



Outline

- Introduction
- Gut Microbes Supply Deuterium-depleted Nutrients to the Host
- Glyphosate Suppresses Dehydrogenases
- Disrupted Glycolysis Leads to Fatty Liver Disease and Hyperlipidemia
- Methionine Deficiency and Methylation Pathways
- Glyphosate Damages Mitochondria
- Collagen, Proline and Deuterium
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Summary

3

Introduction

A Personal Time Line

- 2007-2012 Autism
 - Autism is a complex developmental disorder associated with gut dysbiosis and defective methylation and sulfation pathways. Autism rates are alarmingly on the rise in the United States over the past two decades.
- 2012-2019 Glyphosate
 - Glyphosate is a pervasive herbicide in our food supply. Autism rates in the US have risen exactly in step with glyphosate usage on core crops. Glyphosate disrupts the gut microbiome and methylation and sulfation pathways.
- 2020-2023 Deuterium
 - Deuterium is a natural heavy isotope of hydrogen. Deuterium is highly damaging to the mitochondria, which produce ATP as an energy source for the cell. Organisms have developed sophisticated strategies to keep deuterium levels low in the mitochondria. These strategies depend critically on gut microbes and sulfation and methylation pathways.

5

The Big Picture

- Deuterium is a natural heavy isotope of hydrogen
 - It is present in the blood at 5x the concentration of calcium
- Deuterium breaks the ATPase pumps in the mitochondria, causing energy loss and generating reactive oxygen species (ROS)
- Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide (NAD) is a major carrier of deuteriumdepleted ("deupleted") hydrogen (as NADH)
- Methylation pathways preserve low-deuterium methyl groups
- Glyphosate suppresses many proteins involved in deuterium homeostasis

<text><list-item><list-item> Deuterium = "Heavy" Hydrogen Hydrogen has one proton and one electron Deuterium has one proton, one electron and one neutron ~ Twice as heavy as hydrogen Present in ocean water at 155.8 ppm Has distinct physical and chemical properties compared to hydrogen Fats are low in deuterium compared to other foods Deuterium management in the body involves trapping deuterium in collagen matrices and invoking specialized enzymes that choose hydrogen over deuterium for their reaction in order to fuel the mitochondria with hydrogen rather than deuterium.

7

Ketogenic Diet and DDW: Health Benefits*

- Deuterium depleted water (DDW) is essential for mitochondria to function properly
- People whose water supply is naturally depleted in deuterium are healthier
- Deuterium depletion maintains strong hydrogen bond networks in DNA (keeps it stable)
- DDW inhibits tumor progression
- A ketogenic diet is a deupleted diet



*Laszlo G Boros et al. Medical Hypotheses 2016; 87: 69-74.



My Book on Glyphosate

- Released by Chelsea Green in July 2021
- Presents extensive data on glyphosate toxicity to animals and humans
- Shows how glyphosate interferes with sulfate homeostasis
- Argues that glyphosate is insidiously, cumulatively toxic through its diabolical insertion into proteins by mistake in place of the coding amino acid glycine
 - This unique feature explains why it is causal in so many diseases

This book was selected by Kirkus Reviews as one of the top 100 non-fiction books of 2021







Gut Microbes Supply Deuterium-depleted Nutrients to the Host



13

The Big Picture

- Gut microbes produce hydrogen gas that is remarkably depleted in deuterium
 - This gas is recycled back into organic nutrients by other microbes → the nutrients are also deuterium depleted
- The enzymes involved have strong dependencies on glycine residues that could be substituted by glyphosate
 - Intestinal bloating and gas pain may be caused by impaired hydrogen recycling due to glyphosate exposure
- Hydrogen enriched water and other hydrogen therapies show therapeutic promise
 - Is the benefit due to the low deuterium in the hydrogen gas?
- DNA methylation may be a storage mechanism for low-deuterium nutrients



Hydrogen gas produced by microbes anaerobically from glucose or formate is depleted down to 30 ppm deuterium*
"Mass spectrometric analyses of the hydrogen produced by growing cells showed a deuterium content of about 30 ppm. (i.e., depleted by a factor of 4.4 to 5.1...)."
The same was true whether glucose or formate was the substrate.
The intracellular water and cellular hydrogen were not significantly depleted in deuterium.
*MI Krichevsky et al. JBC 1961 236(9): 2520-2525.

What happens to the hydrogen gas? Hydrogen-producing bacteria Sulfate-reducing Acetogenic **Methanogens** bacteria bacteria Hydrogen Methane thiol Methane Acetate **CH**₃SH CH₄ CH₃COOH Methionine CO_2 , H_2O , NADH Acetyl-CoA Hydrogen Cycling







Dissimilatory sulfate reduction induced by glyphosate

- Multiple enzymes involved in *assimilatory* sulfate reduction in E coli are disrupted by glyphosate (PAPS reductase, APS kinase, sulfite reductase)*
 - Causes deficiency in methionine and other sulfur-containing amino acids
 - Leads to increase in Desulfovibrio and Bilophila wadsworthia species
 - Dissimilatory sulfate reduction \rightarrow excessive hydrogen sulfide gas \rightarrow brain fog
- Disrupted sulfur assimilation leads to impaired iron absorption**
 - Iron deficiency anemia is an epidemic worldwide

*W Lu et al. Mol Biosyst. 2013 Mar;9(3):522-30. **BH Hudson et al. PNAS 2018 ePub ahead of print.















Glyphosate Suppresses Dehydrogenases

The Big Picture

- Methane gas is converted by gut microbes in a series of steps into methanol, formaldehyde, formate, and ultimately carbon dioxide
- The enzymes that extract hydrogen from methanol, formaldehyde and formate are called *dehydrogenases*.
 - This class of enzymes is suppressed by glyphosate.
- These enzymes generate *NADH* (H originally from hydrogen gas) to fuel the mitochondria with hydrogen that is low in deuterium
- Methionine's methyl group (derived from methane) is the universal methyl donor
- Many methyl groups are attached to large molecules such as DNA, RNA, histones and other proteins
 - Do these methyls serve as a storage form of low-deuterium hydrogens?



Enzymes Use Hydrogen Tunneling to Avoid Deuterium

- A deuterium kinetic isotope effect (KIE) defines an enzyme's ability to deliver a proton to the product, rather than a deuteron
- Many dehydrogenases have a high deuterium KIE (>>1)
- An essential aspect of enzymatic action involves hydrogen tunneling (quantum physics)
- Protons are far more efficient at tunneling than deuterons



Image credit: Graphical Abstract. Luca Nanni. Chemical Physics 2023; 574: 112054.





Hypothesis: Glyphosate Disrupts Proteins that Bind Phosphate

- Glyphosate is a glycine molecule with a methylphosphonate unit attached to the nitrogen atom
- Glyphosate kills weeds by suppressing EPSP synthase in the shikimate pathway
- Glyphosate blocks EPSP synthase binding to the phosphate in PEP
- The binding site for PEP has a highly conserved glycine residue
 - If this glycine is swapped out for alanine, the enzyme becomes completely insensitive to glyphosate
 - This is the basis for many GMO glyphosate-resistant crops*







Does Glyphosate Disrupt FAD binding in Dehydrogenases?

- Many dehydrogenases are *flavoproteins*. They bind flavin-adenine dinucleotide (FAD) at a site with at least one highly conserved glycine residue. FAD facilitates the transfer of protons and electrons
- A region near the carboxyl-terminal segment of FAD-binding dehydrogenases contains a highly conserved glycine-aspartate pair
- Mutation of Gly-478 to alanine in a Bacillus NADH dehydrogenase caused complete loss of activity, due to loss of binding capacity to FAD*
- Gly-478 is preceded by alanine, a small amino acid, leaving room for glyphosate's methylphosphonate unit

*Masato Shiraki and Noriyuki Kayama. Current Microbiology 2003; 46: 432–434.

35





Some dehydrogenases that are downregulated in E. coli when exposed to glyphosate*

- NADH dehydrogenase
- glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase
- succinate dehydrogenase
- malate dehydrogenase
- α -ketoglutarate dehydrogenase
- 2-deoxy-D-gluconate dehydrogenase
- acetaldehyde-CoA dehydrogenase
- D-amino acid dehydrogenase
- D-lactate dehydrogenase
- NADP-specific glutamate dehydrogenase
- 3-isopropylmalate dehydrogenase
- D-3-phosphoglycerate dehydrogenase

*Wei Lu et al. Molecular BioSystems 2013; 9: 522-530.

Some dehydrogenases that are downregulated in E. coli when exposed to glyphosate*

- NADH dehydrogenase
- glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase
- succinate dehydrogenase
- malate dehydrogenase
- α-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase
- 2-deoxy-D-gluconate dehydrogenase
- acetaldehyde-CoA dehydrogenase
- D-amino acid dehydrogenase
- D-lactate dehydrogenase
- NADP-specific glutamate dehydrogenase
- 3-isopropylmalate dehydrogenase
- D-3-phosphoglycerate dehydrogenase

*Wei Lu et al. Molecular BioSystems 2013; 9: 522-530.

39







The Big Picture

- Glycolysis is the "pre-processing" step that takes place in the cytoplasm and converts glucose into pyruvate
- Many steps in glycolysis help to deplete deuterium in protons
- At least two critical dehydrogenases in glycolysis have strong glyphosate susceptibility motifs
- Genetic mutations in these genes lead to serious health issues, including glycation damage, microcephaly, seizures, cognitive impairment and liver damage



Glycolysis and Glyphosate

- Glycolysis is the anaerobic pathway in the cytoplasm that converts glucose to pyruvate
- Pyruvate feeds into the citric acid cycle in the mitochondria and gets fully metabolized to carbon dioxide and water
- Glycolysis involves several enzymes that deplete deuterium
- Triosephosphate isomerase is an important enzyme in glycolysis that yields a deupleted proton that is then attached to NAD+ to make NADH
- The dehydrogenase that yields NADH has a strong glyphosatesusceptibility motif









GLUCOSE Hypoxia Inflammation Oxidative stress D-Lactate GLUCOSE "Diabetic complications, glyoxalase-1 insulin resistance, METHYLGLYOXAL DHAP G3P atherosclerosis, hypertension, cancer, disorders of the central MG-H1 protein nervous system.*" "Da Epigenetics Diabetic complications, insulin resistance, *Graphical Abstract. CG Schalkwijk and CDA Stehouwer. atherosclerosis, hypertension, cancer, disorders of the central nervous system Physiol Rev 2020; 100:407-461. 50







Some dehydrogenases that are downregulated in E. coli when exposed to glyphosate*

- NADH dehydrogenase
- glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase
- succinate dehydrogenase
- malate dehydrogenase
- α-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase
- 2-deoxy-D-gluconate dehydrogenase
- acetaldehyde-CoA dehydrogenase
- D-amino acid dehydrogenase
- D-lactate dehydrogenase
- NADP-specific glutamate dehydrogenase
- 3-isopropylmalate dehydrogenase
- D-3-phosphoglycerate dehydrogenase

*Wei Lu et al. Molecular BioSystems 2013; 9: 522-530.





Methionine Deficiency and Methylation Pathways

The Big Picture

- Methylation pathways attach methyl groups to histones and to the cytosines in DNA molecules
- The methylation pattern of histones and DNA greatly influences gene expression
- · Cancer is associated with hypomethylated DNA
- Methyls are metabolized while still attached to DNA, and the reaction yields succinate, an important source of protons in the mitochondria
- Methionine is the original source of the methyls, so they are normally severely depleted in deuterium content
- Supplemental methionine is problematic because it is usually synthesized in the chemistry lab rather than biologically synthesized
- Rat studies have shown that methionine deficiency leads to longevity, but these studies are fatally flawed











"Dietary" Methionine Deficiency Induces Longevity

"Forty percent methionine restriction decreases mitochondrial oxygen radical production and leak at complex I during forward electron flow and lowers oxidative damage to proteins and mitochondrial DNA in rat kidney and brain mitochondria."*

- Rats were fed synthetic amino acids instead of natural proteins
- Treated group got 40% reduced supply of synthetic methionine
 - They relied on methionine synthesized by the gut microbes
 - Their methyl groups were therefore greatly reduced in deuterium
 - Less deuterium in the mitochondria led to reduced ROS

*P Caro et al. Rejuvenation Res. 2009; 12(6): 421-34.

OH

 NH_2





Glyphosate Suppresses Succinate Dehydrogenase

- Study on glyphosate's effects on E. coli proteins found that glyphosate significantly suppressed three different components of the succinate dehydrogenase complex*
- In vitro study on rat liver mitochondria in isolation exposed to Roundup found significant suppression of succinate dehydrogenase**
- Analysis of mechanism of glyphosate suppression suggested it disrupted binding of succinate dehydrogenase to FAD***
- Succinate dehydrogenase has the sequence "GAGGAG" (Gly-Ala-Gly-Gly-Ala-Gly) at the site where it binds FAD

*W Lu et al., Mol. Biosys. 9 (2013) 522–530. **Francisco Peixoto Chemosphere 61 (2005) 1115-1122. ***R Ugarte. Computational Theor. Chem. 1043 (2014) 54–63.












The Big Picture

- One third of the proteins in the human body are collagen molecules!
- Collagen forms the glue that holds the body together
- Collagen's triple helix structure gives it strength and elasticity
- Collagen has long sequences of GxyGxy... that are susceptible to glyphosate substitution
 - Many glycine mutations lead to connective tissue disorders
- Collagen is highly enriched in proline and hydroxyproline as well
- Proline has special properties that allow collagen to trap and sequester deuterium
- Peptidyl prolyl isomerase (PPIase) is a crucial class of enzymes that orchestrate collagen folding and trap deuterium in the endoplasmic reticulum
- Proline plays a major role in cancer cell metabolism















Healthy Lifestyle





Deuterium in Foods and Mast-Cell Activation Syndrome*

- Mast cells release histamines during an allergic reaction
- Deuterium increases histamine release from mast cells
- Plants get rid of deuterium by storing it in sugar and starch
 - Fruits, root vegetables (potato) and grains are high in deuterium
 - Meats from grain-fed animals are high in deuterium
- Leafy green vegetables, animal fats (lard, tallow, butter) and plant fats (avocado, coconut, olive oil) are low in deuterium
- Grass-fed beef and the dairy products derived from pastured cows are excellent sources of low-deuterium fat



*https://healinghistamine.com/deuterium-histamine-intolerance/

Waterfalls are Therapeutic!*

- Waterfalls produce inhalable, negatively charged nano-water particles known as "Lenard ions" or ballo-electric ions
- These particles are likely to be deuterium depleted

"Conclusions: Our study provides new data, which strongly support an "added value" of exposure to waterfall microclimate when combined with a therapeutic sojourn at high altitude including regular physical activity."

• Ocean waves probably have a similar effect



*C Grafetstätter et al. Physiol Anthropol. 2017; 36: 10.





"The Jungle Effect: Healthiest Diets from Around the World" by Daphne Miller, MD

- Iceland was one of the places she studied
- Diet consists of fish, sheep, seabirds, potatoes, and other simple vegetables
- Iceland also has glacier water which is low in deuterium, and basalt which is high in sulfur (maintain sulfate levels)
 - Many sulfur hot springs with therapeutic benefit
- After a major eruption in the 1800's, many islanders moved to northern Canada
 - They lost their health benefits



87





Supplemental Sources of Sulfur*

- glucosamine sulfate
- chondroitin sulfate
- glutathione
- N-acetylcysteine
- alpha lipoic acid
- taurine
- DMSO, MSM
- S-adenosylmethionine (SAMe)
- Epsom salts (Mg-sulfate)

These can have many beneficial effects and are nearly nontoxic

My personal favorite is Epsom salt baths: Magnesium sulfate uptake through the skin

*S Parcell, Alternative Medicine Review 7(1), 2002, 22-44





<section-header><image>







Summary

- The herbicide glyphosate is pervasive in our food supply, and it is far more toxic than our regulators are willing to admit
- Glyphosate's mechanism of toxicity is unique, and it likely involves substituting for the amino acid glycine by mistake during protein synthesis in susceptible proteins
- Glyphosate disrupts sulfation and methylation pathways, which results in mitochondrial dysfunction due to excessive deuterium accumulation
- Mitochondria exposed to too much deuterium become dysfunctional, spewing out reactive oxygen species and producing insufficient ATP
- Collagen traps deuterium in proline residues, but is highly susceptible to glyphosate toxicity
- Many modern diseases are associated with mitochondrial dysfunction