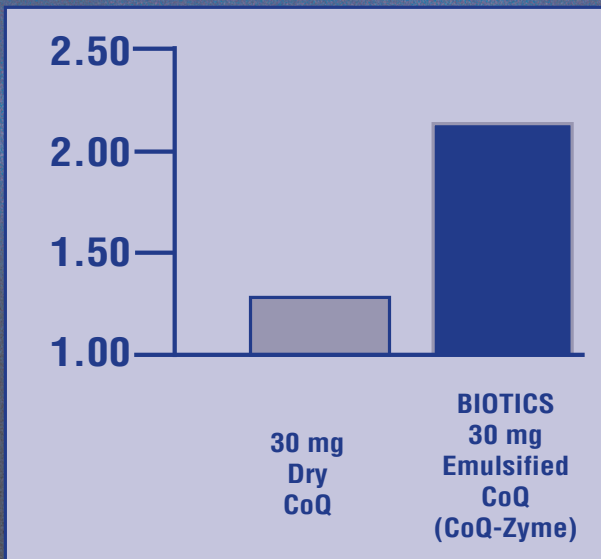


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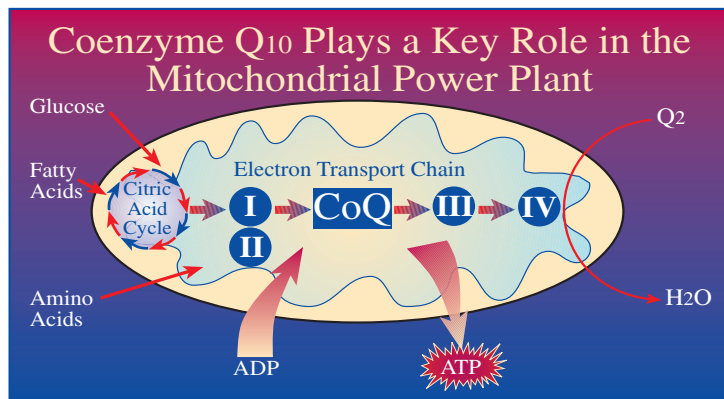
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COENZYME Q₁₀

NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT FOR ENERGY PRODUCTION

Coenzyme Q₁₀ (CoQ₁₀), also called ubiquinone, plays a key role in energy production from the oxidation of fat, carbohydrate and amino acids by mitochondria. As these fuels funnel into the Citric Acid Cycle to be oxidized to carbon dioxide, electrons are transferred in the mitochondrial electron transport chain via CoQ₁₀ in order to generate ATP. Without adequate CoQ₁₀, energy production is reduced and cell function is compromised. Heart and skeletal muscle are particularly dependent on CoQ₁₀.



COENZYME Q₁₀ AND CARDIAC HEALTH

The myocardium derives 80% of its energy from ATP generated by the mitochondrial oxidation of fatty acids. CoQ₁₀ depletion can have a negative impact on mitochondrial energy³. It has been shown that supplemental CoQ₁₀ can improve cardiac function and myocardial energy⁴. CoQ₁₀ may also improve the tolerance of senescent myocardium to aerobic and ischemic stress⁵. Animal studies have shown positive homeostatic changes after dietary CoQ₁₀ supplementation⁶, and that a CoQ₁₀ rich diet might retard the normally observed age-related decline in overall mitochondrial respiratory function⁷. An Australian study showed that oral supplementation with CoQ₁₀ increased CoQH₁₂ in the plasma and all lipoproteins thereby increasing the resistance of LDL to radical oxidation⁸. The maintenance of optimal cellular and mitochondrial function, which is supported by CoQ₁₀, may prevent a decline in cardiovascular health⁹.

COENZYME Q₁₀ AS AN ANTIOXIDANT

The body readily converts CoQ₁₀ to the reduced form, called ubiquinol, which predominates when there is a net generation of ATP in the cell. CoQ₁₀, as an antioxidant improves myocardial tolerance as well as improving oxidation and high energy phosphate production¹⁰. Studies have suggested that CoQ₁₀ can support normal heart health by reducing oxidative stress¹¹. Suppression of the formation of active oxygen leukocytes is another role CoQ₁₀ plays as an antioxidant¹². Mitochondria are strongly involved in production of reactive oxygen species (ROS), considered today to be a pathogenic agent. Researchers suggest that CoQ₁₀ may protect cells from ROS in vivo¹³. Due to the tremendous expansion in medical and dental research concerned

with free radicals, reactive oxygen species, and anti-oxidant defense systems, there is even more emphasis being placed on the effective use of anti-oxidants, with special attention given to CoQ₁₀¹⁴.

COENZYME Q₁₀ AND IMMUNE FUNCTION

The cells and tissues that are involved in immune function are highly dependent on energy and thus require an adequate supply of CoQ₁₀ for optimal function. Studies have shown the immune-supporting effects of CoQ₁₀. Some of the effects include enhanced phagocytic activity of macrophages and increased proliferation of granulocytes in response to infection¹⁵.

Immune function can decline with advancing age. As evidenced by studies of elderly animals, suppression of the immune response was associated with marked decline of CoQ₁₀ levels in thymic tissue¹⁵.

OTHER POSSIBLE ROLES OF COENZYME Q₁₀

Allergy: When animals were given CoQ₁₀, release of both histamine and slow-reacting substance of anaphylaxis induced by antigen challenge was markedly reduced. This may indicate the possible role of CoQ₁₀ in some allergy disorders¹⁶.

Diabetes Mellitus: Diabetes Mellitus is associated with a number of metabolic abnormalities. The electron transport chain, of which CoQ₁₀ is a component, plays a major role in carbohydrate metabolism. Therefore, it may be possible that a deficiency of CoQ₁₀ would have an adverse effect on glucose tolerance¹⁷.

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