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# Intravenous (Micro)nutrient Therapy

## - 피로 중심으로 -

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### Intravenous Nutritional Therapy

- A treatment method, which uses vitamins and minerals and administers these directly into the bloodstream.

### Contents

- History and rationale for IV therapy
- Therapeutic application for IVNT
- Fluid balance assessment(osmolarity)
- Complications of IV therapy
- Pharmacology of IV vitamins and minerals

### History and IVNT (History of Myers' Cocktail)

- John Myers – a physician from Baltimore
- Myers did not leave any published or print material on the composition of the IV treatment
- Myers used a 10-mL syringe and administered by slow IV push
- Current formulations have been modified to by Dr. Alan Gaby who took over care of Dr Myers' patients after his death in 1984

### The Myers' Cocktail

#### • Myers' Cocktail Composition-

Magnesium chloride hexahydrate (20%)	5 ml
Calcium gluconate (10%)	3 ml
Hydroxocobalamin (1,000 mcg/ml)	1 ml
Pyridoxine hydrochloride (100 mg/ml)	1 ml
Dexpanthenol (250 mg/ml)	1 ml
B-complex 100*	1 ml
Vitamin C (500 mg/ml)	5 ml
Sterile Water	20 ml

### B-Complex 100 of The Myers' Cocktail

- B-Complex 100 contains the following per each ml:
  - Thiamine HCl 100mg
  - Riboflavin 2mg
  - Pyridoxine HCl 2mg
  - Panthenol 2mg
  - Niacinamide 100mg
  - Benxyl Alcohol 2%

### Rationale for IV therapy

1. Direct cellular nutrition By avoiding any alteration in the nutrients, which may occur from the actions of digestive enzymes
2. Higher intra- and extracellular concentration of nutrients than can oral supplementation any dose.
3. Immediate therapeutic effects
4. INVT will alleviate nutritional deficiencies

### Theoretical Basis for IVNT

- Intravenous administration of nutrients can **achieve serum concentrations** not obtainable with oral, or even intramuscular administration.
- Vitamin C concentration according to Routes

Administration	Serum concentration
Oral, 200mg/day	1.2mg/dL
Oral, 2500mg/day	1.5mg/dL
Oral, highest concentration	9.3mg/dL
IV 50g/day	80mg/dL

### Theoretical Basis for IV Nutrient Therapy

- Various nutrients have been shown to exert **pharmacological effects, which are in many cases dependent on the concentration** of the nutrient.
- For example, an antiviral effect of vitamin C has been demonstrated at a concentration of 10-15 mg/dL, a level achievable with IV but not oral therapy

### Theoretical Basis for IVNT

- **Correcting Intracellular Nutrient Deficits**
- Higher intracellular nutrient concentration necessary in some cases to maintain proper cellular function
- E.g. Magnesium concentration 10 times higher in myocardial cells as compared to extra-cellular concentrations
- Magnesium ions promote relaxation of both vascular and bronchial smooth muscle – effects that might be useful in the acute treatment of vasospastic angina and bronchial asthma, respectively.

### Therapeutic Applications of IVMT

- Fatigue (including chronic fatigue syndrome)
- Fibromyalgia
- Chemical toxicity
- Asthma
- Migraines
- Acute muscle spasm
- Upper respiratory tract infections
- Chronic sinusitis
- Seasonal allergic rhinitis
- Cardiovascular disease
- Depression
- Narcotic withdrawal
- Chronic urticaria



## Common Ix of IVNT

- Patients who feel generally “unwell” for any number of reasons
- Chronic fatigue syndrome including adrenal fatigue
- Fibromyalgia
- Asthma
- Migraines
- Acute muscle spasm
- Chemical toxicity secondary to any acute, chronic or intermittent exposure to chemicals

## Containdications

- Allergy to a nutrients; impossible
- Severe red cell fragility disorders that present a theoretical risk with hypotonic solutions
  - Thalassemia Major
  - Sickle cell anemia
  - G6PD deficiency

## IVNT 주의사항

- 정상 혈액 osmolarity 275-308 mOsm
- 비타민 B12는 빠르게 소변으로 배설되어 IM 선호
- Glutathione 및 아미노산 제제는 IVNT(비타민 C)와 분리하여 정주

## General Caveats

- Use only preservative-free nutrients
- Use IV solutions only in glass – never in plastic bags
- Never give trace minerals via IV “Push”
- Use a “primer” IV before you give an IV with trace minerals
- Observe the rules for safe osmolarity

## Osmolarity

- Osmolarity (Osm) ;
  - the number of osmoles (Osm) of solute per liter (L) of solution
  - = Osmoles / Volume
- mOsm/L = Milliosmoles / Liter
- mOsm/mL = Milliosmoles / Milliliter

## Calculating Osmolarity for all IVs

- Plasma Osmolarity
  - 0.280 ~ 0.310 mOsm/ml or 280 ~ 310 mOsm/L
- Most IVs are slightly to moderately hypertonic.
- Hypotonic IVs can be dangerous.

## Safe Osmolarity Limits

- IV Infusion (mOsm/ml)
  - Large vein 1.20
  - Medium vein 0.700
  - Any vein 0.400
- The longer the infusion and the smaller the vein, the more conservative you should be with the osmolarity

## Osmolarity

Formula	mOsm/ml	cc	total mOsm
Beecom	2.14	2	4.28
Bivon	2	8	16
Dutenol	1.36	2	2.72
Thiamine	0.92	2	1.84
Mega-C	5.94	20	118.8
Kyominotin	0.29	40	11.6
Bidoxin	1.5	1	1.5
Magnesium	0.8	20	16
5% DW	0.25	200	50
Total		295	222.74

## Calculating osmolarity

- (Total mOsm of additives/0.310) - total volume of additives = ml of water to add
- Ex) 172.74mOsm, 95cc of additives  
 $(172.74 / 0.310) - 95 = 465.23$  cc

## Adverse reactions of IVNT

1. Sensation of heat
  - large doses or rapid administration
  - d/t primarily Mg
  - typically begins in the chest
2. Vasovagal reactions
  - Too rapid administration of Mg
  - lightheadedness or even syncope
  - Mg용량 줄여야

## Adverse reactions of IVNT

3. Anaphylaxis - theoretically possible  
 d/t nonspecific release of histamine  
 Myers' < I.V thiamine  
 thiamine supplementation in the presence of Mg def.  
 increase the severity of the Mg deficiency  
 Mg deficiency → spontaneous release of histamine  
 increase the incidence of experimentally induced anaphylaxis in animals  
 So, Mg in the Myers' reduce the risk of an anaphylactic reaction to thiamine

## The difference between vasovagal and anaphylactic reactions

- Vasovagal
  - Pallor
  - Cold, clammy feel and look
  - Slow pulse with low BP
- Anaphylactic
  - Redness of eyes and often skin
  - Anxiety, sometimes with flushing
  - Rapid pulse with falling BP





## Adverse reactions of IVNT

4. Phlebitis at the injection site  
burning sensation ←- hypertonicity  
diluting the nutrients  
re-positioning the needle  
self-limited  
lasts between one and two weeks

## Treatment of ADR

- Anaphylaxis  
Standard emergency procedures
- Vasovagal reactions  
Keep the IV open – slow it down  
Elevate the feet and legs  
Administer O2 at 3-6L/min

## ABC's of giving an IVNT

- Monitoring for side effects
- Things that must be within reach  
Epi 1:1000  
O2, mask & cannula  
Laryngoscope with multiple sizes of E-T tube

## 사용하는 IV 제제

- Kyominotin 2 ample  
Glycyrrhizinate 53mg  
Glycine 400mg  
Cysteine 15.37mg
- Magnesium  
Mg 2000 mg
- Beecom hexa 1 ample  
Nicotinamide 40mg  
B1 10mg  
B12 10µg  
B2 5.47mg  
B6 5mg  
Dexpanthenol 5.17mg
- Dutenol  
Dexpanthenol 500mg
- Thiamine  
Thiamine 50mg
- Bidoxin  
Pyridoxin 50mg
- Mega-C  
Vit C 10g
- Bivon  
8 cc NaHCO<sub>3</sub>
- Glutathione
- Selenium

## 만성 피로시 IVNT

- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| • MgCl                  | 10 cc(2.0g)         |
| • Pantothenic acid (B5) | 2 cc (500mg)        |
| • Pyridoxine(B6)        | 1 cc (50mg)         |
| • Vitamin C             | 20 cc(10g)          |
| • Bivon                 | 8 cc                |
| • B-complex             | 1 ample             |
| • B1                    | 50 mg               |
| • Reduced Glutathione   | 10 cc(600mg): 따로 IV |
| • Glycyrrhizic acid     | 2 ample             |
| • Selenium              | 0.5 ample           |
| • Amino Acid            |                     |

## Vitamin C

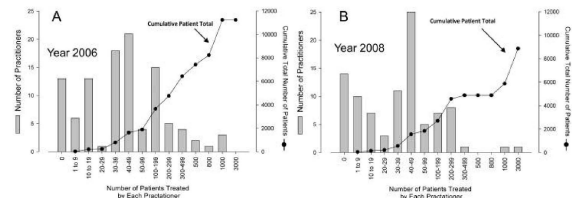
- ↓ oxidative stress upon the mitochondria
- ↓ electron leakage which has been associated with fibromyalgia & CFS
- Supports adrenal gland function
- Coenzyme for the conversion of L-dopa to NE: an important part of the physiologic stress response

### Vitamin C: Intravenous Use by Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practitioners and Adverse Effects

- Attendees at CAM Conferences in 2006 and 2008
- Of 199 survey respondents (out of 550), 172 practitioners
  - IV vitamin C to 11,233 patients in 2006
  - 8876 patients in 2008
- Average dose was 28 grams every 4 days, with 22 total treatments per patient.

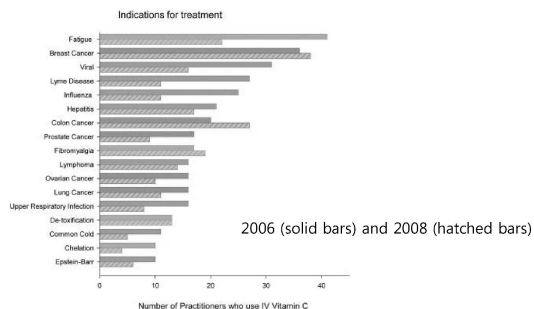
PLoS One. 2010; 5(7): e11414.

### Cumulative total and the distribution of patients treated among the survey respondents



PLoS One. 2010; 5(7): e11414.

### Number of practitioners who used intravenous vitamin C for various conditions



PLoS One. 2010; 5(7): e11414.

### B-complex

- Required for ATP production in glycolysis, TCA cycle and the electron transport chain
- Folic acid deficiency
  - subclinical or clinical macrocytic anemia & fatigue
- Riboflavin ( $B_2$ )
  - ↓ neuromuscular irritability (cramping/spasm) often accompanying CFS
  - helpful for fatigue as it is required for production of the FADH molecule and energy production
  - ↑ mitochondrial function by ↑ FADH production
- Vit  $B_5$ 
  - required for adrenal hormone, metabolism of fatty acids, protein and CHO

### Vit $B_6$

- Coenzyme for Mg and synergist of Mg
- Required coenzyme for hundreds of metabolic reactions
- Improve tingling, pain, weakness & numbness

### Vit $B_{12}$

- In Fatigue pts,
  - impaired transport of vit  $B_{12}$  across the BBB,
  - accelerated breakdown of vit  $B_{12}$  in the brain
- Recommended I.M in the morning d/t excitatory effect of vit  $B_{12}$

CFIDS Chronicle 1997(Winter):57

CFIDS Chronicle 1999(Nov/Dec):14-16



## Magnesium

- Major role in reactions involving ATP, DNA & RNA
- Many enzymes (over 400) require Mg
- Required for the shuttling of potassium intracellularly
- Often deficient in fibromyalgia – 45%
  - low at sites of tenderness in pts with fibromyalgia
- In balance with Ca - between 2:1 and 1:2
  - good to reduce intracellular Ca & abnormal calcification

Arthritis Rheum 1994;37:790-793

## Magnesium

- Highly concentrated in the adrenal gland
- Required in the TCA cycle as Mg for energy production
- Sx of CFS are quite similar to Mg deficiency
  - IV Mg → rapid resolution of chronic muscle pain
- Helps regulate blood sugar balance

Magnes Trace Elem 1990;9:333

## Glutathione

- Required for the proper function of the Hexosmonophosphate Pump required for Hb production
- Helps shunt Mg into cells

## Glycyrrhizic acid

- component of licorice root
- reduce AST, ALT in serum
- inhibits immune-mediated cytotoxicity against hepatocytes and NF-kappa B
- powerful antiviral effects particularly against hepatitis C
- Lower estrogen, raise progesterone
- aldosterone-like effects
  - Licorice root >3g/d or glycyrrhizin acid >100mg/d, >6 weeks
  - Na and water retention, HTN, hypokalemia, renin-aldosterone inhibition
  - BP, electrolyte monitoring
  - Recommend potassium intake

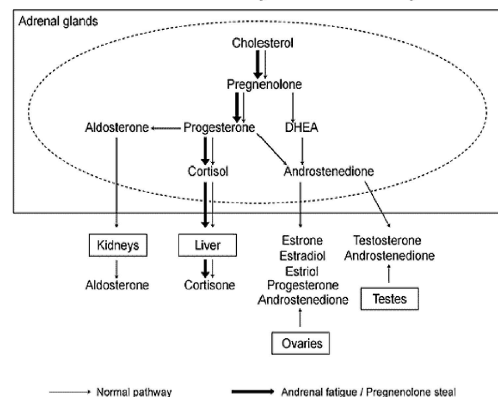
## Glycyrrhizic acid

- Supports the adrenal gland
- ↑ cortisol availability
- Effects of glucocorticoids & mineralocorticoids by slowing the rate of their catabolism

Arzneimittelforschung 1979;29(4):647-649  
Clin Sci(Coeh)2002;102:203-211

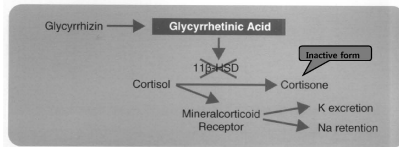
Endocrinol Jpn 1990;37:331-341  
Arzneimittelforschung 1979;29(4):647-649  
J Clin Endocrinol Metab 1956;16:338-349  
Endocrinol Jpn 1957;4:17-27

## Steroid Hormone Synthesis Pathways



## Glycyrrhizic acid

- Inhibit dehydrogenation of cortisol
- Prolong the life of progesterone, exert a weak amphoteric estrogenic action and improve general gonadotropic rhythms in body



Korean Integrative Medicine Institute 14th International Symposium on Functional Medicine

## Amino Acids (8.5%)

- required for detoxification, immune function
- Tyrosine
  - required for the synthesis of thyroid hormone
  - enhance dopamine, catecholamine synthesis
  - improve stress-associated declines in noradrenaline and performance
- Phenylalanine
  - Precursor to tyrosine, dopamine, L-dopa, NE, epi
  - All required for a proper stress response

## Amino Acids (8.5%)

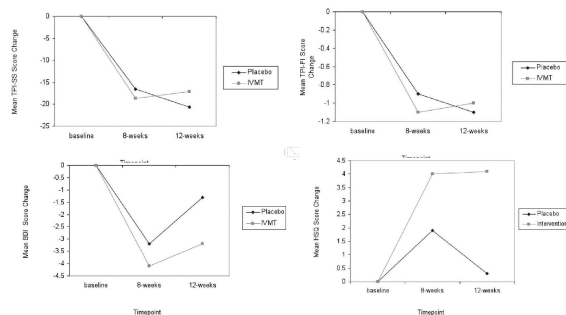
- Subnormal 24-hour urinary excretion in CFS pts
  - methionine, phenylalanine, isoleucine, lysine, tryptophan, valine, leucine
- significant clinical improvement after 3 months in 15 of 25 pts with CFS

## Intravenous Micronutrient Therapy (Myers' Cocktail) for Fibromyalgia: A Placebo-Controlled Pilot Study

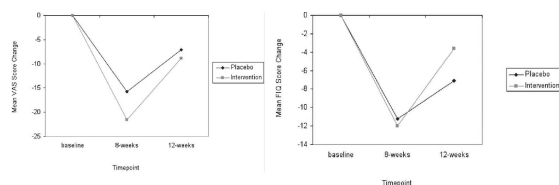
- **Subjects;** 34 adults with ACR-defined FMS.
- **Intervention**
  - treatment (weekly infusions of IVMT) for 8 weeks
  - placebo (weekly infusions of lactated Ringer's solution)
- **Outcome measures**
  - Tender Point Index, assessed 8 and 12 weeks after initiation.
  - Visual Analog Scale to assess global pain,
  - Physical function (Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire), mood (Beck Depression Index), quality of life (Health Status Questionnaire 2.0).

J Altern Complement Med. 2009 ; 15(3): 247–257.

## Change in Outcome Measures at 8 Weeks Following Treatment



## Change in Outcome Measures at 8 Weeks Following Treatment



### Conclusions

- Most subjects experienced relief as compared to baseline,
- but no statistically significant differences were seen between IVMT and placebo.

J Altern Complement Med. 2009 ; 15(3): 247–257.



## What is Fibromyalgia (FMS)?

- Clinical syndrome of unknown etiology and pathogenesis
- Characterized by musculoskeletal pain, non restorative sleep and fatigue, psychiatric, neurological and other symptoms

## From Practice, to Theory-

- Predisposing Factor HLA Susceptibility or Precipitating Factors (Trauma/Medical illness)
  - Autoimmune Disorder: Formation of autoantibodies to surface proteins on myocytes or endothelial cells
  - Deficiency in Nitric Oxide Production or Impaired Release of, or Response to, Nitric Oxide
  - Vasomotor Dysregulation
  - Muscle Hypoperfusion
  - Impaired intracellular energetics
  - Induction of Pain
- Katz DL et al. The Pain of Fibromyalgia Syndrome is due to Muscle Hypoperfusion Induced by Regional Vasomotor Dysregulation. Medical Hypotheses: In press

## Arginine

- Precursor to NO production
- Vasodilatory influence
- Ameliorates endothelial function
- Also:
  - Promotes production of growth hormone. FM patients have an abnormal sleep pattern involving stages 3 and 4 of non REM sleep. As GH is secreted predominantly during stages 3 and 4 of non-REM sleep, it was originally hypothesized that FM patients may have impaired GH secretion

## Vitamin B3, B6, tryptophan and magnesium

- FMS patients may be deficient in serotonin because the tryptophan obtained from food metabolizes into kynurenin rather than to tryptophan and 5-htp.
- 5-htp is likely to be more efficient than L-tryptophan in boosting serotonin.
- A combination of Vitamin B3 and B6 plus tryptophan and magnesium addresses serotonin deficiency.

## Malic acid

- FMS is the result of local hypoxia to the muscles.
- Muscle biopsies from affected areas showed muscle tissue glycolysis is inhibited, reducing ATP synthesis.
  - > This stimulates the process of gluconeogenesis, which results in muscle tissue breakdown and mitochondrial damage.
- Malic acid reverses hypoxia induced inhibition of glycolysis and energy production, possibly improving energy production in fibromyalgia, and reversing the negative effect of the relative hypoxia

## About FMS

- The needs of FMS patients are not fully met at present
- Practice may inform theory; theory may then serve to advance practice
- If a causal pathway for FMS can be established, we can better direct our efforts at breaking the links

## Magnesium for headache

- Magnesium (1 gram iv acutely)
  - (soy beans, black beans, tofu, seeds, nuts, whole grains, shellfish)

Mauskop. Headache, 2002; Pfaffenrath. Cephalgia, 1996  
Mazzotta. Cephalgia, 1999; Wang, Headache, 2003  
Peikert. Cephalgia, 1996; Facchinetti F, Headache, 1991

## Magnesium - mechanism

- Ionized magnesium levels low in 50% of MHA patients
- Migraines associated with platelet aggregation, serotonin release
- Magnesium reduces platelet aggregation
- Magnesium decreases the affinity of serotonin for vascular receptor sites
- Magnesium acts as an NMDA receptor (glutamate receptor) antagonist
  - NMDA receptors & pain transmission
  - Inhibits one type of neuronal spreading depression in experimental models

## Consequences of Reduced Mg++

- Vasoconstriction of scalp arteries
- Reduced affinity of serotonin receptors
- Lower threshold for activation of N-methyl-d-aspartate receptors
- Enhanced platelet aggregation and serotonin release

## Trials with Mg++ Supplements

- An **infusion of 1.0 g of magnesium sulfate** in 40 patients with acute migraine
  - 52% responded to therapy
  - 86% of the responders had low serum ionized Mg++ levels
  - 16% of the non-responders had low serum ionized Mg++ levels.

Mauskop A. Alternative therapies in headache – Is there a role? Medical Clinics of North America 85(4): 1077-84; 2001.

## Trials with Mg++ Supplements

- Four trials with oral magnesium supplementation
- Three of the four showed efficacy
- The one negative trial used a poorly absorbed magnesium salt which resulted in diarrhea

## Current Use of Mg++ Supplements

- 500 mg/day K+ Mg++ aspartate
- Avoid combining with Fe, Ca, Zn
- May cause temporary diarrhea
- Magnesium gluconate – an alternate
- Menstrual migraine – months to benefit

Mann, Doug et al. "Migraine and Tension-Type Headache." *Integrative Medicine*. Ed. David Rackel MD. Philadelphia: Sanders, 2006 143-156.



## Summary

- IVNT appears promising for treatment of Fatigue, Myalgia, Migraine symptoms
- Use of IVNT is effective at present, although still over the line of evidence
- Future efforts will need to move further 'upstream'