

# **NeuroPress**<sup>™</sup>

## Neuroprotection

Synergistic vitamin, antioxidant, and mushroom formula

Our NeuroPress<sup>™</sup> formula contains *alpha*-lipoic acid, benfotiamine, and lion's mane for its neuroprotective effects.<sup>[1]</sup> NeuroPress<sup>™</sup> can be used to support diabetic neuropathy as well as chemotherapyinduced neuropathy. It is a multifaceted formula to address neuropathic pain through proposed mechanisms: mitochondrial regulation, antioxidation, nerve regeneration, myelin protection, vitamin B<sub>1</sub> deficiency, and glucose management.

#### ALA

*alpha*-Lipoic acid's neuroprotective potential has been investigated in various conditions. These conditions include diabetic neuropathy,<sup>[2][3][4][5]</sup> carpal-tunnel syndrome,<sup>[6][7]</sup> sciatica,<sup>[8]</sup> and peripheral neuropathy related to cancer chemotherapy treatment.

The effect of *alpha*-lipoic acid has been investigated in an in vitro model of chemotherapy induced peripheral neuropathy. Lipoic acid was shown to exert neuroprotective effects against cisplatin and paclitaxel induced neurotoxicity in sensory neurons. This neuroprotective effect is achieved through *alpha*-lipoic acid's antioxidant and mitochondrial regulatory functions, possibly inducing the expression of frataxin.<sup>[9]</sup> An in vivo study on rats examined the effect of *alpha*-lipoic acid on cisplatininduced neurotoxicity. *alpha*-Lipoic acid started 1 day before cisplatin injection, for a total of 7 days, was found to restore conventional conduction velocity and conduction velocity distribution disturbed by cisplatin.<sup>[10]</sup>

A clinical trial investigated the use of *alpha*-lipoic acid to counteract docetaxel plus cisplatin–related peripheral neuropathy. The study included 14 cancer patients who experienced at least one symptom of paresthesia, dysesthesia, or pain, including a burning sensation, after receiving docetaxel plus cisplatin. *alpha*-Lipoic acid (600 mg) was administered intravenously once a week for 3–5 weeks, followed by 600 mg oral *alpha*-lipoic acid three times per day. Treatment with *alpha*-lipoic acid resulted in an improvement in neurological symptoms (by  $\geq$  1 WHO



toxicity score) in six patients with grade 2, and two patients with grade 3 peripheral neuropathy.<sup>[11]</sup>

#### Benfotiamine

Benfotiamine has antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-AGEs, and neuroprotective effects in neurodegenerative diseases, and has impacts on neuronal plasticity.<sup>[12]</sup> Human clinical trials have demonstrated that benfotiamine is a useful treatment for painful diabetic neuropathy.<sup>[13][14][15][16]</sup>

A randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, two-center pilot study examined the effect of benfotiamine in 40 patients with a history of type 1 or 2 diabetes and polyneuropathy for longer than two years. Over the three-week study period, 20 patients received 50 mg benfotiamine four times daily, and 20 patients received placebo. A statistically significant (p = 0.0287) improvement in the neuropathy score was observed in the treatment group compared to the placebo group. The most pronounced patient assessment was a decrease in pain (p = 0.0414), and more patients in the benfotiamine group considered their clinical condition to have improved (p = 0.052).<sup>[17]</sup> A double-blind, randomized, placebocontrolled, parallel group pilot study investigated the effect of benfotiamine on 22 participants with type 1 or type 2 diabetes mellitus and diabetic sensorimotor polyneuropathy. The treatment group received 600 mg/d benfotiamine for 3 months, followed by 300 mg/d until the study end. At 6 months, the investigators found that benfotiamine reduced neuropathic symptoms based on the Michigan Neuropathy Screening Instrument Questionnaire (p = 0.036).<sup>[18]</sup>

An animal study in mice and rats demonstrated the effects of benfotiamine on paclitaxel-induced peripheral neuropathy. Positive effects included amelioration of all electrophysical changes in peripheral motor nerves, decreased histological effects on sciatic nerve, and increased sensitivity to cold and hot.<sup>[19]</sup>

#### Lion's mane (Hericium erinaceus)

Human clinical trials have demonstrated the safe and beneficial effects of lion's mane for the improvement of cognitive function.<sup>[20][21][22]</sup> In vivo and in vitro animal studies have demonstrated lion's mane's neuroprotective and regenerative capabilities for treating peripheral nerve injuries.<sup>[22][24]</sup>

#### Each vegetable capsule contains:

DL- <i>alpha</i> -Lipoic acid	200 mg
Benfotiamine	. 66 mg
Lion's mane (Hericium erinaceus) extract,	
40% polysaccharides, 35% <i>beta</i> -glucans	166 mg

**Suggested use:** Take 1 capsule three times daily. Please consult your health-care practitioner or naturopathic doctor for use over 1 month.

**Cautions and warnings:** Consult a health-care practitioner prior to use if you are pregnant or breast-feeding or if you have diabetes. Stop use and consult a health-care practitioner if you experience sweating, paleness, chills, headache, dizziness and/ or confusion (as these may be symptoms of serious low blood sugar).

### References

- Friedman, M. "Chemistry, nutrition, and health-promoting properties of *Hericium* erinaceus (lion's mane) mushroom fruiting bodies and mycelia and their bioactive compounds." *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, Vol. 63, No. 32 (2015): 7108–7123.
- Agathos, E., A. Tentolouris, I. Eleftheriadou, P. Katsaouni, I. Nemtzas, A. Petrou, C. Papanikolaou, and N. Tentolouris. "Effect of α-lipoic acid on symptoms and quality of life in patients with painful diabetic neuropathy." *The Journal of International Medical Research*, Vol. 46, No. 5 (2018): 1779–1790.
- Ziegler, D., A. Ametov, A. Barinov, P.J. Dyck, I. Gurieva, P.A. Low, U. Munzel, et al. "Oral treatment with α-lipoic acid improves symptomatic diabetic polyneuropathy: The SYDNEY 2 trial." *Diabetes Care*, Vol. 29, No. 11 (2006): 2365–2370.
- Garcia-Alcala, H., C.I. Santos Vichido, S. Islas Macedo, C.N. Genestier-Tamborero, M. Minutti-Palacios, O. Hirales Tamez, C. García, and D. Ziegler. "Treatment with α-lipoic acid over 16 weeks in type 2 diabetic patients with symptomatic polyneuropathy who responded to initial 4-week high-dose loading." *Journal of Diabetes Research*, Vol. 2015 (2015): 189857.
- Han, Y., M. Wang, J. Shen, Z. Zhang, M. Zhao, J. Huang, Y. Chen, Z. Chen, Y. Hu, and Y. Wang, "Differential efficacy of methylcobalamin and alpha-lipoic acid treatment on symptoms of diabetic peripheral neuropathy." *Minerva Endocrinologica*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (2018): 11–18.
- Monroy Guízar, E.A., L. García Benavides, A.R. Ambriz Plascencia, S. Pascoe González, S.E. Totsuka Sutto, E.G. Cardona Muñoz, and M. Méndez-Del Villar. "Effect of alpha-lipoic acid on clinical and neurophysiologic recovery of carpal tunnel syndrome: A doubleblind, randomized clinical trial." *Journal of Medicinal Food*, Vol. 21, No. 5 (2018): 521–526.
- Boriani F., D. Granchi, G. Roatti, L. Merlini, T. Sabattini, and N. Baldini. "alpha-Lipoic acid after median nerve decompression at the carpal tunnel: A randomized controlled trial." *The Journal of Hand Surgery*, Vol. 42, No. 4 (2017): 236–242.
- Memeo, A., and M. Loiero. "Thioctic acid and acetyl-L-carnitine in the treatment of sciatic pain caused by a herniated disc: A randomized, double-blind, comparative study." *Clinical Drug Investigation*, Vol. 28, No. 8 (2008): 495–500.
- Melli, G., M. Taiana, F. Camozzi, D. Triolo, P. Podini, A. Quattrini, F. Taroni, and G. Lauria. "alpha-Lipoic acid prevents mitochondrial damage and neurotoxicity in experimental chemotherapy neuropathy." *Experimental Neurology*, Vol. 214, No. 2 (2008): 276–284.
- Tuncer, S., N. Dalkilic, M.A. Dunbar, and B. Keles. "Comparative effects of alpha lipoic acid and melatonin on cisplatin-induced neurotoxicity." *The International Journal of Neuroscience*, Vol. 120, No. 10 (2010): 655–663.
- Gedlicka, C., G.V. Kornek, K. Schmid, and W. Scheithauer. "Amelioration of docetaxel/ cisplatin induced polyneuropathy by α-lipoic acid." Annals of Oncology, Vol. 14, No. 2 (2003): 339–340.
- Sambon, M., P. Wins, and L. Bettendorff. "Neuroprotective effects of thiamine and precursors with higher bioavailability: Focus on benfotiamine and dibenzoylthiamine." *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*, Vol. 22, No. 11 (2021): 5418.

- Haupt, E., H. Ledermann, and W. Köpcke. "Benfotiamine in the treatment of diabetic polyneuropathy—A three-week randomized, controlled pilot study (BEDIP Study)." International Journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Vol. 43, No. 2 (2005): 71–77. [Erratum in International Journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Vol. 43, No. 6 (2005): 304.]
- Stirban, O.A., H. Zeller-Stefan, J. Schumacher, W. Gaus, D. Ziegler, T. Schuerholz, and R. Pop-Busui. "Treatment with benfotiamine in patients with diabetic sensorimotor polyneuropathy: A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel group pilot study over 12 months." *Journal of Diabetes and Its Complications*, Vol. 34, No. 12 (2020): 107757.
- Stracke, H., W. Gaus, U. Achenbach, K. Federlin, and R.G. Bretzel. "Benfotiamine in diabetic polyneuropathy (BENDIP): Results of a randomised, double blind, placebocontrolled clinical study." *Experimental and Clinical Endocrinology & Diabetes*, Vol. 116, No. 10 (2008): 600–605.
- Nikolić, A, A. Kacar, D. Lavrnić, I. Basta, and S. Apostolski. "[The effect of benfothiamine in the therapy of diabetic polyneuropathy]" (article in Serbian). Srpski Arhiv Za Celokupno Lekarstvo, Vol. 137, No. 11–12 (2009): 594–600.
- 17. Haput, Ledermann, and Köpcke. "Benfotiamine in the treatment of diabetic polyneuropathy."
- 18. Stirban et al. "Treatment with benfotiamine."
- Dizaye, K.F., and C.Y. Qadir. "Effects of benfotiamine and methylcobalamin on paclitaxel induced peripheral neuropathy." *Middle East Journal of Internal Medicine*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2014): 9–19.
- Mori, K., S. Inatomi, K. Ouchi, Y. Azumi, and T. Tuchida. "Improving effects of the mushroom Yamabushitake (*Hericium erinaceus*) on mild cognitive impairment: A doubleblind placebo-controlled clinical trial." *Phytotherapy Research*, Vol. 23, No. 3 (2009): 367–372.
- Saitsu, Y., A. Nishide, K. Kikushima, K. Shimizu, and K. Ohnuki. "Improvement of cognitive functions by oral intake of *Hericium erinaceus.*" *Biomedical Research*, Vol. 40, No. 4 (2019): 125–131.
- Li, I.-C., H.-H. Chang, C.-H. Lin, W.-P. Chen, T.-H. Lu, L.-Y. Lee, Y.-W. Chen, Y.-P. Chen, C.-C. Chen, and D.P.-C. Lin. "Prevention of early Alzheimer's disease by erinacine A-enriched Hericium erinaceus mycelia pilot double-blind placebo-controlled study." Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience, Vol. 12 (2020): 155.
- Üstün, R., and P. Ayhan. "Regenerative activity of *Hericium erinaceus* on axonal injury model using in vitro laser microdissection technique." *Neurological Research*, Vol. 41, No. 3 (2019): 265–274.
- Wong, K.-H., G. Kanagasabapathy, M. Naidu, P. David, and V. Sabaratnam. Hericium erinaceus (Bull.: Fr.) Pers., a medicinal mushroom, activates peripheral nerve regeneration." Chinese Journal of Integrative Medicine, Vol. 22, No. 10 (2016): 759–767.