

Innovation in Clinical Practice

Specialized Pro-Resolving Mediators (SPMs) inflammation resolution – clinical discussion

Innovation in Clinical Practice— New News in Patient Care

1. Novel Solution and Pathway to Support Inflammatory Responses

- New Clinical Benefits to Resolve Inflammation
- Fills a Gap in Managing Inflammatory Responses

2. Independent yet Complementary Solutions to Managing Inflammatory Conditions

- Not Blocking, inhibiting or suppressing inflammation
- ‘Resolves’ inflammation to avoid prolongation to chronic health conditions

3. Proprietary Nutritional Solutions

- Specialized Pro-resolving Mediators
- Standardized Level of Activity

4. Clinical Uses with Superior Improvement in Ability to Resolve Inflammation

- Activates effective resolution response
- Resolution critical component of normal inflammatory response

Inflammation

Young



Optimal Resolution

Low Pro-Inflammatory Status

High Efficiency of Stress Response



Aged



Inadequate Resolution

High Pro-Inflammatory Status

Low Efficiency of Stress Response

Unresolved inflammation leads to chronic inflammation



Injuries



Infection



Poor Diet



Chronic inflammation

Chronic inflammation is associated with disease pathogenesis



Atherosclerosis



Cancer



Arthritis



Alzheimer's Disease
Huntington's Disease
Parkinson's Disease

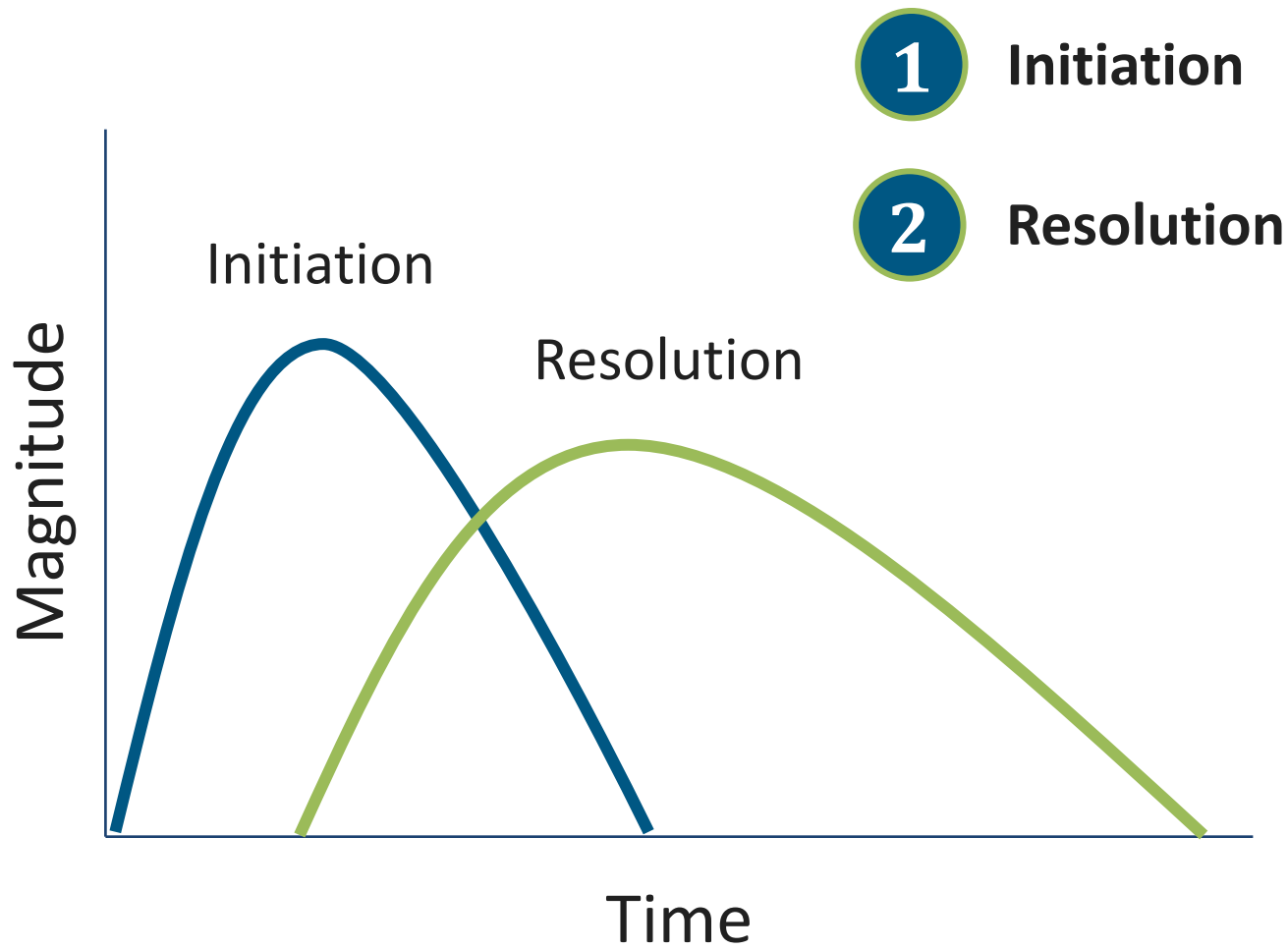


Insulin Resistance
Type 2 Diabetes

The Inflammatory Response



Inflammation Has Two Stages

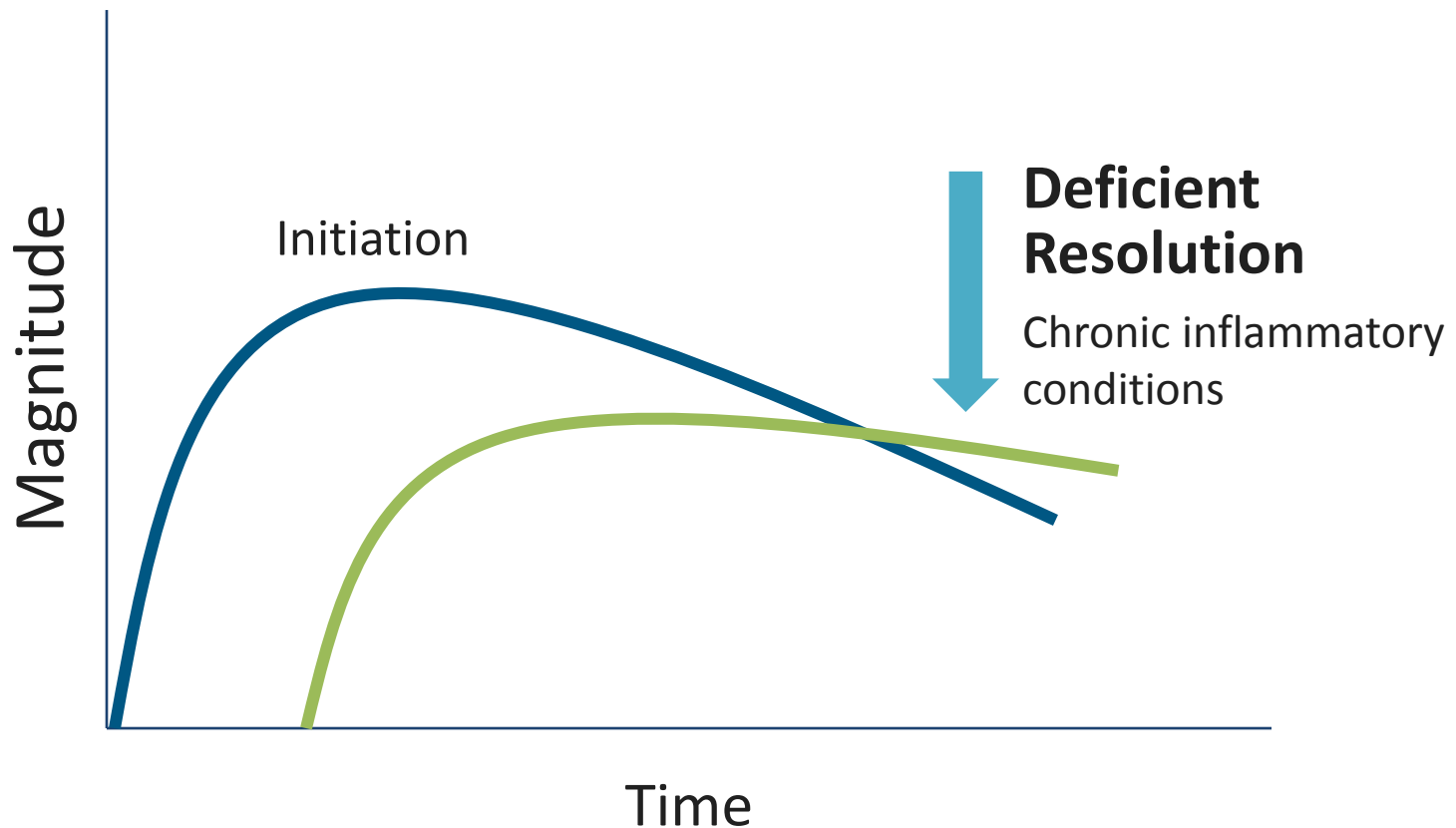


Serhan CN. *Nature*. 2014;510:92-101.

Spite et al. *Cell Metab*. 2014;19:21-36.

Without Resolution, Inflammation Can Become Persistent & Chronic

If the immune response is left unresolved, tissues can be **negatively impacted over time**.



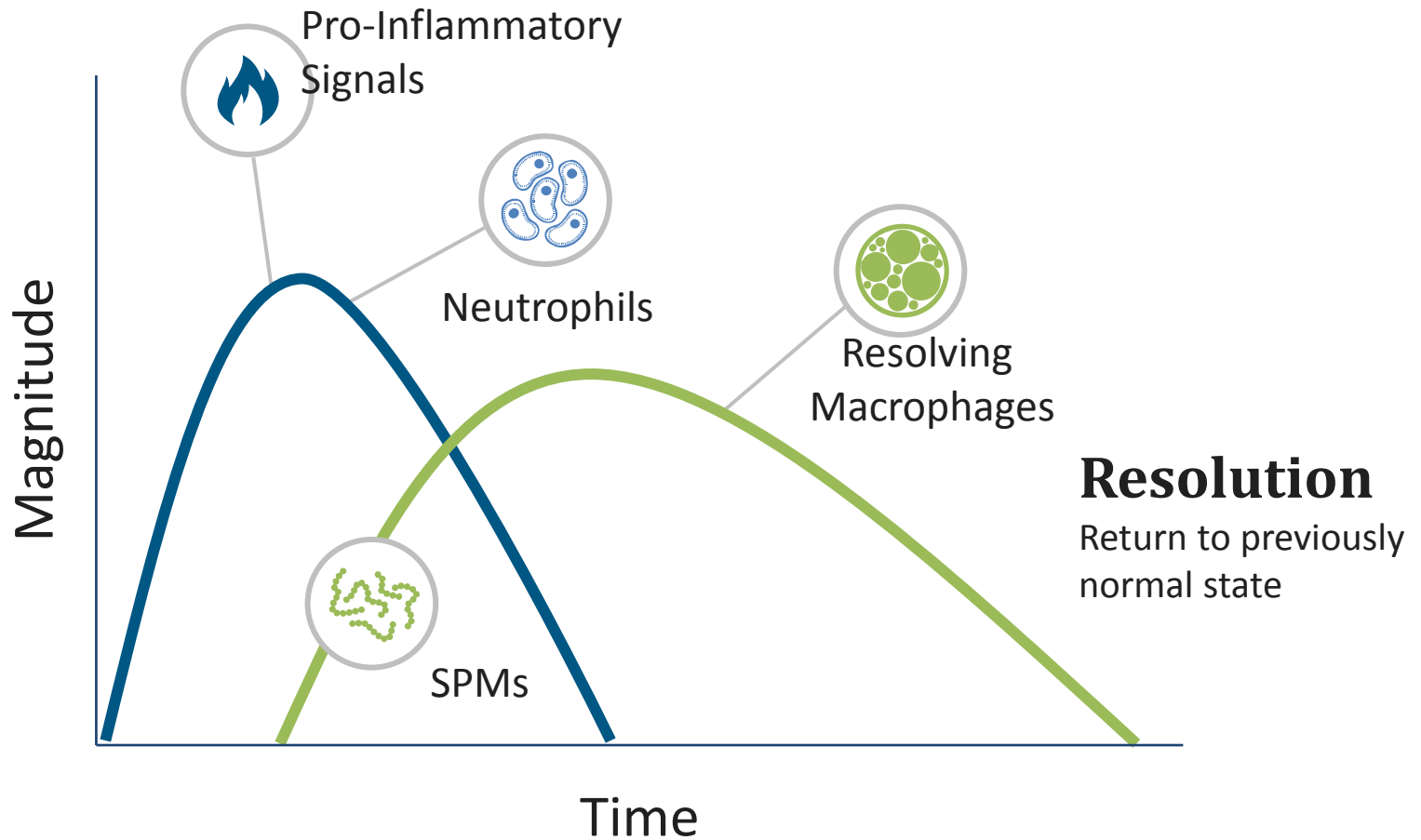
Serhan CN. *Nature*. 2014;510:92-101.

Spite et al. *Cell Metab*. 2014;19:21-36.

Introducing a Novel Nutritional Therapy & Pathway for Addressing Resolution of Inflammation



Process of Inflammation



Serhan CN. *Nature*. 2014;510:92-101.

Spite et al. *Cell Metab*. 2014;19:21-36.

Resolution of Inflammation

New thinking to solve an old problem



Previous Science Perspective

Inflammation faded out by itself
Blocking inflammation was the goal



Emerging Science Perspective

Resolution of inflammation is an active process and is necessary for healing. This is now supported by 100s of research publications



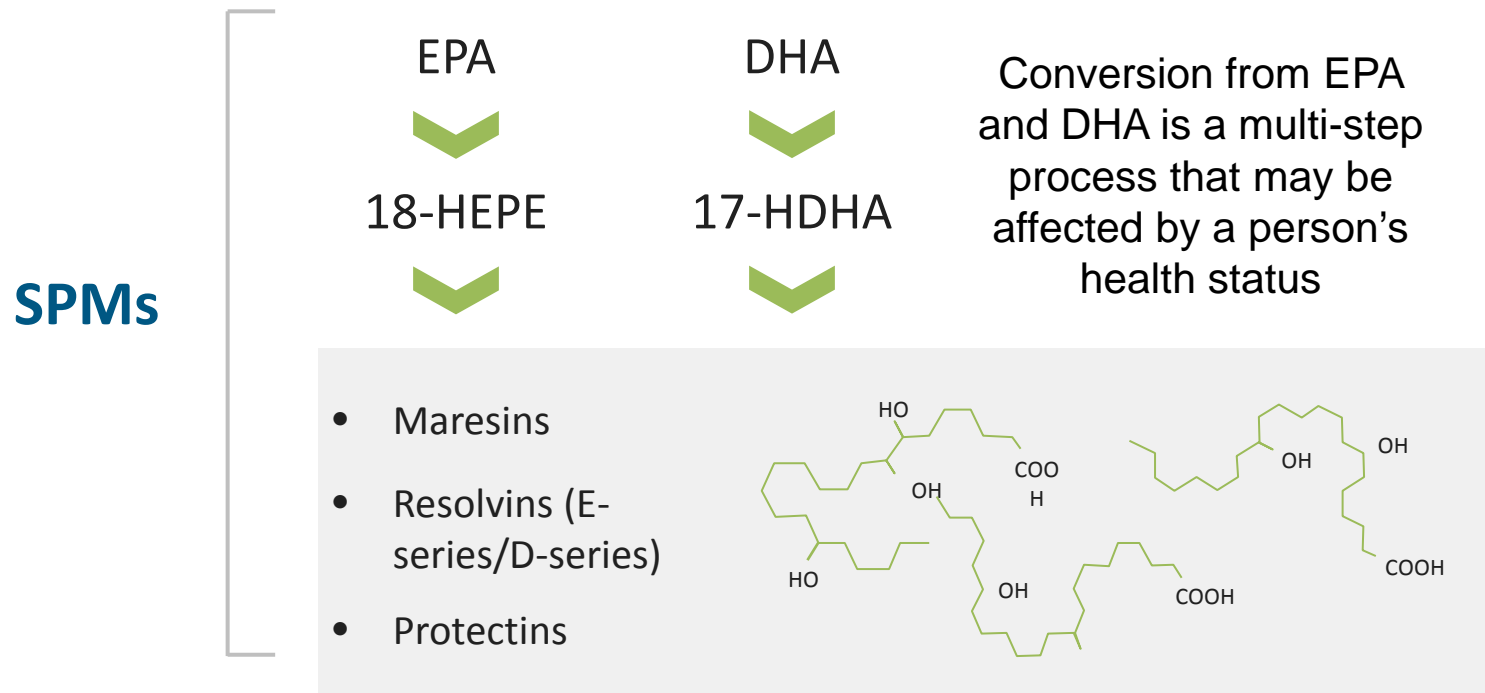
Over the last 20 years, Charles Serhan has conducted groundbreaking work focusing on the resolution of inflammation

New science on nutritional components that actively resolve inflammation

Specialized Pro-Resolving Mediators

Or SPMs

- EPA and DHA are converted to SPMs that resolve inflammation
But the conversion is inefficient in the face of inflammation



Different SPMs work together to resolve the immune response and inflammation.

Patients with Peripheral Vascular Disease

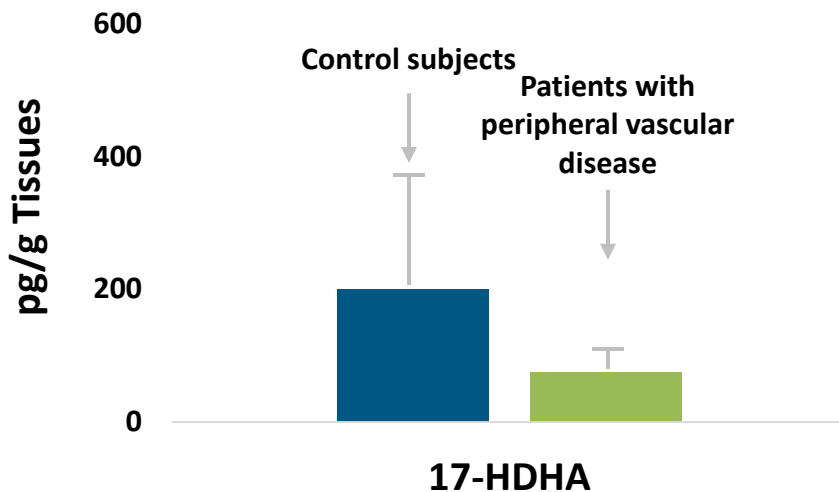
Have Reduced Tissue SPM Concentrations

Design

Comparison of tissue SPM concentrations in people with peripheral vascular disease and controls

Key Findings

- ✓ Specific SPMs are reduced in peripheral vascular disease



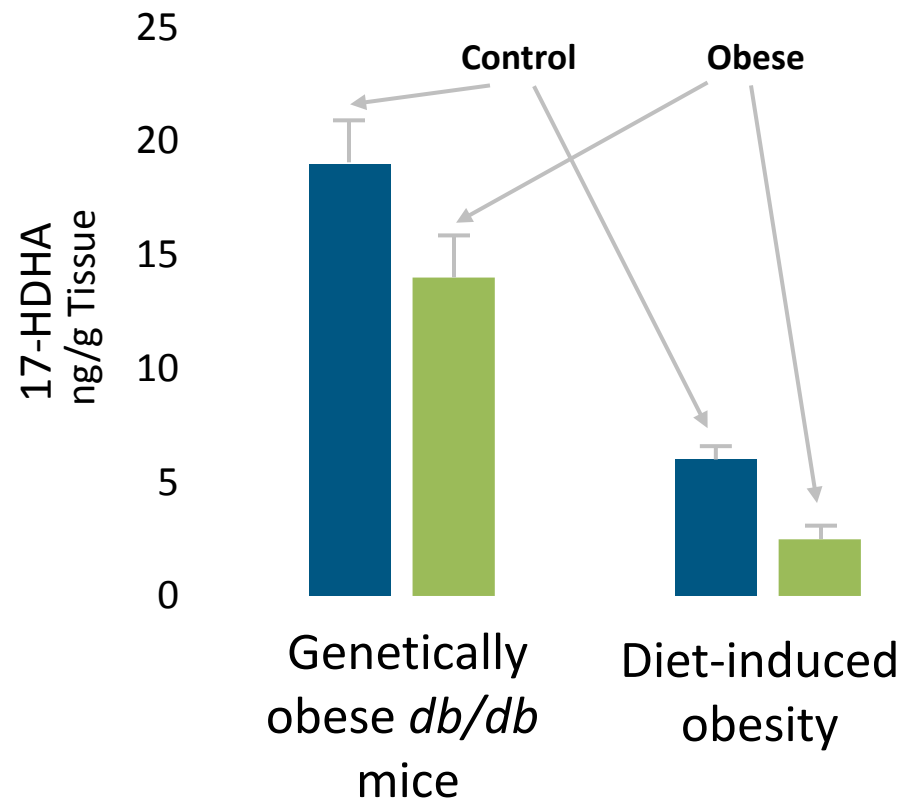
SPMS are Reduced in Obesity States in Animal Model

Design

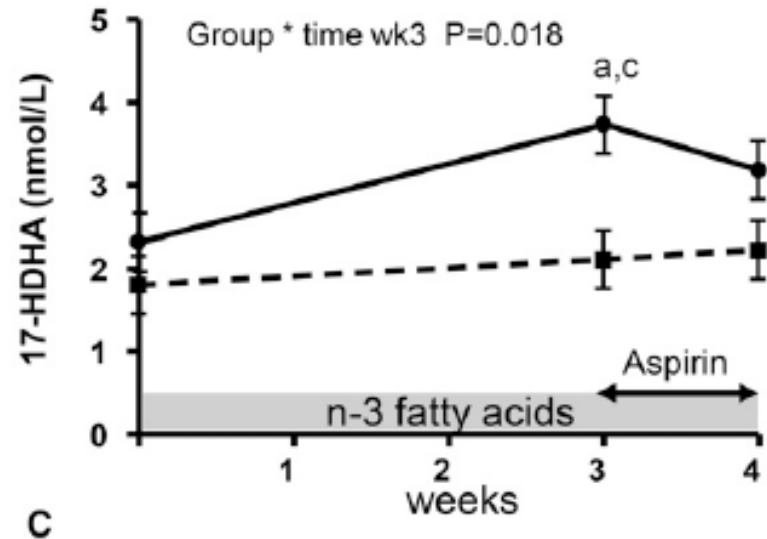
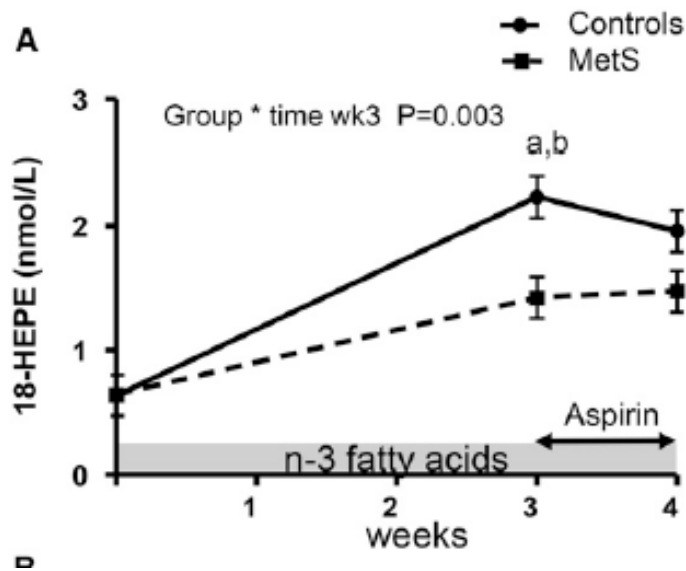
Model of genetic and diet-induced obesity

Key Findings

- ✓ SPMs are reduced in tissues of obese mice



Appearance of 17-HDHA and 18-HEPE is reduced following fish oil supplementation in Metabolic Syndrome patients compared with healthy controls

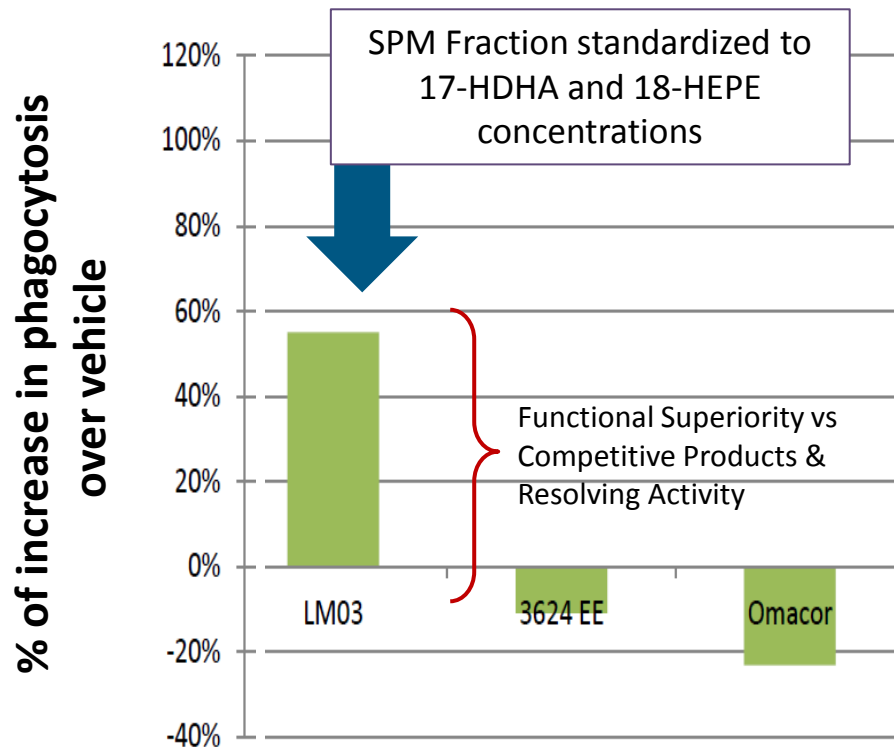


Clinical Areas for SPMs



Setting the standard for SPM supplementation

Choosing a fraction based on Resolution Activity



- Not all fractions of fish oil show pro-resolving activity in pre-clinical models
- Process of Oil delivers standardized levels of two key actives *PLUS* total **Resolvin Activity**

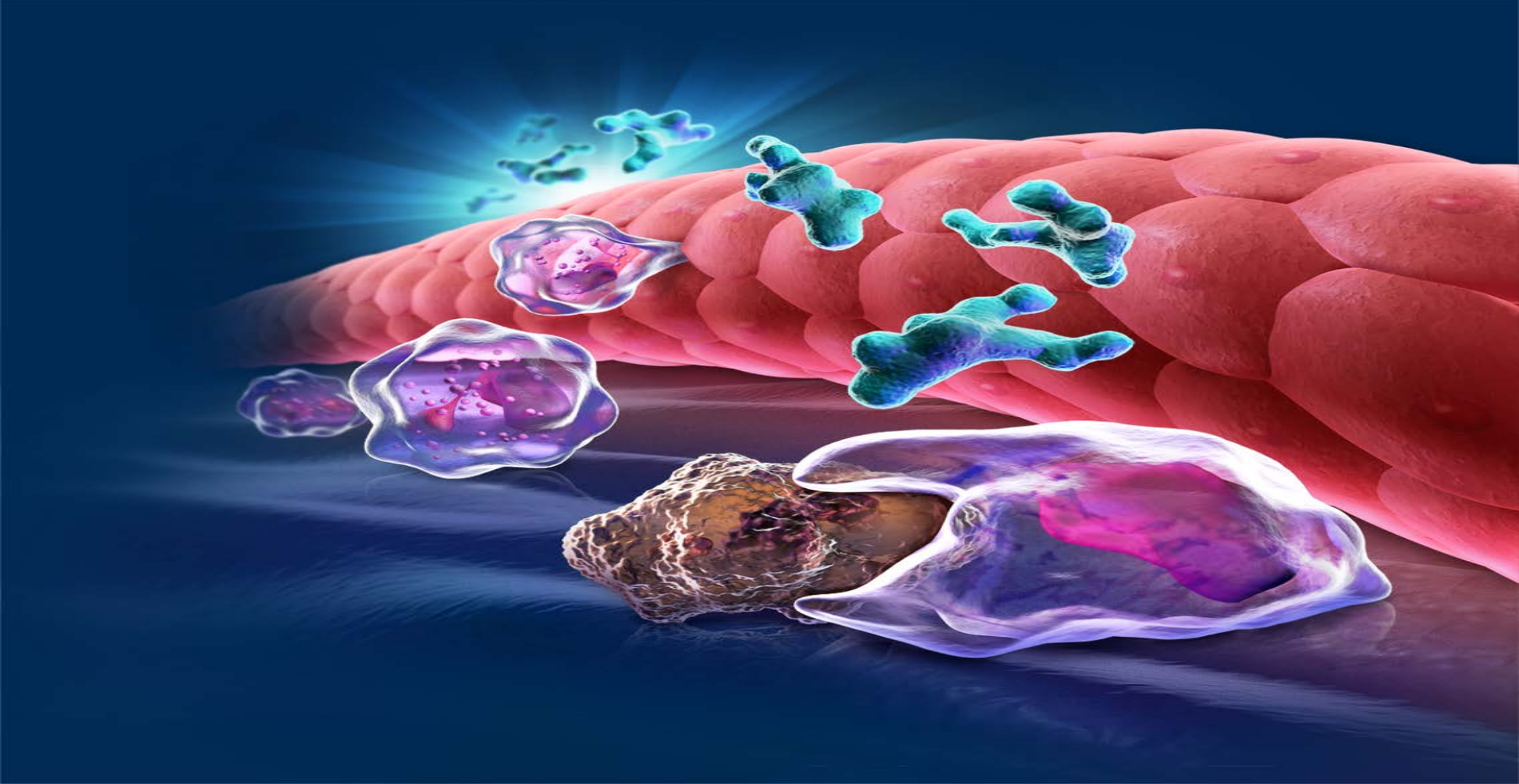
Variability in phagocytic response of oils and oil fractions. The phagocytic response of immune cells (Thp-1 cells, a human monocyte cell line) was examined after treatment with various oil fractions and SPMs. Results are shown as increase in phagocytosis compared to control.

Clinical Uses and Advantages

Patient Segmentations as Primary Targets of Care and for Nutrition Co-Therapies

Health Conditions Associated with Chronic Inflammation

- Obesity
- Metabolic Syndrome
- Diabetes
- Aging and age-associated diseases
- Vascular disease such as cardiovascular disease and peripheral vascular disease
- Digestive disorders including Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)
- Autoimmune conditions
- Arthritis



Practice-based Research with SPMs

IRB-approved multi-center open case series

Study Goals:

- ✓ Understand the role of SPMs in clinical management of chronic inflammatory conditions
- ✓ Assess the impact of 6 softgels per day for 4 weeks and potential for significant difference when dose was increased to 8 softgels per day. Doses chosen considering the chronic inflammatory nature of the patient types

Patients with inflammatory conditions/symptoms (n=34)

Inflammatory condition included:

- Chronic pain
- Fibromyalgia
- Increased inflammatory markers e.g. hsCRP

Week 1

Assessment of blood based biomarkers of inflammation, clinical assessment, subject assessment of pain, symptoms and quality of life.

Received 6 SPM softgels per day

Week 4

Assessment of blood based biomarkers of inflammation, clinical assessment, subject assessment of pain, symptoms and quality of life.

Received 8 SPM softgels per day

Week 8

Assessment of blood based biomarkers of inflammation, clinical assessment, subject assessment of pain, symptoms and quality of life.

Practice-Based Research Clinical Collaborators



Robert Bonakdar, MD
Director of Pain Management at
the Scripps Center for Integrative
Medicine in La Jolla, California



Jennifer Stagg, ND
Whole Health Associates,
Avon, CT



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Family Practice, Murrieta, CA



Cory Rice, DO
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Program Director of Integrative
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Taz Bhatia, MD
Atlanta Holistic &
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Atlanta, GA

Practice-Based Research with SPMs:

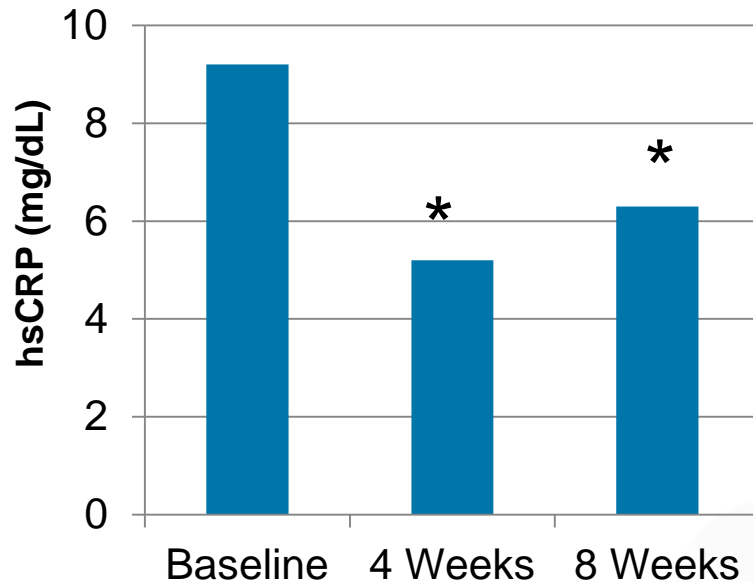
Clinical cohort overview

Parameter	Mean \pm SD
Age	49.3 \pm 10.8 years
BMI	29.4 \pm 8.2 kg/m ²
Total participants completing 3 study visits	n=34
Sex	Women (n = 28); Men (n = 6)
Arthritis (RA/OA)	n = 14
Chronic Inflammation and associated symptom of pain	n = 15
Fibromyalgia	n = 6
Co-morbidities*	n = 34

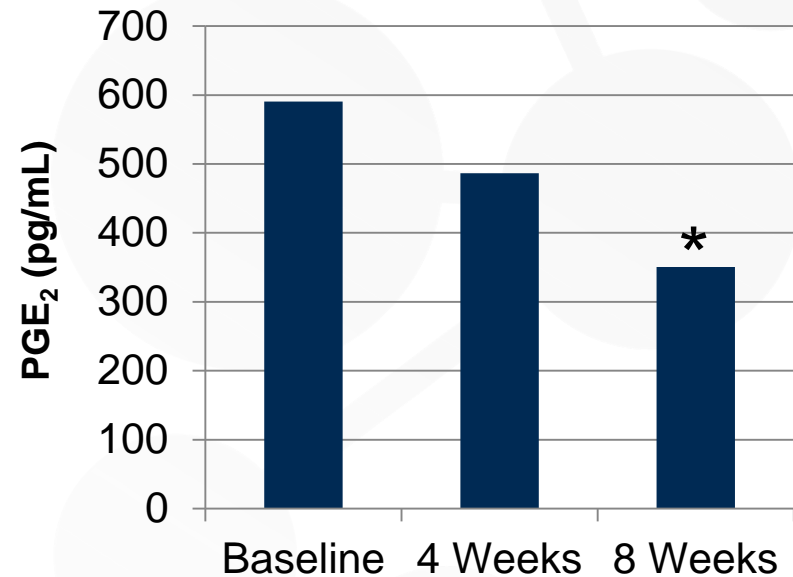
Co-morbidities, including obesity, , metabolic syndrome, hyperlipidemia, hypertension, migraine, insomnia, reflux, fatigue, constipation, hypothyroidism, Sjogren's syndrome, Hashimoto's, and Lyme disease.

Key point: Inflammatory biomarkers significantly reduced – appropriate for tracking SPM response

hsCRP, marker of acute phase response and general inflammatory environment
43% reduction from baseline within 4 weeks and remained significantly reduced

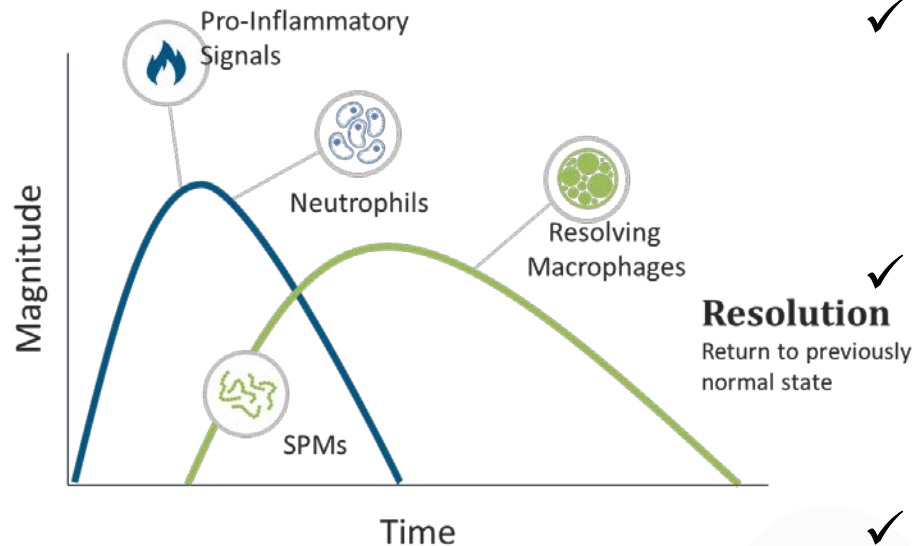


PGE₂ is a prostaglandin involved in inflammation initiation
PGE₂ was reduced by 41% at 8 weeks and was shown to normalize (200-400pg/mL) at 8 weeks



Other inflammatory biomarkers commonly measured in clinical practice were not raised at baseline in this patient group, and remained within normal limits throughout the study

SPMs driving reduction in hsCRP and PGE₂: potential mechanisms of action



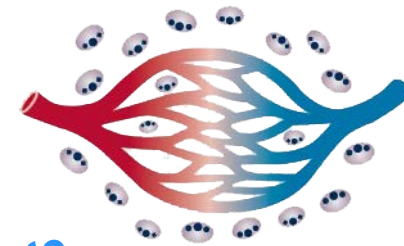
- ✓ Reduction in PMN entering site secreting pro-inflammatory signals including cytokines and PGE₂
- ✓ Lipid mediator class switching during resolution – pro-inflammatory mediators reduce as pro-resolving mediators increase
- ✓ Change in macrophage phenotype to more M2/pro-resolving phenotype for reduction in pro-inflammatory cytokines
- ✓ Knock-on effect of reduction in pro-inflammatory signal production to lowered hsCRP production by liver

Resolution is Necessary to Prevent Tissue Damage

Associated with chronic inflammation

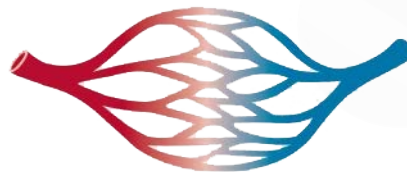
Tissue Impacted

(e.g., over-exercising)



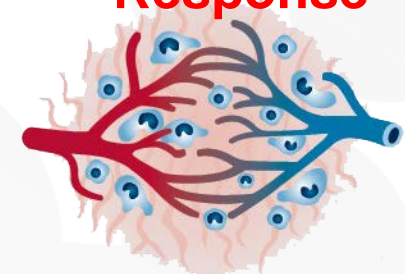
SPMs

Resolution of Immune Response



Progression

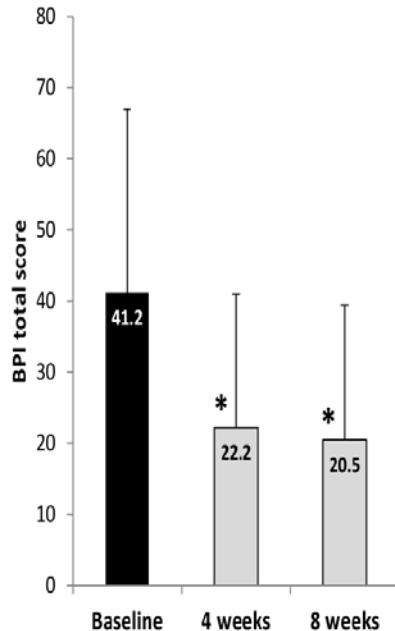
Unresolved Immune Response



Pain can be a symptom of chronic inflammation

Key point: Clinical symptomology improvements with SPM supplementation reflective of the chronic inflammatory condition

- ✓ **Brief Pain Inventory (BPI) scores reduced significantly by 46% at 4 weeks and 50% at 8 weeks**



At 4 and 8 weeks, there was a significant reduction in:

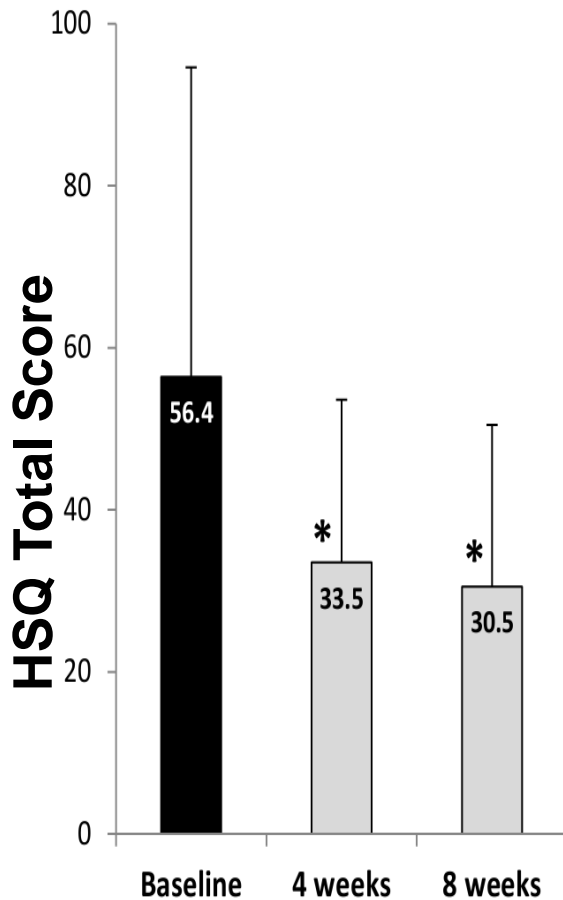
- ✓ Pain at its worst, least and average pain over last 24-hours

At 4 and 8 weeks, there was a significant reduction in interference of pain in

- ✓ General activity
- ✓ Mood
- ✓ Walking ability
- ✓ Normal work
- ✓ Relations with others
- ✓ Sleep
- ✓ Enjoyment of life

BPI is a tool used to assess the severity of pain and the impact of pain on daily functions in patients with pain from chronic diseases or conditions such as osteoarthritis and low back pain

Key point: Clinical symptomology improvements with SPM supplementation reflective of the chronic inflammatory condition



- ✓ Health Symptoms Questionnaire (HSQ) total scores were significantly reduced at 4 weeks and 8 weeks (No significant difference between 4 and 8 weeks)
- ✓ Domains reduced reflected change in the symptoms associated with the chronic clinical condition:
 - Joints/muscle subscale
 - Mind
 - Emotions
 - Head
 - Energy

Quality of life improvements with SPM supplementation

**American Chronic
Pain Association
QOL scale was
improved
significantly
moving from 7.8
to 8.8 within 4
weeks**

7	Work/volunteer for a few hours daily Can be active at least five hours a day Can make plans to do simple activities on weekends
8	Work/volunteer for at least six hours daily Have energy to make plans for one evening social activity during the week Active on weekends
9	Work/volunteer/be active eight hours daily Take part in family life Outside social activities limited

Case #1: 50 yo Caucasian man

History & Complaints:

- Osteoarthritis for 4 years
- Obesity (BMI 34.0kg/m²)
- History of hypothyroidism and hypertension

- Presented with daily pain in lower back, knee, toe
- Elevated hsCRP (8.32mg/L) and PGE₂ (794pg/mL)

Family History:

- Father (diabetes, COPD)
- Mother: celiac, lupus, OA, HTN, hypothyroidism

Medications

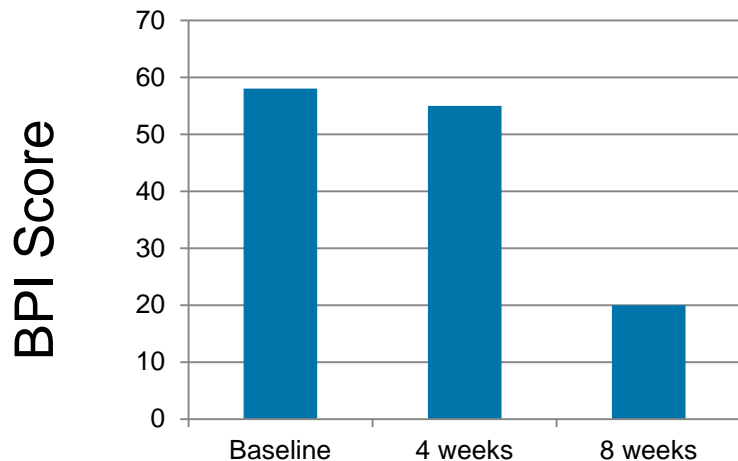
- Desiccated thyroid, zolpidem (10mg/night), DIM (300mg/day), vitamin D3 (5000IU/day), fish oil (330mg omega-3)

Case #1: Biochemical changes at 4 and 8 weeks

Marker (reference range)	Baseline	4 weeks (note taking 4SPM sg/day)	8 weeks (8 SPM sg/day)	
hsCRP (0-3mg/L)	8.32	0.86	0.74	hsCRP normalized in 4 weeks
PGE2 (200-400pg/mL)	794	847	182	PGE2 normalized in 8 weeks
Fibrinogen (193-504mg/dL)	396	223	226	Stayed within normal limits, modest decrease
IL-6 (0-15.3 pg/mL)	4.8	<0.7	1.8	Stayed within normal limits, modest decrease

Case #1: Functional improvements at 4 and 8 weeks

Reduced Interference of Pain in Daily Life



- ✓ Pain at its worst, least, average reduced.
- ✓ Interference of pain in general activity, mood, walking, relations with others, sleep and enjoyment of life reduced at 4 and 8 weeks

Scores on HSQ reduced – improved domains (muscle/joint) reflective of clinical changes

Increased quality of life resulting using American Chronic Pain Association Quality of Life Scale

Case #2: 62 yo woman

History & Complaints:

- Fibromyalgia
- Osteoarthritis
- Sjogren's syndrome
- Hashimoto's thyroiditis
- Chronic fatigue syndrome

- Presented with daily pain in legs, knees, ankles, calves, feet, shoulders, back, neck. Pain interfering with QOL
- Elevated PGE2 (1052pg/mL). Other inflammatory biomarkers measured WNL

Relevant Family History:

- Mother (hypothyroid, RA)
- Sister: Hashimoto's

Medications

- Gabapentin (400mg/night)
- Levothyroxine (125mg)

Case #2: Biochemical changes at 4 and 8 weeks

Marker (reference range)	Baseline	4 weeks (6SPM sg/day)	8 weeks (8 SPM sg/day)	
hsCRP (0-3mg/L)	1.12	1.04	1.24	Stayed within normal limits
PGE2 (200-400pg/mL)	1052	1510	346	Normalized within 8 weeks

Case #2: Functional improvements at 4 and 8 weeks

Reduced Pain Reporting

- ✓ 55% reduction in BPI score at 4 weeks and 77% reduction at 8 weeks compared with baseline

	Baseline	4 Weeks	8 Weeks
General Activity	5	0	0
Mood	7	0	0
Walking	7	0	0
Normal work	8	0	0
Relations with others	5	0	0
Sleep	8	2	0
Enjoyment of life	8	0	0

Scores on HSQ reduced – improved domains (muscle/joint; head, energy, mind) reflective of clinical changes

Increased quality of life resulting using ACPA QOL scale.

- Baseline: Work/volunteer limited hours. Take part in limited social activities on weekends (score = 6)
- 8 Weeks: Work/volunteer/be active eight hours daily. Take part in family life. Outside social activities limited (score = 9)

Clinical management of inflammation

Does clinical evaluation suggest the presence of chronic inflammation requiring therapeutic management?

YES

Initiate condition-specific Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)

Address dietary and life-style factors or other pro-inflammatory triggers and initiate MNT intervention to reduce magnitude of inflammation initiation as appropriate

Nutrients to consider:

curcumin, xanthohumol,
polyphenol-rich extracts

Co-initiate therapy with SPMs to actively facilitate inflammation resolution

Oral intake of SPM supplements with maintenance dose of 2 SPMs softgels QD
Higher intakes may be used for transitory periods for active management of inflammation load depending on clinical presentation

Was positive change seen at 4-week evaluation of symptoms and biomarkers?

YES

Continue with therapeutic program
MNT with SPM supplementation

NO

Evaluate recommended dose and increase for 4 weeks
Ensure adherence to other diet and lifestyle recommendations.

Was positive change seen at 8 week evaluation of symptoms and biomarkers?

YES

Progress to maintenance dose of SPMs: 2 softgels QD

Continue to monitor and avoid dietary and lifestyle triggers of inflammation and assess biomarkers of inflammation as routine GCPs

NO

Consider increasing SPM dose for additional 4 weeks

Continue to monitor and avoid dietary and lifestyle triggers of inflammation, and biomarkers of inflammation as routine GCPs
May consider additional treatments to manage disease

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- Not Blocking, inhibiting or suppressing inflammation
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3. Proprietary Nutritional Solutions

- Specialized Pro-resolving Mediators
- Standardized Level of Activity

4. Clinical Uses with Superior Improvement in Ability to Resolve Inflammation

- Activates effective resolution response
- Resolution critical component of normal inflammatory response

Metagenics committed to ongoing clinical advancement to SPM science and therapies

Research Partnerships



To further understand the impact of SPM therapy and dosing strategies in vascular disease, inflammatory response modulation, SPM production in obese states, and clinical symptomology associated with chronic inflammatory conditions

Educational resources to connect to

Register and Log-In



The Metagenics
Healthcare Institute
for Clinical Nutrition

Full Study Results

SPM Resource

**Inflammation
START THE RESOLUTION**

**SPECIALIZED
PRO-RESOLVING
MEDIATORS
SPMs**

- Roundtable Videos
- Podcasts
- Educational Videos
- Research
- Quick Review

Supplementation with Specialized Pro-Resolving Mediators Reduces Inflammatory Biomarkers and Improves Reported Clinical Symptomatology in Subjects with Chronic Inflammation: Results from a Multi-Center Open-Case Series

- TAKE HOME POINTS**
- Inflammation has 2 phases: initiation and resolution. Many chronic health issues are linked to **impaired resolution**.
 - Specialized pro-resolving mediators (SPMs) are endogenous molecules **essential for resolution of inflammation** but may not be produced in required levels in some people.
 - Multi-center case study assessed effects of a proprietary SPM supplement (LJ-02) on inflammatory biomarkers in 24 men and women (21-75 yrs) with conditions including raised inflammatory tone.
 - Results showed a **50% reduction in high-sensitivity C-reactive protein (hs-CRP)** at 4 weeks with concurrent reduction in PGE2.
 - **All subjects had CRP reduction and PGE2s reduced to within normal range.**
 - Functional measurements including quality of life indicated continued improvement at 4 and 8 weeks.
 - Adverse events were minimal and managed without incident.

BACKGROUND

The inflammatory response has two phases – an initiation phase and a resolution phase. Ideally, inflammation is a self-limited process, leading to complete resolution that enables tissue healing and a return to previous normal condition.¹ However, if the inflammatory response is left unresolved, the surrounding tissues can be negatively impacted over time. Many chronic diseases, such as cardiovascular disease, arthritis, diabetes, metabolic syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, depression, asthma, and age-related macular degeneration, as well as some neurologic disorders, have been linked to chronic inflammation.²

During the resolution phase, specialized pro-resolving mediators (SPMs) are produced at the affected tissue site, orchestrating the resolution-related activities and facilitating the return to homeostasis.³ 15-Hydroxyicosapeptanoic acid (15-HpHxA) and 17-Hydroxydocosapeptanoic acid (17-HpDHA) are two important SPMs derived from the omega-3 fatty acids

eicosapeptanoic acid (EPA) and docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), respectively, via enzymatic pathways.¹ 15-HpEPA and 17-HpDHA are rapidly taken up by the activated immune cells and converted into other SPMs including resolvins, protectins, and maresins.⁴ Each SPM plays a distinct role in resolving inflammation, and through their combined actions the return to homeostasis is achieved.¹

Some individuals may not produce desirable levels of SPMs – due to lifestyle behaviors, dietary choices, age, or health status – in response to an immune challenge. As a result, the resolution of the inflammation can be impacted.^{5,6} Since SPMs are essential for the resolution, supplementation of SPMs may represent a nutritional approach to support the resolution of inflammation.⁷

Objective

The objective of the study was to observe the effect of a supplement containing medicinally purified concentrate standardized to 15-HpEPA and 17-HpDHA (LJ-02; Table 1) on select circulating inflammatory biomarkers and on overall well-being, assessed by multiple questionnaires in a group of volunteers recruited from 6 clinic sites.

STUDY DESIGN

Participants

Participants were recruited from the patient base at the study clinical sites. Eligible participants were overweight (BMI ≥ 25 kg/m²) men and women age 21 – 75 yrs with health conditions associated with chronic unresolved inflammation. Main inclusion and exclusion criteria can be found in Appendix. The study was carried out in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration of 1964 and the study was approved by the Copensco Group Independent Review Board (Durham, NC). Informed written consent was obtained from all participants prior to enrollment in the study.

Study design

The 5-week, open-label, case observation study was conducted at 6 clinic sites in the U.S. including 4 HCP, 1 DO and 1 ND. After baseline assessment (Visit 1), participants began to consume 6 softgels once daily of the LJ-02 supplement (taken together with a lipid-containing meal. After Week 4 assessment (Visit 2), participants began to consume 8 softgels once daily of the LJ-02 supplement. (Table 1). The effect of this increased dose was evaluated at Week 5 (Visit 3). Participants returned to the clinic at Week 4 (Visit 2) and Week 8 (Visit 2) for clinical evaluation and assessment for compliance and adverse events. An overview of clinical visits is summarized in Appendix.

Grand Rounds



Cory Rice, DO

Specialized Pro-resolving Mediators (SPMs) in Real World Clinical Practice



Jennifer Stagg, ND

Early Clinical Experiences with SPMs

