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Amazentis: healthy living designed by nature

Patrick Aebischer, MD

Combating Aging by Rejuvenating Mitochondria

Amazentis is pioneering the next generation of natural compounds to manage and reverse age-related decline in cellular mitochondrial function



Developing products extending from Consumer and Medical Nutrition to Pharmaceuticals

We are living twice as long as our forefathers



Percentage Change in the World's Population by Age: 2010-2050



Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision.

- 65+ population is projected to increase 188%
- 85-and-over population is projected to increase 351% between 2010 and 2050

Aging, a physiological decline



Brain

- Dementia -> AD
- Hearing & vision loss
- Depression

Fat

- Obesity
- Diabetes





Heart

- Atherosclerosis
- Myocardial infarction

Muscle

- Sarcopenia
- Glucose intolerance

Key functions: mobility & cognition

Molecular mechanisms of aging



Mitochondria, the cell energy provider



Mitochondria are the site of:

- Respiration
- Production of ATP
- Fatty acid burning
- Aerobic glycolysis
- Heme biosynthesis

But also the site of:

- Generation of free radicals damage mitochondrial protein, lipids and DNA
- Damaged mitochondria can initiate apoptosis

Boosting mitochondrial activity by caloric restriction



Caloric restriction increases lifespan in many species

Yeast (7 days)



30-75% w/ glucose restriction

Drosophila (40 days)



30-60% w/ yeast restriction

C. Elegans (20 days)



25-70% w/ bacterial dilution

Mice (800 days)



20-60% w/caloric restriction

The Wisconsin study : restriction of 30% over 20 years

- slow down the aging process
- Incidence of diabetes, cancer, CV diseases
- • cerebral atrophy



Caloric restriction in humans: accumulating evidence

Cell Metabolism

Metabolic Slowing and Reduced Oxidative Damage with Sustained Caloric Restriction Support the Rate of Living and Oxidative Damage Theories of Aging

Graphical Abstract



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Clinical and Translational Report

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In Brief

Calorie restriction (CR) has been shown to have health benefits and to extend lifespan in diverse species.

Redman et al. conducted a 2-year CR trial in healthy, non-obese humans and found evidence that prolonged CR enhances resting energy efficiency, resulting in decreased systemic oxidative damage.

Caloric restriction pathways related to aging



Resveratrol, a natural mimetic of caloric restriction?





Nutritional bioactives that boost mitochondrial health



Resveratrol

Lagouge et al, Cell, 2006 Canto et al, *Nature*, 2009

Nicotinamide Riboside

Canto et al, *Cell Metabolism*, 2012 Mouchiroud et al, *Cell*, 2013

Urolithin A

Ryu et al, Nature Medicine, 2016 Amazentis SA

Mitochondrial targets to improve muscle function



Dietary ellagitannins as a source of urolithins



Only 30% of the population can perform this conversion and to varying degrees: microbiome dependent

Urolithin A induces autophagy in *C. elegans* similar to caloric restriction

lgg-1 is the worm homolog of LC3B, a key protein involved in the autophagosome formation.



UA induces the formation of autophagosome in GFP::LGG-1 worm strain, similar to food deprivation, a well known inducer of autophagy

Urolithin A extends lifespan in C. elegans



UA extends lifespan dose-dependently

Short-term Urolithin A oral administration to aged mice dramatically improves running endurance capacity



Older mice fed UA for 6 weeks, **while on an optimal diet**, showed a marked improvement in running endurance levels.



Values are mean \pm s.e.m. *P \leq 0.05, ***P \leq 0.001; by Student's t-test

Muscle decline during aging





There are ~56 million people 65 years and older projected by 2020 in the United States alone.

Worldwide, there will be more than 1 billion people over 65 years old by 2030.

Urolithin A was evaluated in a Phase 1 Clinical Study

Key Outcomes

- Shown to be very safe and well tolerated at all doses tested
- Bioavailable and maintains steady state plasma levels
- Stimulates mitochondrial biogenesis in the skeletal muscle



Double-blind, randomized, placebo controlled human trial

Urolithin A induced a molecular signature in human skeletal muscle mitochondria that resembles regular exercise



N=9

N=11

Mitochondrial Health is at the heart of most age-related conditions



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Amazentis' board members



Patrick Aebischer, MD, Chairman

- Co-founder of Amazentis
- President emeritus, EPFL
- Board of Directors: Nestlé, Lonza, Logitech
- Chairman, Novartis Venture Fund
- Senior partner of NanoDimension-III



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Chris Rinsch, PhD

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- Inventages Venture Capital (Nestlé Fund)
- Modex Therapeutics / Isotis SA
- MBA (INSEAD)



Thierry Lombard

- Partner, Landolt & Cie
- Former Senior Partner in Lombard Odier (42yrs)
- Former President of the Family Business International Foundation (FBIF)
- Member of the ICRC



Eric Lohrer

- Investment professional at Loreda Holding, a large single family office
- Formerly, director level executive at Johnson & Johnson (10+ yrs)
- Board member/advisor: portfolio of biotech & medical device companies.



Odile Rundquist, PhD

- Senior Scientific Advisor representing Mr. André Hoffmann, vice-chairman of Roche
- Former Senior Pharmaceutical Analyst at leading investment banks (10yrs)

Goal: die young as late as possible



Madonna della Melagrana, Sandro Botticelli, 1487 ...simbolo di fecondità, abbondanza e regalità...



Thank you for your attention

Urolithin A improves fitness in *C. elegans*



Improved pharyngeal pumping & mobility is indicative of better muscle function in aged worms

Hand Grip Strength is closely linked to human lifespan and mortality



Better hand muscle strength correlates with longer life expectancy and vitality