Healing the Blood Brain Barrier (BBB);

Suzanne Gazda MD Integrative Neurologist, ISEAI Member

- 1. Assume that in most/all neurological problems, there are one and or two things going on; A)BBB is leaking
 - B) Neuro-inflammation from immune cell activation
- **2.** We address both with the same techniques:
- 3. Turn off what is causing the leak--the *Cell Danger Response (CDR)*, assaulting the brain.
- **4.** Improve brain homeostasis while up-regulating mitochondrial function and the body's way of cleaning out damaged cells, in order to regenerate newer, healthier cells (*autophagy*).
 - A) The cells making up the BBB; glial cells & astrocytes are RICH in mitochondria.
 - B) Some things that help boost mitochondrial function are;
 - 01) Intermittent fasting; Ketogenic diet promotes autophagy.
 - 02) In mice studies, 24 hours of fasting was best for the brain since in the brain in takes longer to turn on autophagy.
- **5.** Heal the Gut: the gut brain connection is a BIG deal Metabolic products produced by the microbiome, such as short-chain fatty acids, can cross the BBB to affect brain function. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29392733
- 6. Exercise
- 7. Sleep
 - A) The brain needs BOTH the BBB and the glymphatic for clearing mechanisms Disruption of these mechanisms can lead to protein accumulation and may initiate neurodegenerative disorders <u>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29608988</u>
- **8.** Sunlight and Vit D:
 - A) Vit D deficiency affects brain 'scaffolding'
 - B) Low Vit D has been linked to neuropsychiatric diseases like schizophrenia
- 9. Reduce stress
 - A) There's strong validity to the argument that it helps the brain relax, increases the blood flow to the brain, and reduces cortisol levels.
 - B) A regular meditation practice has been shown to increase gray matter
 - C) Loneliness increases inflammation <u>https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0889159119303174?dgcid=raven_sd_a</u> <u>ip_email</u>
- 10. Photo modulation with Red light therapy promotes mitochondrial function
- **11.** Heat Stress/IR sauna
- **12.** Support NAD:
 - A) NAD is called *the essence of life and* has a key role in mitochondrial function
 - 01) Like Nadovim <u>https://nadovim.com/science/#the_formula</u> 2 q am which is a mixture of
 - (a) a highly bioavailable form of NAD
 - (b)Cats claw
 - (c)Coenzyme Q 10
 - (d)Mg
 - (e) Thiamine
- **13.** Other Mitochondrial function and autophagy supplements:
 - A) Resveratrol 150 mg to 250 mg/day

- B) D-Ribose (Studies have looked at D-Ribose in neurodegenerative diseases such as early ALS and MS with promising results)
- C) High dose antioxidants (Vitamin's C, D, E & A)
- D) Coenzyme Q 10 or Ubiquinone if older
- E) ALA (alpha lipoid acid) 200 mg bid
- F) N-acetyl cysteine-Human trials done after injury of active duty military NAC showed decreased brain inflammation and oxidative stress markers
- G) Metformin may help with autophagy/studies are mixed
- H) Isorhynchophylline, a natural alkaloid, promotes the degradation of alpha-synuclein in neuronal cells via inducing autophagy
- 14. Autophagy, 8:1, 98-108, DOI:
 - 10.4161/auto.8.1.18313 https://doi.org/10.4161/auto.8.1.18313
- **15.** Control glucose and address insulin resistance:
 - A) High blood sugar which
 - B) Produces oxidative stress and inflammation and leads to...
 - C) Insulin resistance in the brain
- 16. Reduce obesity:
 - A) Leads to inflammation August 20, 2019; 93 (8) ARTIICLE Neurology July 24, 2019, In this study,
 - B) Measures of obesity are associated with MRI markers of brain aging
 - 01) Reduced gray matter
 - 02) High-fat diet or
 - 03) Overeating
 - C) Leads to leptin resistance
- 17. Look to the Liver:
 - A) Liver damage releases a signal called MMP9 into the bloodstream that increases BBB permeability
- **18.** Reduce overall toxic load:
 - A) Chemical
 - B) Heavy metals
 - C) Up regulate detox mechanisms
 - 01) Avoid exposure
 - 02) Optimize oral microbiome
- **19.** Hormone balance:
 - A) Studies have found that brain energy decreases up to 40% on average during peri- and early menopause, and
 - B) Women in this group have more Alzheimer's plaques than men of similar age or younger women.
 - C) Progesterone and estradiol are steroid hormones that has neuroprotective effects on injured brain cells &...
 - D) Progesterone potentiates the effect of vitamin D.
 - E) **Pregnenolone** benefits the brain by helping regulate myelination.
 - F) Make sure thyroid is optimized
- **20.** Reduce homocysteine
 - A) Elevated Homocysteine damages the brain

- 01) At Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University,
 - (a) they show in mice that diet-induced increases in homocysteine levels directly contribute to the
 - (b)development of damaging neurofibrillary tangles,
 - (c) which result from the progressive accumulation of abnormal tau protein in the brain.
 - (d)Homocysteine should be 6-7 or less.
- 21. Supplements to increase Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF)
 - A) Curcumin 750-1500 mg / day
 - B) Cats Claw please note that Nadovim has this in it
 - C) Exercise
 - D) Sleep
 - E) Lions Maine mushroom 500 mg once or twice a day
 - F) Liposomal melatonin (given 2-3hr before bedtime) to reduce brain inflammation.
 - 01) I like to work up to 20 mg / day if tolerated for brain health/some say 100 mg is needed for optimal brain health but it's tough to tolerate very high doses
 - G) Cordycepin: Reduced pro inflammatory cytokines and increased BDNF in mice w MS Int Immunopharmacol. 2019 Jul 26;75:105777. doi: 10.1016/j.intimp.2019.105777.
- 22. Brain neurotrophics;
 - A) DHE/DHA has been shown to promote amyloid-ß plaque clearance from the brain
 - B) DHA has been shown to decrease tau tangles
 - C) Phosphatidylserine (PS)
 - D) important role in cell signaling
 - E) Desensitizes hypothalamic cortisol receptors, and
 - F) Serine can be converted into glycine, an inhibitory NT given at 100–300 mg/d in divided doses.
 - G) Bacopa used in ancient medicine practices for 1000's of years for memory and cognitive 200–600 mg/d in divided doses
 - H) Green tea/ polyphenols or Whole coffee fruit extract (WCFE), 100 mg once or twice per day for three months, then withdraw slowly over one month. Eat 1 to 2 servings of dark chocolate Consider 100– 300 mg green tea extract
 - I) Synapsin
 - J) Seleginline: Acts as an antioxidant and protects against glutamate toxicity
 - K) PQQ, or pyrroloquinoline quinone.
 - 01) PQQ is an enzyme cofactor possessing
 - 02) Antioxidative
 - 03) Neuroprotective; protects neurons by preventing the long term over-activation of the NMDA receptor 10 to 20 mg/ day
 - L) Scutellarin baicalinase's:
 - 01) Antioxidant
 - 02) Attenuates microglial activation
 - 03) Reduces neuroinflammation
 - 04) 2 or 3 teaspoons or 2 capsules per day, to enhance branching of neurons in the hippocampus.
 - M) Other mast cell stabilizers like
 - 01) Luteolin
 - 02) Quercetin

- 03) Mirica
 - (a) Dr Ackerly uses: Miraca at 2 tid in worst pain patients plus
 - (b) Neuroprotek 2 qd plus working up to 4.5 mg
 - (c)LDN
- N) Taurine
 - 01) Taurine helps with neurogenesis
 - 02) Increases cerebral blood flow, and
 - 03) Activates neuronal stem cells.
 - 04) Also great for liver support
- O) Glycine
- P) Magnesium threonate blocks the NMDA receptor
- Q) L-tyrosine: 500mg/ day improves memory and focus
- R) Citicoline; 250 mg twice per day
- S) Vit B 6 20 mg tid
- T) L theanine Helps with
 - 01) Sleep
 - 02) Depression
 - 03) Anxiety
 - 04) Memory
 - 05) L-Theanine: 100–200 mg/d. up to 800 mg/day in dd/blocks glutamate receptors
- U) Rhodiola
 - 01) For mental fatigue & stress
 - (a)200mg once or twice a day or
 - 02) Ashwagandha
 - 03) 500 mg, twice per day with meals
 - 04) Ashwagandha helps in
 - (a) The reduction of amyloid, as well as in
 - (b) Handling stress)

V) Ginkgo biloba

- 01) Neuroprotection
- 02) Studies have found that it has
 - (a)-oxidant and

(b)Anti-amyloid properties

- W) Huperzine A
 - 01) Inhibits the breakdown of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine
- X) Grape seed extract
 - 01) Potent anti-inflammatory
 - 02) Antioxidant
 - 03) Helps mitochondria
- Y) Gotu kola
 - 01) 500 mg twice per day with meals, to
 - 02) Increase focus and
 - 03) Alertness
- 23. Avoid Calcium supplementation in patients with PANS and PANDAS
 - A) It can fuel the NMDA receptor

24. Boost immune function

A) IVIG

- 01) One of the many reasons I love IVIG is because it has
- 02) Neuroprotective effects and studies have shown it can
- 03) Improve BBB function
- 04) Dose must be 2 gm/kg

B) LDN

C) Tinospora cordifolia (guduchi) is helpful to

- 01) Boost immune support.
- 02) It is taken at a dosage of 300 mg with meals, 2 or 3 times per day
- D) CBD has many neurological and immune benefits