For your Health and Wellness!

Autoimmune disease: the Emerging American Epidemic

Even if you haven't been diagnosed with an autoimmune condition, there is a significant chance that you have one already, or will develop one. The United States is the world epicenter of autoimmune disease (AI), with more AI per capita than any other nation on earth. The statistics are surprising. According to womenshealth.gov, "Overall, autoimmune diseases are common, affecting more than 23.5 million Americans. They are a leading cause of death and disability". That's almost 8% of the US population, or one in 12 with at least one autoimmune condition. And that only counts 24 of the 130 autoimmune conditions for which there is good data. The American Autoimmune-Related Disease Association (AARDA) "considers all autoimmune disease in the figure of 50 million," and states that "more than 75% are women,". Incredibly, three of the top 10 drugs sold in the US are used for managing the symptoms of Autoimmune Disease.

What is AI? It is a condition in which a part of your immune system, the part that makes antibodies to specific proteins, creates too many antibodies (auto antibodies) that attack a certain type of your own cells. An anti-body is like a shark that hunts and eats only one type of fish. In normal health they mostly attack foreign proteins, like pathogenic (disease-causing) bacteria. In AI they attack your own tissues, causing further destruction of that tissue. Some examples of AI includes rheumatoid arthritis (1% of the world population), Hashimoto hypothyroidism, Graves' disease, lupus, multiple sclerosis, and diabetes type 1.

What causes the immune system to attack one's own body? The main patterns underlying AI is a deficiency or weakness in the affected tissue, gland or organ. When that tissue breaks down (necrosis), often from poor nutrition, toxicity, injury, chronic inflammation or infection, it eventually leaks fragments of the dead cells into the bloodstream, triggering an auto-antibody response. Those antibodies, which are normal and healthy in small amounts become excessive, seeking and attacking that body tissue.

Another cause of AI is "molecular mimicry," in which antibodies begin to attack normal cells whose appearance is close enough to the disease-causing cell that it is specialized for. (Like in *gluten* hypersensitivity). It's as if the shark designed to attack only one type of fish starts to eat a different fish that *looks* similar. This is why vaccines are a significant cause of autoimmune disease, and partly why the US has more AI per capita than any other country. It is because we are, by far, the most vaccinated population in the world, despite the lack of credible scientific evidence that vaccines prevent infectious disease. And so we suffer the most from what the medical journal Clinical Immunology describes as "vaccine-induced autoimmunity,". Besides vaccines, hidden infections and a leaky gut can also contribute to molecular mimicry and AI.

So there you have it, medical thinking again tries to trump the body's wisdom and of natural healing ability. The improvements that medicine tried to achieve again causes deleterious effects on the body. Do you know somebody with an autoimmune condition or an illness that just will not go away? Please refer them to Dr. Caprile. The Nutrition Response Testing Response Testing that we performed in the office can truly reverse the effects of autoimmune conditions.



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