during pregnancy, and is released to the fetus during the perinatal period
- Mother's milk is rich in taurine, and it accumulates in the neonatal brain
- Taurine deficiency in the mom leads to:
 - Growth retardation in the offspring (insufficient methionine?)
 - Impaired development of central nervous system and pancreas
 - Impaired glucose tolerance and vascular dysfunction
- Gestational diabetes in offspring transmits the effects to the next generation

*L Aerts and FA Van Assche. J Perinat Med. 2002;30(4):281-6.



































Sulfate in Fetal Development*

- · Fetus depends on mother for sulfate supply
- Sulfate is essential for transporting sterols (like estrogen and DHEA) and supplying extracellular matrix proteins everywhere with sufficient negative charge
- Sulfate detoxifies xenobiotics like acetaminophen (Tylenol) and is essential for excreting toxins like aluminum and mercury
- Sulfate is severely deficient in autistic children (1/3 the normal level of free sulfate in blood stream)
- * Dawson, "Sulfate in Fetal Development," Semin Cell Dev Biol 2011























Heparan Sulfate Deficiency and Autism*

- Experiment with "designer" mice: impaired heparan sulfate synthesis in brain
- Mice exhibited all the classic features of autism – both cognitive and social



* F. Irie et al., Autism-like socio-communicative deficits and stereotypies in mice lacking heparan sulfate. PNAS Mar. 27, 2012, 109(13), 5052-5056.















Bifidobacteria modify bile acids to increase gelling potential*

- *Bifidobacteria* are the most significant microbes in the gut for deconjugating taurine and glycine from bile acids
- Release of deconjugated bile acids by Bifidobacteria causes the aqueous medium to gel

"If such a phenomenon occurs in physiological conditions of human gut, it may improve bacterial ability to colonize the gastrointestinal tract and their survival in this specific ecological niche."

*P Jarocki et al. PLOS ONE December 3, 2014; 9(12): e114379.









*Anthony Samsel, personal communication

Glyphosate impairs taurine metabolism by E coli*

Gene name	Description	Feld reduced
ompF	taurine ATP-binding component of a transport system	-11.07
opmT	taurine transport system periplasmic protein	-2.57
panC	taurine transport system permease protein	-2.07
tauA	taurine transporter subunit tauA	-5.59
tauB	taurine transporter subunit tauB	-6.09
tauC	taurine transporter subunit tauC	-4.62
potF	sulfite reductase (NADPH), floavoprotein beta subunit	-4.55
pntA	sulfite reductase, alpha subunit	-3.23

- ompF, involved in taurine transport, was the most reduced enzyme in the entire table
- Enzymes involved in both taurine transport/ metabolism and assimilatory sulfite incorporation into methionine were suppressed

*Appendix in W Lu et al. Mol BioSyst 2013 9: 522-530.



Bifidobacteria, acetate, NaCl and SO₄-2 in autism

- Autistic children have low Bifidobacteria (p = 0.002)*
- Autistic children are hyponatremic (low sodium)**
 - Recurring diarrhea (glyphosate induces leaky gut)***
 - Depletion of taurine (taurine-conjugated bile acids lost to feces)
- Autistic children have low gut acetate (p = 0.00002)*
 - Loss of acetate-producing microbes that feed on bile acids
- Autistic children have sulfate deficiency****

*JB Adams et al. BMC Gastroenterology 2011; 11:22.

- **P Good. Medical Hypotheses 2011;77:1015-1021.
- ***JJ Gildea et al. Journal of Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics 2017;3:1.1).
- ****RH Waring and LV Klovrza. J Nutr Environ Med 2000;10:25-32.

A BTBR Mouse Model of Autism*

These mice had all the mouse features of autism

They were fed "standard rodent chow" – glyphosate contaminated? Some features in the gut:

- Reduced levels of bile acids (due to impaired CYP7A1 activity in the liver)
- Further reduced levels of secondary bile acids (impaired metabolism by gut microbes)
- Reduced levels of Lactobacillus and Bifidobacteria
 - These microbes are preferentially killed by glyphosate
- Serotonin deficiency
 - Serotonin is derived from tryptophan, a product of the shikimate pathway which glyphosate disrupts
 - *AV Glubeva et al. EBioMedicine. 2017 Oct;24:166-178.



Hormones Enhance Sulfate Levels*

- Sulfate is the fourth most common anion in the body
- Serum sulfate is elevated in infants, young children and pregnant women.
- Estrogen, progesterone, growth hormone and insulin-like growth factor all enhance the expression of the sodium-sulfate cotransporter, increasing serum sulfate levels.



*HJ Lee et al. Proc Soc Exp Biol Med. 2000;225(1):49-57.



Sulfate Deficient Mice*

Mice missing the sodium sulfate cotransporter gene (NaSi-/- mice) survived in utero but exhibited several metabolic problems:

- Severely reduced serum sulfate levels (75% reduction)
- Significantly reduced litter size and miscarriages
- A seizure disorder
- Stunted growth
- Increased liver size
- 1.5 to 2-fold increased phenol sulfotransferase activity

*PA Dawson et al. PNAS 2003; 100(23): 13704-13709.

Sulfate Deficient Mice*

Mice missing the sodium sulfate cotransporter gene

Toxic phenol-sulfate metabolites are implicated in autism**

- A seizure disorder
- Stunted growth
- Increased liver size
- 1.5 to 2-fold increased phenol sulfotransferase activity

*PA Dawson et al. PNAS 2003; 100(23): 13704-13709.







Glyphosate disrupts eNOS!

- Glyphosate chelates cobalt, zinc and iron, making them unavailable
- Glyphosate interferes with the synthesis of pyrrole, the precursor to heme (in eNOS)
- Glyphosate depletes glutathione by interfering with methionine synthesis by gut microbes
- Glyphosate depletes melanin in the skin (product of shikimate pathway)
 - Impaired conversion of UV light to visible light
- Glyphosate disrupts tryptophan synthesis, depleting NAD
- eNOS has two highly conserved glycine residues
 - Essential for attaching to the membrane and forming a dimer







Elevated Homocysteine and Heart Disease*

- 587 patients with coronary artery disease followed over median period of 4.6 years
- Homocysteine > 15 µmol/Liter
 → 6.5-fold increase
 - in death rate compared to

homocysteine < 10 µmol/Liter

*P.O. Lim et al., Journal of Human Hypertension (2002) 16, 411–415.










Heparan Sulfate Deficiency in Autism

Humans:

"Heparan sulfate deficiency in autistic postmortem brain tissue from the subventricular zone of the lateral ventricles"*

Mice:

"Hippocampus/amygdala alterations, loss of heparan sulfates, fractones and ventricle wall reduction in adult BTBR T+ tf/J mice, animal model for autism"**

> *BL Pearson et al. Behav Brain Res. 2013; 243: 138–145 **F Mercier et al. Neurosci Lett 2012;506(2):208-13.

Entropy 2013, 15, 372-406; doi:10.3390/e15010372

COPEN ACCESS

Solution

Review

Is Encephalopathy a Mechanism to Renew Sulfate in Autism?

Stephanie Seneff ¹**, Ann Lauritzen ², Robert M. Davidson ³ and Laurie Lentz-Marino ⁴

Chronic low-grade encephalopathy
(brain inflammation) characterizes autism.
Signaling cascade in the brain leads to taurine
release and hypothesized synthesis of sulfate
from taurine by microbes



Chlamydia pneumoniae

- Cause pneumonia when they infect the lungs
- Show up frequently in cardiovascular plaque
- Show up frequently in Alzheimer's plaque



What are they doing there???















- Suppresses carcinogenesis in skin, stomach, colon, breast and liver
- Induces apoptosis in a wide variety of tumor cells
- Downregulates various proinflammatory cytokines



There is a low incidence of colorectal cancer in India where curcumin is heavily used in curries

* SK Varid et al, Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev 2008;17:1411-1417.









Curcumin Prevents Diabetes*

CONCLUSIONS:

"A 9-month curcumin intervention in a prediabetic population significantly lowered the number of prediabetic individuals who eventually developed type 2 diabetes. In addition, the curcumin treatment appeared to improve overall function of [pancreatic] betacells, with very minor adverse effects."

*S Chuengsamarn et al., Diabetes Car 35, 2012, 2121-2127













How Much Does it Cost?		
Food	Organic	Conventional
celery	2.99	1.99
cauliflower	4.99	2.99
Bartlett pears	2.69	1.99
orange juice	3.99	2.99
eggs	5.69	3.99
milk	4.69	2.99
cereal	4.56	3.91
TOTAL	29.60	20.85
increase	bill by ~	40%





Are We Getting Enough Sulfur in Our Diet?*

- Most abundant mineral element behind calcium and phosphorus
- Chondroitin sulfate, glucosamine sulfate, etc. used to treat diseases of the joints

"Out of this study came information that suggested that a significant proportion of the population that included disproportionally the *aged*, may not be receiving sufficient sulfur and that these dietary supplements, were very likely exhibiting their pharmacological actions by supplying inorganic *sulfur*."

*ME Nimni et al., Nutrition & Metabolism 2007, 4:24



Some sulfur-containing supplements

- Biotin
- Taurine
- N-acetyl Cysteine
- Glutathione
- S-adenosyl Methionine
- Alpha Lipoic Acid
- DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide)
- MSM (methyl sulfonyl methane)
- DMPS (chelating agent)
- Epsom Salts







Epsom Salts!

Magnesium Sulfate in hot bath water is a cheap and easy way to get sulfate supply to the skin Infrared heat also beneficial!







Summary

- *Cholesterol sulfate* is an essential molecule in the body to maintain vascular health
 - Produced in the skin upon sunlight exposure
- *Heparan sulfate* plays multiple roles in the body and its deficiency is linked to autism
- Bile acids play an essential role in supplying taurine to the body, and taurine is an essential storage form of sulfate

 Taurine deficiency may be a key factor in autism
- *Glyphosate* is a pervasive toxicant that is causing a major health crisis in the US
 - Much of its toxicity relates to disruption of gut microbes
- An organic whole foods diet rich in sulfur, cholesterol and polyphenols has many health benefits
- It is essential to get abundant *sunlight exposure* to the skin without sunscreen

