

Session #8

Abstract #39. THE USE OF THYMUS EXTRACTS AS AN
EXOGENOUS FACTOR IN IMMUNOSENESCENCE
AND A MEDIATOR OF CHRONIC DISEASE

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The thymus gland plays a significant but generally unrecognized role in the process of aging. Many of the diseases and disabling processes associated with aging specifically relate to decreased activity of the thymus. Thymus extracts have been shown to modify and sometimes eliminate some of these processes. Although there is some evidence for improvements seen using thymus extracts have been within the cellular branch of immunity involving T-lymphocytes (helper/inducer suppressor, cytotoxic, natural killer cells (NK), killer cells and macrophages). The cellular branch of immunity is responsible for vigilance against chronic viruses, fungi, yeast and parasitic infections, as well as neoplasms and aging.

Thymus extracts have been successfully used orally and as injectables: by themselves and in combination with other therapeutics. Overall, the results are extremely positive with no reports of undesirable side effects or toxicities and demonstrating. They have shown effectiveness in decreasing immunosenescence as well as a variety of clinical conditions including: acute and chronic bronchitis, bronchial asthma and chronic respiratory infections: diseases and infections of viral origin such as Herpes simplex (HSV) and acute and chronic hepatitis B; allergies including perennial allergic rhinitis and bronchial asthma skin conditions such as atopic dermatitis and psoriasis; and autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and scleroderma. Some of the most severe clinical conditions showed the most profound recovery. The thymus extracts were beneficial in nearly all studies with the degree of efficacy ranging from symptomatic relief to curative.

Conclusion: Many of the effects of aging are the result of decreased immune function. Thymus extracts have been shown to be a powerful clinical tool and extremely versatile in treating a wide variety of illnesses associated with aging and clinical conditions ranging from mild to life threatening. The favorable clinical response combined with the lack of side effects or toxicity makes the use of thymus extracts an important treatment option that has yet to be recognized on this continent.