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Biotin: A Comprehensive Review of its Role and Effects in the Human **Body**

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



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Abstract

Biotin, also known as vitamin B7 or vitamin H, is a water-soluble vitamin that plays a crucial role in various metabolic processes within the human body. This paper provides a comprehensive review of the biochemical functions, sources, metabolism, deficiency implications, and therapeutic uses of biotin. Additionally, it explores recent research findings regarding biotin supplementation and its potential health benefits.

Key Words

Biotin, Effect, Human Body, Biochemical.

Introduction

Biotin, a member of the B-complex vitamin family, is essential for the metabolism of fats, carbohydrates, and proteins. Its involvement in various enzymatic reactions makes it indispensable for

maintaining optimal health. Despite being widely recognized for its role in promoting healthy hair, skin, and nails, biotin's physiological functions extend far beyond cosmetic benefits. This paper aims to delve into the multifaceted roles of biotin in human physiology and its implications for health.

Biochemical Functions of Biotin

Biotin serves as a coenzyme in carboxylation reactions that are critical for the synthesis of fatty acids, gluconeogenesis, and amino acid metabolism. Through its interaction with biotin-dependent enzymes such as acetyl-CoA carboxylase and pyruvate carboxylase, biotin facilitates the conversion of substrates into forms usable by cells for energy production and cellular maintenance.

Dietary Sources and Metabolism

Natural dietary sources of biotin include liver, egg yolks, nuts, seeds, and certain vegetables. Biotin obtained from these sources undergoes digestion and absorption primarily in the small intestine. Absorbed biotin is then transported to various tissues via the bloodstream, where it is either utilized immediately or stored in limited amounts in the liver.

Implications of Biotin Deficiency

Biotin deficiency, though rare, can result from genetic disorders, prolonged antibiotic use, or excessive consumption of raw egg whites. Symptoms of biotin deficiency include dermatological issues (e.g., alopecia, dermatitis), neurological abnormalities (e.g., lethargy, hallucinations), and metabolic disturbances (e.g., impaired glucose tolerance).

Therapeutic Uses and Health Benefits

In addition to its role as a dietary supplement for managing biotin deficiency, biotin has garnered attention for its potential therapeutic benefits in managing conditions such as diabetes, multiple sclerosis, and certain dermatological disorders. Research is ongoing to elucidate biotin's efficacy in these areas and to determine optimal dosage regimens.

Conclusion

In conclusion, biotin is a vital micronutrient that contributes significantly to human health through its involvement in various metabolic pathways. While further research is needed to fully elucidate its therapeutic potential, current evidence underscores the importance of adequate biotin intake for maintaining optimal health and preventing deficiency-related disorders.

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