

Scientific Study

EDTA Chelation Shown Effective

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Mercury is a well known neurotoxin that comes in various forms. Scientists have learned that all forms of mercury have the potential for toxicity. Mercury intoxication has been increasingly linked to neurological disorders, including autism.

Though the body may rid itself of small amounts of mercury through natural processes, larger amounts received in mercury containing pharmaceuticals or through environmental exposures may result in long-term mercury toxicity.

An individual who is suffering with symptoms of mercury poisoning will need to remove the mercury to correct neurological damage. This is accomplished with a chelating agent known as a chelator in a process called chelation.

Chelation is the process of reversible binding of a ligand (the chelator to a metal ion (in this case, mercury) forming a metal complex known as the chelate. Once the ligand and metal bind, they are carried from the body, removing the metal in the process.

There are various chelators, including Meso-2,3-dimercaptosuccinic acid (DMSA), Sodium 2,3-dimercapto-1-propane sulfonate (DMPS), (alpha Lipoic acid) ALA, and

disodium edetate (EDTA).

Serafina Corsello and colleagues performed a case study which supports the use of chelation therapy to correct neurological damage. They used monthly intravenous injections of EDTA to remove mercury in a patient with long term toxicity after exposure to mercury containing pharmaceuticals.

“Six months after the beginning of the therapy, the patient’s neurological symptoms began to decrease, and were completely cured after two years of therapy,” says Corsello. “The neurological symptoms of the patient (anxiety, depression, insomnia) completely disappeared.”

The patient also showed improved glutathione blood levels, a substance used by the body for proper metabolism, immune responses, and detoxification. An increased glutathione level is a sign of normalization of these processes.

Sources of mercury exposure include mercury vapors from silver amalgam tooth fillings, seafood, industrial exhaust, and vaccine preservatives.

Reference

Corsello, S, Fulgenzi, A, Vietti, D, Ferrero, ME. The usefulness of chelation therapy for the remission of symptoms caused by previous treatment with mercury-containing pharmaceuticals: a case report. *Cases Journal*. 2009, 2:199 doi:10.1186/1757-1626-2-199.

Hg Mercury
Atomic Number: 80
Atomic Mass: 200