

# **INFLUENCE OF SELECTED IMMUNOMODATORS FOR NUTRITIONAL HEALTH OF HUMAN HEALTH**

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## Natural immunostimulators

constitute a large group of products and preparations of plant, animal or bacterial origin that stimulate the immune system.

These products and the compounds isolated from them, in addition to immunostimulating properties, have also an anti-inflammatory and antiseptic properties. They can be a support for conventional therapy.

Dymarska (2017)

# Immunomodulators – the mechanism of action:

- regulate the structure of chromatin, which determines the activation or repression of the transcription process;
- affect the efficiency of DNA repair processes and genome stability;
- regulate directly the activity of nuclear receptors and indirectly the level of transcription of genes controlled by receptors that act as transcription factors.

# Immunomodulators groups

## Plant

**β - glucan**  
**Ascorbic acid**  
**Lycopene**  
**Lutein**  
**Flavonoids**  
**Tokochochromanols**  
**Phenolic acids**

## Animal

**Eicosapentanoic acid  
(EPA)**  
**Docosahexaenoic  
acid (DHA)**  
**Cconjugated linoleic  
acid (CLA)**

## Microbiological

**Prebiotics (fiber)**  
**Probiotics (bacteria)**

**Glutamine, L-arginine, Lecithin, Vitamins, Minerals**

# $\beta$ -glucans

**in hypercholesterolemia 5g/d:**

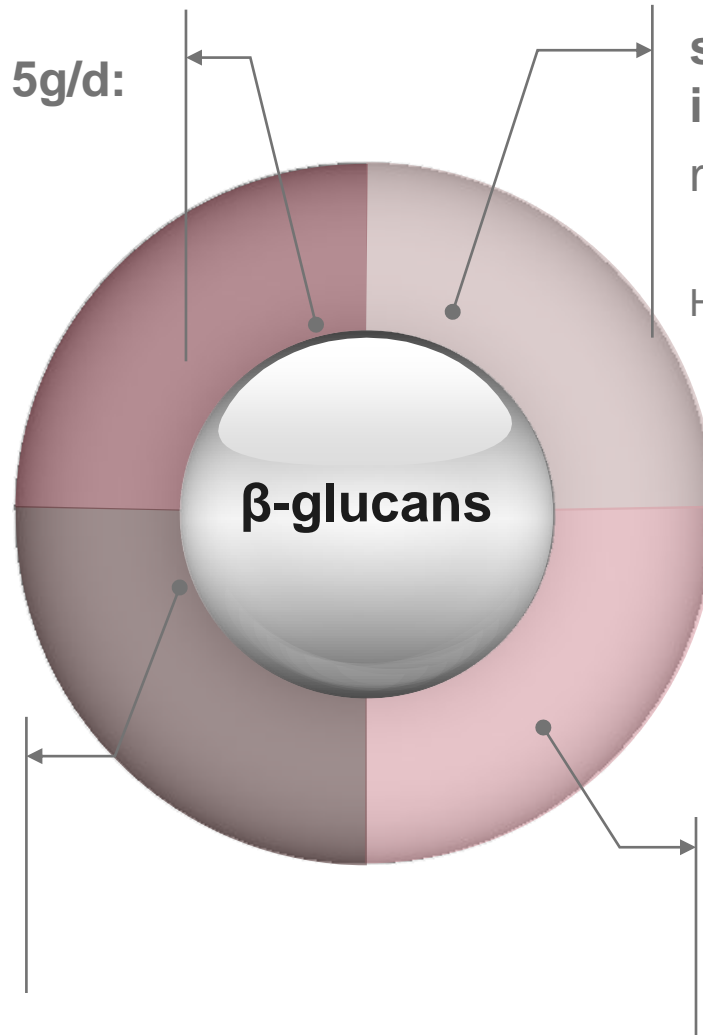
- decrease tChol, LDL
- normal HDL, TG

Chen i wsp., 2009

**In diabetis 10g/d:**

- decrease glucose
- decrease insulin

Börklund i wsp., 2005



**stimulating  
immunological effect:  
macrophages, cytokins**

Hunter i wsp., 2004

**antioxidant  
properties**

Peterson, 2001

# Flavonoids

they affect the functions of enzyme systems that are involved in the immune response and the emergence of inflammatory processes

**anticancer activity**

**they inhibit the release of histamine**

heterogeneous group of phenolic compounds widespread in the plant world (flavanones, flavanols, isoflavones, anthocyanins)

# Flavonoids

**affect the functions of  
enzyme systems,  
which are involved in  
the immune response  
and the emergence of  
inflammatory  
processes**

**catechin, epicatechin, quercetin and  
polyphenols  
inhibit the activity of DNA  
methyltransferases,**

(Yang i wsp., 2008; Mathers, 2006; Johnson i Belshaw, 2008)

# Flavonoids

anticancer activity

- **Feng et al. (2007)** they proved the anti-cancer effect of flavonoids, among which the most effective reaction was characterized by an **anthocyanin extract** from red cabbage;
- **North i Verdin (2004)** examined polyphenolic compounds contained in **grapes and wines** and proved that they inhibit lipid peroxidation of cell membranes, and have an anti-inflammatory effect



# Flavonoids

they inhibit the  
release of  
histamine

## **Anti-allergic properties**, by:

- inhibiting lymphocyte proliferation,
- inhibiting Ig class E, G, M, A synthesis,
- inhibiting cytokine release
- inhibiting histamine release from mast cells previously stimulated by IgE

Examples: quercetin and luteolin.

Czeczot (2011); Olszewska (2003)

# Phenolic Acids

phenolic acids  
with hydroxyl and  
carboxylic group  
(benzoic acid,  
phenylacetic, cinnamon)

the major precursors are  
tyrosine and phenylalanine

the ability to block carcinogens

protection of LDL lipoproteins against  
oxidative modification

anticancer activity  
(ferulic, caffeic, chlorogenic, ellagic acid)

# Tokochromanols

fat-soluble antioxidants,  
mainly found in oily  
plants in the form of  
tocopherols, tocotrienols  
and plastochromanol-8

**antioxidant activity - an effective  
peroxide radical quencher**

**anticancer activity**

**Neuroprotective effects:  
prevention of neurodegenerative  
diseases**

**Cardioprotective activity – decrease  
cholesterol and lipoprotein levels,  
anti-coagulant activity**

# FATTY ACIDS: EPA & DHA

**Immunomodulatory  
effects**

Presumably, they modify the synthesis of mediators responsible for cell communication and the change in the expression of surface molecules

Weaken phospholipase activity, which indirectly affects the suppression of genes encoding cytokines

# FATTY ACIDS: EPA & DHA

Acid derivatives - EPA  
and DHA as mediators -  
suppressing the  
inflammatory process

**RESOLVINS** - activate the process of quenching an acute inflammatory reaction - they stimulate macrophages to phagocytosis of dying neutrophils, and reduce the release of pro-inflammatory cytokines.

**PROTECTINS** - pro-extinguishing agents in the region of inflammation. Neuroprotectin supports the maintenance of normal brain function.

**MAREZINS** - prolactin mediators of the acute phase of inflammation. Their action is multi directional, limiting the accumulation of polymorphonuclear leukocytes in the region of inflammation.

# L-ARGININE

Arginine is a substrate in the synthesis of:

- ❖ **nitric oxide** responsible for the regulation of the blood supply to the intestine, secretion of mucus and regulation of motor activity; platelet activation and aggregation; participate in the nerve conduction; affects immunomodulation;
- ❖ Polyamines that stimulate cellular biosynthesis of DNA and RNA; they perform immunoregulatory functions are the strongest stimulus to secrete **insulin** and the **growth hormone**.

Reynolds i wsp., (1988, 1990)

# GLUTAMINE

- ❖ essential for the **synthesis of protein** and other amino acids, amino sugars and their derivatives, nucleotides, glucose, glutathione;
- ❖ participates in many metabolic pathways,
- ❖ is the most important **source of nitrogen**,
- ❖ together with glutamate are the main compounds responsible for the intercellular transport of nitrogen and the **detoxification of ammonia**,
- ❖ plays a key role in the **growth** of many types of cells, in particular cells with a high rate of proliferation,
- ❖ is an essential **source of energy** for the cells of the immune system and for enterocytes, colonocytes and fibroblasts,
- ❖ **prevents atrophy** of the intestinal villi

Calder i wsp., (2002)

# PROBIOTICS

**Favorable modification of the  
composition intestinal microflora**  
(Nowak, Libudzisz (2008))

**Activation of specific and non-  
specific Immunological responses**  
(Kawka – Skrzypczak i wsp. (2012))

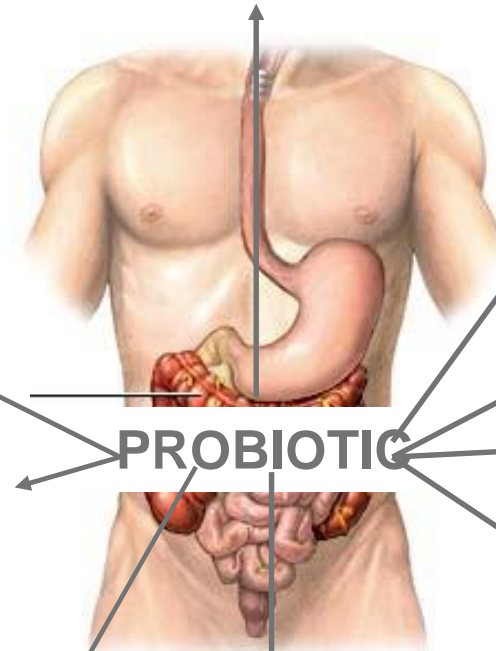
**Inhibition of growth and  
translocation pathogens.  
Reduced infection with intestinal  
pathogens (*Salmonella, Shigella*)**  
Kawka – Skrzypczak i wsp. (2012)

**Reduction in the duration of rotavirus  
diarrhea (and other etiology)**  
(Hickson i wsp. (2007))

**Lowering the activity of  
faecal enzymes**  
(Nowak, Libudzisz (2008))

**detoxification from  
carcinogens**  
(Nowak, Libudzisz (2008))

**Protection against colon  
cancer**



**PROBIOTIC**

**Lowering cholesterol**  
(Tennyson, Friedman (2008))

**Reducing the risk of  
obesity**  
(Tennyson, Friedman (2008))

**increased lactose digestion  
decreased symptoms of lactose  
intolerance**  
Kirjavainen i wsp. (2001)

**Increased absorption of nutrients,  
increased absorption of minerals**  
(Kawka – Skrzypczak i wsp. (2012))

**Prevention of  
constipation**  
(Hickson i wsp. (2007))



# SUMMARY

## Natural immunomodulators:

- regulate the development and function of various cells of the immune system, DNA activity and repair,
- diet rich in particular immunomodulators may prevent and/or treat certain diseases:
  - inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract,
  - immune dysfunctions,
  - carcinogenesis.

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**Thank you for your attention**

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