

# NANOSILVER FOR Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

Could your current bout with chronic fatigue or rheumatoid arthritis be blamed on the smallest bacterial form of them all? While mycoplasmas may be the smallest and simplest subclass of bacteria, their wide-ranging and complex effects on the human body are anything but. The unique biological properties of certain altered forms of mycoplasma have been found to present challenges atypical to those caused by most bacterial pathogens.

As it has the smallest genome of any bacteria, mycoplasmas can replicate independently of host cells. Unlike typical bacteria, a mycoplasma's lack of a cell wall allows it to invade tissue and deeply penetrate the white blood cells. Mycoplasmas are slow-growing microorganisms that activate the immune system and then hide from it. These organisms are systemic; that is, they can reach all of the body's tissues and organs, causing complex symptoms. Mycoplasma infection has been implicated as a cofactor in AIDS, rheumatoid arthritis, respiratory infection, and a host of other illnesses, including chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) and Gulf War syndrome.

## MYCOPLASMA-CHRONIC FATIGUE LINK

Researchers have noted a strong relationship between CFS and one particular mycoplasma species, *Mycoplasma fermentans* (*incognitus*). A recent study revealed that 52 percent of CFS patients have some kind of mycoplasma infection, as compared to 15 percent of healthy people. Specifically, the study revealed *Mycoplasma fermentans* in 34 percent of CFS patients and only 8 percent of healthy people. These results are confirmed by a November 2002 study published in the journal *FEMS Immunology and Medical Microbiology*, where researchers state that "the prevalence of mycoplasma species infections in CFS has been extensively reported in the scientific literature." In

addition, they add, "Multiple mycoplasma infections were detected in 45 patients (17.2 percent)."

Researchers emphasize that these results should not be construed to mean that mycoplasma infection causes CFS. However, it may be a cofactor in compromising the immune system and allowing other agents to produce symptoms of CFS.

Additionally, military forces returning from Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield have reported a variety of health problems. The disorder referred to as Gulf War syndrome or Gulf War illness (GWI) has afflicted approximately 100,000 veterans and their families. Dr. Garth Nicolson and other researchers and physicians have noted the similarity between the symptoms of CFS and those of GWI. Studies have found a sizable number (32 percent) of *Mycoplasma fermentans* infections among GWI sufferers. This evidence indicates that *M. fermentans* may also be an important cofactor in the illness of Persian Gulf War veterans. (Interestingly, veterans returning from the battlefield in Iraq appear to be experiencing a different type of syndrome involving fast-moving cancers that some experts suspect might be linked with the use of depleted uranium in armaments, which is inhaled as a dust.)

Because mycoplasma is one of the few major pathogens that cannot be easily cultivated *in vitro*, conventional antibody tests can't identify these organisms, and they can go undetected for years. To eliminate the pathogenic mycoplasmas, the human body needs a fully healthy immune system, which most patients with chronic illnesses do not have.

Currently, the strategy for dealing with mycoplasma is to enhance the immune system, along with prolonged drug therapy. Some CFS and GWS sufferers who test positive for *M. fermentans* have realized dramatic improvement with long-term cycles of antibiotics. These treatments often require taking antibiotics for several months or years, as the organism resides deep in the cells and has a long life cycle.

Antibiotics may not be a sure cure for mycoplasma infections. Since *M. fermentans* has the ability to change its cellular makeup with every



## Silver-Chronic Fatigue Protocol

Take one teaspoon of a quality silver hydrosol preparation 4 to 6 times daily. Silver may be used with antibiotics or probiotics, but should be taken separately. Be sure to work with, and

cell division, it may be difficult for readily available antibiotics to completely eliminate this organism from the body.

Hugh Smith, Ph.D., of Life Sources, Inc., in Encinitas, California, has been doing some promising work using silver hydrosol. Smith is one of the nation's leading experts on mycoplasma infection and its role in seemingly difficult-to-treat chronic health conditions, especially CFS, arthritis, and multiple sclerosis. Having worked with hundreds of patients over the past decade, Smith has developed a standard protocol that he and his patients have found works wonderfully at clearing mycoplasma-related infections.

Among his success stories is Kris, a 17-year-old from Sacramento, California. Kris had missed much of the seventh and eighth grade because of CFS. His doctor offered almost no hope for a cure, and did little besides monitor his condition as it worsened. Desperate, Kris and his parents visited Dr. Smith at Life Sources.

Using phase-contrast microscopy with 1,500 times magnification as a diagnostic tool, Smith examined Kris's blood serum. He found Kris's body to be "crawling with mycoplasmas," with symptoms such as cell-wall deficiencies and the appearance of "bubbles" in the cell walls—something Kris's doctor missed entirely.

Dr. Smith's protocol emphasizes daily use of a quality silver hydrosol formulation (e.g., Sovereign Silver™) and procyanidolic oligomers (also known as PCOs or OPCs) derived from grapeseed and pine bark, including quercetin, probiotics, shark liver oil, conjugated linoleic acid, and zinc.

"We started both Kris and his family on our protocol," says Smith. "After six months, he was doing 100 percent better, and today he is just doing remarkably well with a 3.8 grade-point average." Smith adds that supporting the health of patients with mycoplasma infections often means working with the entire family because of mycoplasmas' potential to spread through close contact.

In another case, Smith worked with an 80-year-old Los Angeles woman who could not even pick up pieces of a jigsaw puzzle; her hands were hurting badly, overcome with arthritis. After

starting on the protocol, within two days, her pain was gone. "The inflammation in her hand and nodules on her fingers are clearing up," Smith said.

While mycoplasmas are a unique challenge to treat, it is not surprising that people have seen success with regimens that include silver preparations. Silver has a long history as an effective antidote to a number of microbes, including bacteria, viruses, and fungi.

## TINY TECHNOLOGY WITH BIG POTENTIAL

The findings on nanosilver thus far have been very promising, showing that nanosilver is effective against a wide range of microbes, including bacteria, fungus, and viruses. It appears that nanoparticles of silver do act more efficiently, and express silver's antimicrobial and healing properties more strongly, than silver applications from the past.

In a 1999 clinical study, a nanocrystalline silver topical cream was used to treat burn victims. The study confirmed that the nanosilver provided broad-spectrum protection against fungus. This minimized the potential of fungal infection, thereby reducing secondary infections and complications that delay wound healing.

## SMART SHOPPERS CHOOSE SOVEREIGN SILVER

Only oligodynamic nanoparticles of silver actually penetrate bacterial, fungal, and viral pathogens, and only silver that is in the nanoparticle size possesses the polarity to repel and avoid clumping—and we know of only one company that produces oligodynamic nanoparticle silver that is widely available to consumers and health care practitioners.

That company is Natural-Immunogenics, the maker of Sovereign Silver. Unlike many other companies that hawk silver products with disreputable disease-curing claims, Sovereign Silver makes no claims that their product will cure, treat or diagnose any disease.

Their products are sold at quality health food stores and should be used to support your health. It is true that silver is used medicinally and that claims are made within that context, but such claims are best left to medical journals and independent researchers and responsible members of the health and natural products media. In the case of Sovereign Silver, the company makes no such claims, although the evidence that silver is beneficial is certainly strongly supported in medical journals. ■

## Resources

For more information on Sovereign Silver or to find a retailer in your area, visit [www.sovereignsilver.info](http://www.sovereignsilver.info) or call 888-328-8840.

inform, your health professional if you are suffering from a medical condition such as CFS.

