Boost Your Liver Function Naturally

The liver is one of the most important of all our vital organs. The liver is responsible for filtering and detoxifying environmental toxins and pathogenic organisms. Unlike many organs, a failing liver is unable to be surgically fixed or replaced. Improve your liver health with natural strategies.

The liver is a vital digestive organ that converts nutrients from the food we eat into essential blood components. It helps to store vitamins and minerals and produces key proteins and enzymes that maintain hormonal balance in the body. The liver helps the immune system fight infections and removes microorganisms from the blood stream. It also produces bile which is essential for digesting fats in our diet.

What Harms The Liver?

The most harmful things for liver health include environmental toxins, infectious organisms, alcohol, and poor diet. Exposure to environmental toxins and chemicals can backlog the liver as it tries to neutralize and deactivate these poisonous molecules. These chemicals include xylene, benzene, disinfectant byproducts, heavy metals, pesticides, and cigarette smoke.

Infectious organisms are a major cause of liver stress and inflammation. The most well-known organisms are the hepatitis viruses with the hepatitis B & C viruses being the most dangerous. Any sort of chronic infection in the body such as lyme, influenza, aflatoxin and other mycotoxins have the ability to inflame and damage the liver as well

Poor Diet Damages The Liver

Alcohol and poor diet damage the liver as well. Alcohol must go through the liver's detoxification cycle to be metabolized and deactivated in the body. Chronic alcohol consumption depletes the liver of valuable glutathione, sulfur compounds, and methylating elements such as zinc, riboflavin, B6, folate, and B12.

Poor blood sugar signaling and a diet high in processed foods that contain toxic additives, preservatives, pesticides, GMO's, etc. drain the liver of valuable glutathione,sulfurcompounds, and methylating elements. Often times, individuals who consume a diet high in alcohol and processed foods are not consuming the key nutrients they need to produce glutathione, sulfotransferases, and methylating agents.

The Liver Health Nutrition Plan

Foods that are challenging for the liver should be eliminated. This includes processed and refined foods and common food sensitivities such as gluten, soy, peanuts, pasteurized dairy, and corn.

Foods that are high in mycotoxins must be minimized as well. This would include most legumes and nuts which should only be consumed in small moderation. Be sure to get your organic, mold-free coffee and raw cacao and refrigerate it to prevent mycotoxin formation.

Anyone with liver challenges should be vigilant about using only certified organic, chemical free products. This includes all food choices, personal hygiene products, and household cleaning agents. Reducing toxin exposure from the environment including water and air filtration is very important.

Liver Detoxification Lifestyle

A lifestyle that supports liver detoxification includes reducing toxic exposure while simultaneously enhancing immunity, rebuilding glutathione levels, sulfur compounds and methylation.

We use the phrase, “Bitter is good for the liver,” to help us remember that bitter herbs are especially good for the liver and the body’s detoxification process.

Using detoxification techniques such as Epsom saltbaths, coffee enemas, oil pulling, dry brushing, intermittent fasting, water flushing, and infrared sauna are especially helpful for strengthening the liver. These should be done whenever possible along with consuming liver healthy foods.

Best Foods For Liver Health

Some of the best liver benefiting foods include those that are rich in B vitamins, vitamin C, and trace minerals. This would include lots of raw veggies like celery, spinach, cucumbers, and romaine lettuce and steamed veggies such as the cruciferous family. It is also especially advisable to juice your veggies to better absorb the nutrients. Citrus fruit and berries are especially good for the liver.

Using herbs such as ginger, milk thistle, cilantro, watercress, wormwood, mint, horseradish, sorrel, radish, peppermint, parsley, dandelion, coriander, garlic, and turmeric are especially good for liver health. A great juicing recipe for liver and kidney health is spinach, celery, cucumber, lemon, and ginger. Another favorite is kale, cucumber, parsley, celery, and lime.

Eating liver from an organic, pasture-raised animal provides powerful nutritional support for liver health. This would include grass-fed beef liver, fish liver, wild-game liver, or

pasture-raised chicken liver. Pasture-raised eggs are also an incredible source of liver supportive nutrients such as sulfur compounds, methylating elements, and glutathione precursers.



Boosting Phase I Liver Detox Support

This is the Cytochrome P450 enzyme phase that transforms the toxins into a chemical form for further metabolism in phase II. These P450 enzymes depend upon amino acids, vitamin A, B2, B3, C, E, folate, iron, calcium, copper, zinc, magnesium, and selenium. Deficiencies in these nutrients slow the transformation of specific toxins. The top threats to these deficiencies include blood sugar imbalances, a deficient diet and poor gut function that hampers nutrient absorption.

The best foods for these key nutrients include dark green leafy veggies, citrus fruits, berries, carrots and organic nuts & seeds such as Brazil nuts, almonds, pecans, pumpkin seeds, hemp seeds, and chia seeds among other things. Consuming pastured eggs and liver from pasture-raised animals are a fantastic source of many of these key nutrients.

Boosting Phase II Liver Detox Support

Phase II liver support is when the various toxins are conjugated into water soluble forms. The conjugation reactions involve multiple pathways. The key nutrients needed to boost phase II liver detoxification include methylating agents, glutathione and sulfur compounds.

Methylation depends upon high levels of vitamin B2, B3, B6,

Folate, and B12 as well as trimethylglycine and choline. We get these nutrients from dark-green leafy veggies, organ meats and pasture-raised eggs among other sources.

Glutathione boosting agents include milk thistle, turmeric, non-denatured whey protein, pasture-raised eggs, onions, and cruciferous veggies.

Sulfur compounds such as cysteine and methionine are found in onions, garlic, pasture-raised eggs, and cruciferous veggies.

Boosting Phase III Liver Detox Support

This process transports the transformed, conjugated toxins out of the cells and into a shuttle to get it into the urine or bile for excretion. This depends upon enzymes that are formed from nutrients we described above.

Additional support comes from nutrients that improve bile flow, blood purification, and soluble fiber sources. Bile Flow support comes from ginger, yarrow, artichoke, dandelion, cumin,and fennel. Blood purification comes from chlorophyll rich foods such as wheat grass, oat grass, chlorella, and spirulina along with regular consumption of dark, green leafy veggies.

Soluble fiber sources such as chia, flax, hemp and pumpkin seeds are a tremendous help to the liver detoxification process. These fibers bind up the excreted bile and deactivated toxins. Insoluble fiber sources such as fruit and veggies help to sweep fiber/bile/toxin compounds out of the system through the bowels.

Recommended Reading:

- *Detox Cheap and Easy Without Fasting – Recipes Included*
- *How to Detoxify From Chemotherapy and Repair the Body*
- *How To Detoxify and Heal From Vaccinations – For Adults and Children*

Sources For This Article:

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- *What is a Detox?* – Patch