

Magnesium

- Low magnesium levels have been linked with asthma^{1,2}
- Patients with asthma who reported a high dietary intake of magnesium had better lung function and a reduction in the relative risk of wheezing^{3,4}
- Intravenous infusion of magnesium produces a rapid and marked bronchodilation in both mild and severe asthma and may be a unique bronchodilating agent^{5,6}
- Signs of low magnesium:
 - Chest Tightness
 - Muscle cramps
 - Weakness
 - Insomnia
 - Kidney stones
 - Osteoporosis
 - Nervousness
 - Restlessness
 - Irritability
 - Depression
 - Anxiety
 - Confusion

References:

1. Fantidis P, et al. Intracellular (polymorphonuclear) magnesium content in patients with bronchial asthma between attacks. **J R Soc Med** 1995;88:441-445.
2. Fox CH, et al. An investigation of hypomagnesemia among ambulatory African Americans. **J Fam Pract** 1999;48:636-639.
3. Hill JM; Britton J. Effect of intravenous magnesium sulphate on airway calibre and airway reactivity to histamine in asthmatic subjects. **Br J Clin Pharmacol** 1996;42:629-631.
4. Hauser SP, et al. Intravenous magnesium administration in bronchial asthma. **Schweiz Med Wochenschr** 1989;119:1633-1635.
5. Okayama H, et al. Bronchodilating effect of intravenous magnesium sulfate in bronchial asthma. **JAMA** 1987;257:1076-1078.
6. Okayama H, et al. Treatment of status asthmaticus with intravenous magnesium sulfate. **J Asthma** 1991;28:11-17.

Vitamin D

- More time spent indoors as a society has led to less sunlight exposure and more vitamin D deficiency¹
- Asthma is widely thought to be an “over immune response” in the airways and vitamin D has been shown to be an immune system regulator^{2,3}
- Vitamin D in the fetus is responsible for the development of the bone, immune system, brain and lungs⁴
- Vitamin D helps the immune system function more correctly and may help to reduce asthma exacerbations and upper respiratory tract infections¹
- Illnesses associated with low Vitamin D:
 - Rickets
 - Osteomalacia
 - Osteoporosis
 - Heart disease
 - Hypertension
 - Autoimmune diseases
 - Certain cancers
 - Depression
 - Chronic fatigue
 - Chronic pain

References:

1. Litonjua AA, Weiss ST. Is vitamin D deficiency to blame for the asthma pandemic? *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2007;120:1031-5.
2. Cantorna MT, Zhu Y, Froicu M, Wittke A. Vitamin D status, 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃, and the immune system. *Am J Clin Nutr* 2004;80:1717S-20S.
3. Liu PT, Stenger S, Li H, Wenzel L, Tan BH, Krutzik SR, et al. Toll-like receptor triggering of a vitamin D-mediated human antimicrobial response. *Science* 2006; 311:1770-3.
4. Nguyen M, Trubert CL, Rizk-Rabin M, Rehan VK, Besancon F, Cayre YE, et al. 1,25-Dihydroxyvitamin D₃ and fetal lung maturation: immunogold detection of VDR expression in pneumocytes type II cells and effect on fructose 1,6 bisphosphatase. *J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol* 2004;89-90:93-7.

Yeast Overgrowth

- Antibiotic therapy, diets that contain refined sugars and processed ingredients, and weakened immune systems can make you prone to yeast overgrowth¹
- Asthma is widely thought to be an “over immune response” in the airways
- References:
 - 1.