

The Fibromyalgia Syndrome: Updates in Diagnosis & Management

Theresa Mallick-Searle, MS, RN-BC, ANP-BC
Stanford Health Care – Division Pain Medicine



Disclosures

Speakers Bureau: Allergan
Pharmaceuticals

Speakers Bureau: Depomed
Pharmaceuticals

What American's Know About Science

- H_2O is Hot Water, CO_2 is Cold Water
- Water is composed of two gins, oxygen and hydrogen. Oxygen is pure gin and Hydrogen is gin & water.
- Three kinds if blood vessels: arteries, veins and caterpillars.
- Gonads are a tribe of wondering desert people.
- How does one keep milk from turning sour, keep it in the cow.

Objectives

- Verbalize what is currently known about the pathophysiology of fibromyalgia.
- Identify patients at risk, making the correct diagnosis.
- Prioritize the use of pharmacological management, through identification of risks, benefits and side effects.
- Identify evidenced based, non-pharmacological strategies for management.

Fibromyalgia Syndrome

A prevalent chronic pain syndrome, characterized by widespread pain all four quadrants of the body and the presence of tenderness @ 11+/18 specific muscle-tendon sites.

Diagnosis of exclusion, of unknown cause.

Psychosomatic.

Fibromyalgia Syndrome

Fibromyalgia is a chronic condition characterized by widespread pain:

- Genetic predisposition
- Environmental trigger

that increases the brain's susceptibility to pain signals.

Dysregulation of neurotransmitters in the brain, over activation of it's pain receptors.

- Chronic fatigue
- IBS, IC, TMJ
- Headaches - >50%
- Abnormal/non-restorative sleep
- Restless leg syndrome
- Cognitive dysfunction "fibro-fog"
- Mood disorders (depression/anxiety)

Fibromyalgia

- 2-6% US population, women>men 7:1
- Average 5 years diagnosis.
- FM is difficult to diagnose because it's the result of a neural distribution rather than a discrete physical injury.
- Direct cost > \$20 billion annually.
- Indirect costs = years of pain and suffering, poor quality of life & possible decreased in life expectancy.
- 2-4% managed in primary care. >95% referred to specialty care: orthopedics, pain medicine, rheumatology, neurology, psychology, gastroenterology, urology, etc.

History

- **16th Century** medical literature contains descriptions of clinical manifestations of musculoskeletal pain.
- **1904**: Sir William Gowers coins the term "fibrositis"
- **1975**: Dr. Harvey Moldofsky recommends redefining the disorder as "non-restorative sleep syndrome"
- **1981**: Yunas et.al. use the term "fibromyalgia" for the first time in scientific literature.
- **1987**: AMA acknowledges fibromyalgia as a true illness.

History

- **1990** ACR classification criteria used for diagnosis.
- **1992** WHO finally recognized FM as a disease.
- **2000+** fMRI findings demonstrate that neurobiological factors may contribute to the pathology of 'central' pain states such as fibromyalgia.
- **2006** @ The FM & CNS Symposium in Oregon, hypothesized that FM may be more than just a myofascial disease.
- **2007-2009** new pharmaceutical agents approved by FDA.
- **2010** ACR introduces new diagnostic criteria for FM.

Pathophysiology

- 1976 Fibromyalgia = *fibro (fibrous tissue), my (muscles), al (pain), & gia (condition of)*.
- 2000+ Fibromyalgia Syndrome
 - Central Nervous System
 - **Biochemical** (↓serotonin, ↑substance P)
 - **Metabolic** (↑oxidative stress, ↑cytokines)
 - **Immuno-regulatory** (dysfxn HPA, ↓ GH, hypothyroidism)
 - Central Sensitization/wind-up (whole body hypersensitivity to pain)

Pathophysiology

Injury activates peripheral nerves.

Excitatory signals from PNS to CNS =
PAIN

Inhibitory signals turn off pain response
& rest CNS/PNS to baseline.

Dysregulation of excitatory & inhibitory
signals results in the central
sensitization seen in FMS.

FMS treatments ↓ excitatory sigs
 ↑ inhibitory sigs

↑ **NMDA – glutamate**

↑ **Substance P**

↑ **Nitric Oxide**

↓ **Norepinephrine**

↓ **Serotonin**

↓ **GABA & Opiates**

Pathophysiology/Current Research

- FM is a chronic, central pain condition.
- Increase in the brain's susceptibility to pain, possibly related to a deregulation in certain neuro-transmitters, which keep the brain in a heightened sense of sensitivity.
- FM is now believed to be, at least in part, a disorder of central pain processing that produces heightened response to painful stimuli (hyperalgesia) and painful responses to no painful stimuli (allodynia). Clauw, DJ 2010.

Use of fMRI to identify differences in brain of FM patient and healthy controls

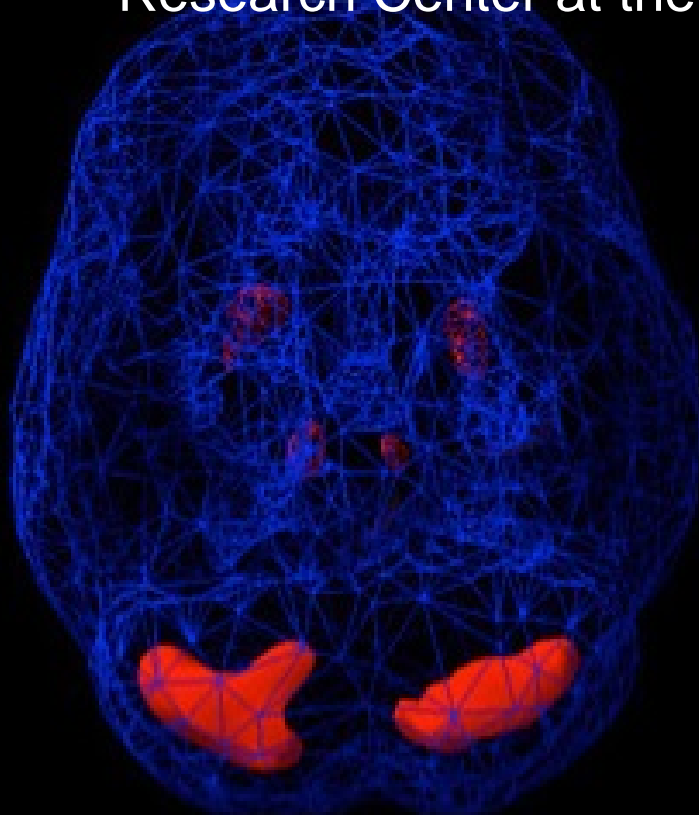
- Gracely RH, Petzke F, Wolf JM, Clauw DJ. Functional magnetic resonance imaging evidence of augmented pain processing in fibromyalgia. *Arthritis Rheum.* 2002;46:1333-1343.

The first study to use fMRI in patients with FM. Exposed 16 patients and 16 controls to painful pressures during MRI. Found increases in the blood oxygen-level (hyper-activation) in those with FM.

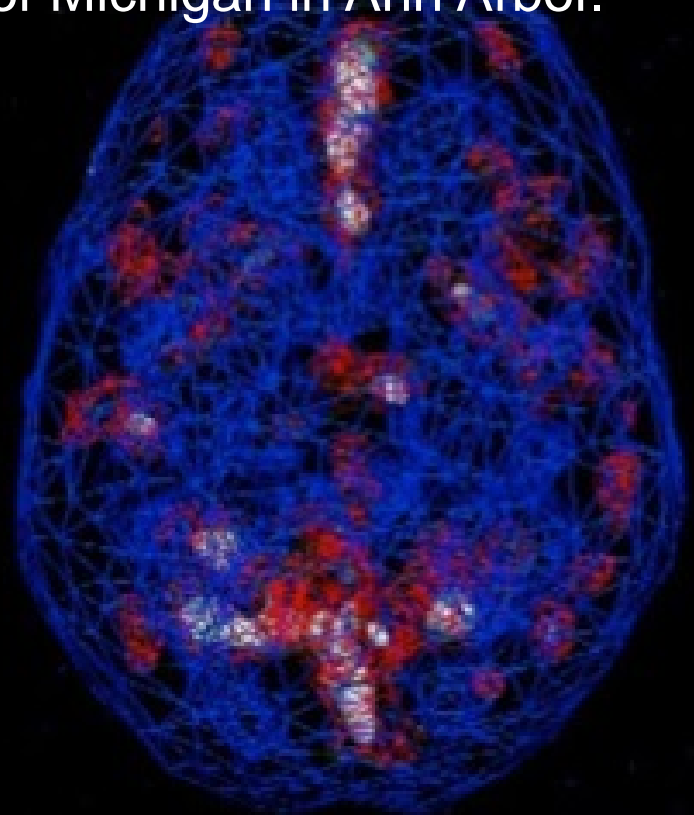
Regions of increased activity included the primary and secondary somatosensory cortex, the insula, and the anterior cingulate.

"I think the main message clinically is that there are prominent central changes in pain processing and that the preponderance of evidence is that this is a central nervous system disease"

- Daniel J. Clauw, MD, Director of the Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research Center at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.



Healthy Brain



Fibromyalgia

Diagnostic Guidelines

Wolfe F, Smythe HA, Yunus MB, Bennett RM, Bombardier C, Goldenberg DL, *et al*. The American College of Rheumatology 1990 criteria for the classification of fibromyalgia. *Arthritis Rheum* 1990;33:160-72.

The ACR 1990 criteria for the classification of FM

- Seminal article on classification criteria.
- Gold Standard in FM diagnosis
- Continues to be used in research on FM/FMS.

WOKE UP STIFF

A mnemonic for the ACR criteria

Reproduced from *Arthritis Rheum.* 1992;35:366

Widespread Pain

Occiput: suboccipital muscle insertion

Knee: medial fat pad

Epicondyle: 2cm distal to lateral epicondyles

Upper outer quadrant of buttocks

Parasternal: second costochondral junction

Supraspinatus muscles: at origins, above scapular spine

Trapezius muscles: upper boarder midpoint

Intertransverse spaces @ C5-C7, anterior aspects

Femoral greater trochanter: posterior to prominence

Four kg: approximate force on digital palpation

American College of Rheumatology 1990 Criteria for the Classification Fibromyalgia

History of wide-spread pain (>3 months):

- Right & Left side of the body.
- Above & Below the waist.
- Axial skeleton.

Pain in 11:18 tender points on digital palpation (4kg)

(occiput, low cervical, trapezius, supraspinatus, second rib, lateral epicondyle, gluteal, greater trochanter, knee)

88.4% sensitivity / 81.1% specificity

Diagnostic Guidelines

Wolfe F, Clauw DJ, Fitzcharles M, Goldenberg DL, Katz RS, Mease P, *et al*. The American College of Rheumatology Preliminary Diagnostic Criteria for Fibromyalgia & Measurement of Symptom Severity. *Arthritis Care & Research* 2010, 62(5):600-610.

Objectives:

- ***Simple, practical diagnostic criteria***
- ***Provide a severity scale FM symptoms***
- ***Improve sensitivity/specificity of dx***

American College of Rheumatology 2010 Preliminary Diagnostic Criteria

Widespread Pain Index (WPI) ≥ 7 &

- Symptom Severity Scale (SS) ≥ 5

WPI 3-6 & SS ≥ 9

Correctly classifies 88.1% of FM cases classified by the 1990 ACR classification criteria.

American College of Rheumatology 2010 Preliminary Diagnostic Criteria

Widespread Pain Index

Total (0-19) # of areas that the patient has had pain in the last week.

Symptom Severity Scale

Sum (0-12) of the severity of 4 symptoms (fatigue, waking un-refreshed, cognitive symptoms & the level of somatic symptoms) over the last week. Rate symptoms 0-3.

Widespread Pain Index (WPI)

In how many areas has the patient had pain in the last week?

Score = 0-19

Shoulder (L/R); Upper arm (L/R); Lower arm (L/R);
Jaw (L/R); Neck; Buttock; Hip trochanter (L/R);
Upper leg (L/R); Lower leg (L/R); Upper back;
Lower back; Chest; Abdomen

Symptom Severity Scale (SS)

What was the level of symptom severity in the last week?

Score = 0-12

0 (no problem), 1 (slight),
2 (moderate), 3 (severe)

Fatigue; Waking unrefreshed; Cognitive disturbances; General somatic symptoms

Patient satisfies the 2010 Fibromyalgia Clinical Diagnostic Criteria if

WPI ≥ 7 and SS score ≥ 5

or

WPI between 3-6 and SS score ≥ 9

Patients at Risk

Gender - female to male 7:1

Genetics - strong familial component, 8-fold increase risk in a first degree relative, genetic polymorphisms serotonin and dopamine receptors.

Environmental - physical trauma (especially involving the trunk), certain infections (hepatitis C, Epstein-Barr, Lyme disease), emotional stress, hormone alterations, drugs, vaccines.

Psychological Trauma - higher incidence in individuals with co-morbid hx depression, anxiety, PTSD.

- **R/O other possible causes of symptoms:** primary anemia, hypothyroidism, viral or bacterial dz, vitamin/nutrient deficiencies, primary muscle disorders.

Paradigm of Management

- Behavioral
 - Psychotherapy, CBT, sleep hygiene, biofeedback, relaxation techniques.
- Physical
 - Paced/graduated exercise, individualized PT, warm pool.
- Pharmaceutical
 - Antidepressants, Alpha-2-delta ligands, non-opioid analgesics, other.
- Nutritional
 - Antioxidants, low fat, low glycemic index.

Carville SF, et al. EULAR Evidence-Based Recommendations for the Management of Fibromyalgia Syndrome. *Ann Rheum Dis* (2008)

The European Union League Against Rheumatism evidenced-based recommendations for the management of FMS

A multidisciplinary task force of 19 experts in FMS representing 11 European countries.

- ◉ Multimodal treatment
- ◉ CBT
- ◉ Tailored exercise program
- ◉ Guided relaxation, biofeedback, heated pool

Practical Applications

- ◉ Realistic Goals
- ◉ Financial Considerations
- ◉ Personalize Activities
- ◉ Consider physical therapy for education.
- ◉ Reinforce positive behaviors/pacing.

Practical Applications

- Education to avoid stigmatization
- Financial Considerations
- Personalize Therapy
- Reinforce positive behaviors/compliance.

Pharmaceutical

Duloxetine (Cymbalta)

- serotonin/norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor (SNRI)
- FDA approval 2008
- Fibromyalgia (FM) indication
60mg qd

Milnacipran (Savella)

- SNRI
- FDA approval 2009
- FM indication 50mg bid
(max 200mg qd)

Other:

- Tricyclic antidepressant
(desipramine, amitriptyline,
nortriptyline)

Pharmaceutical

Pregabalin (Lyrica)

FDA approval 2007

FM indication 150-225mg bid

Gabapentin (Neurontin)

NOT FDA approved for FM,
but does have a clinical
indication for neuropathic
pain and PHN.

1200mg tid

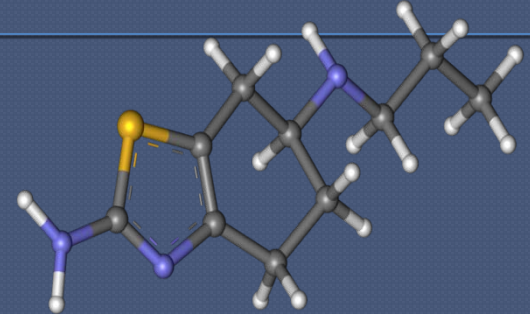
AGENTS APPROVED FOR FIBROMYALGIA

Agent	Side Effects	Comments
Pregabalin (Lyrica) was the first FDA-approved agent for fibromyalgia (1987)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common side effects include ataxia, dizziness, sleepiness, and peripheral edema • Other side effects include blurred vision, constipation, general weakness, headache, neuropathy, pain, weight gain, and xerostomia • Pregabalin is contraindicated for patients with rhabdomyolysis 	Pregabalin had been previously approved for seizure disorders, neuropathy, and pain associated with shingles (herpes zoster infection)
Duloxetine hydrochloride (Cymbalta), approved in 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Side-effect profile includes anorexia, constipation, diarrhea, dizziness, drowsiness, fatigue, hyperhidrosis, insomnia, nausea, and xerostomia • May increase the risk of suicide • Contraindicated for patients with narrow-angle glaucoma and serotonin syndrome 	Previously approved for treating depression, anxiety, and diabetes-associated neuropathy
Milnacipran HCl (Savella), a selective serotonin and norepinephrine dual reuptake inhibitor, was approved in 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nausea is the most frequently reported side effect • Other common effects include constipation, hyperhidrosis, vomiting, palpitations, increased heart rate, dry mouth, hypertension, and hot flashes • Use with caution in patients with a history of seizures, mania, or narrow-angle glaucoma 	Clinical trials assessed the agent across 3 domains, including pain, physical functioning, and general global assessment, with findings demonstrating effectiveness for all 3 domains

Pharmaceutical

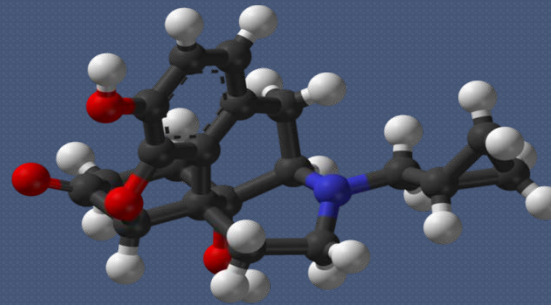
Pramipexole (Mirapex)

- Antiparkinsonian (dopamine agonist)
- NOT FDA approved for FMS
- For FM 4.5mg qhs (Holman & Myers, 2005)



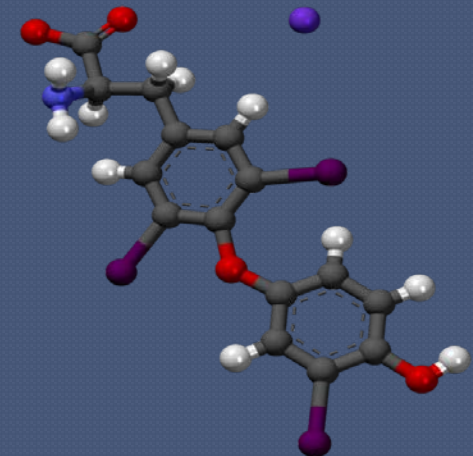
Naltrexone

- Opiate antagonist
- NOT FDA approved for FMS
- For FM 4.5mg qhs (Younger & Mackey, 2009)



Liothyronine (Cytomel (T3))

- synthetic thyroid replacement
- currently under investigation (Carroll & Younger)



Pharmaceutical

Muscle Relaxants

tizanidine
cyclobenaprine
baclofen

Non-narcotic analgesics

NSAIDS
tylenol
tramadol

Sleep Aids

trazodone
amitriptyline
zolpidem
eszopiclone

Arranz, L.I., et al. Fibromyalgia and Nutrition, what do we know? *Rheumatol Int.* (2010)

Aim was to discover what was known from the scientific literature regarding FM and nutritional status.

Medline 1998-2008 (174 articles)

- Vegetarian/Vegan/ low-allergenic diets.
- Weight control
- Increased antioxidant intake
- low glycemic index (anti-inflammatory).
- Correct nutritional deficiencies (trace elements, Vit D)
- tryptophan (AA), melatonin, Vit C

FIBROMYALGIA COOKBOOK

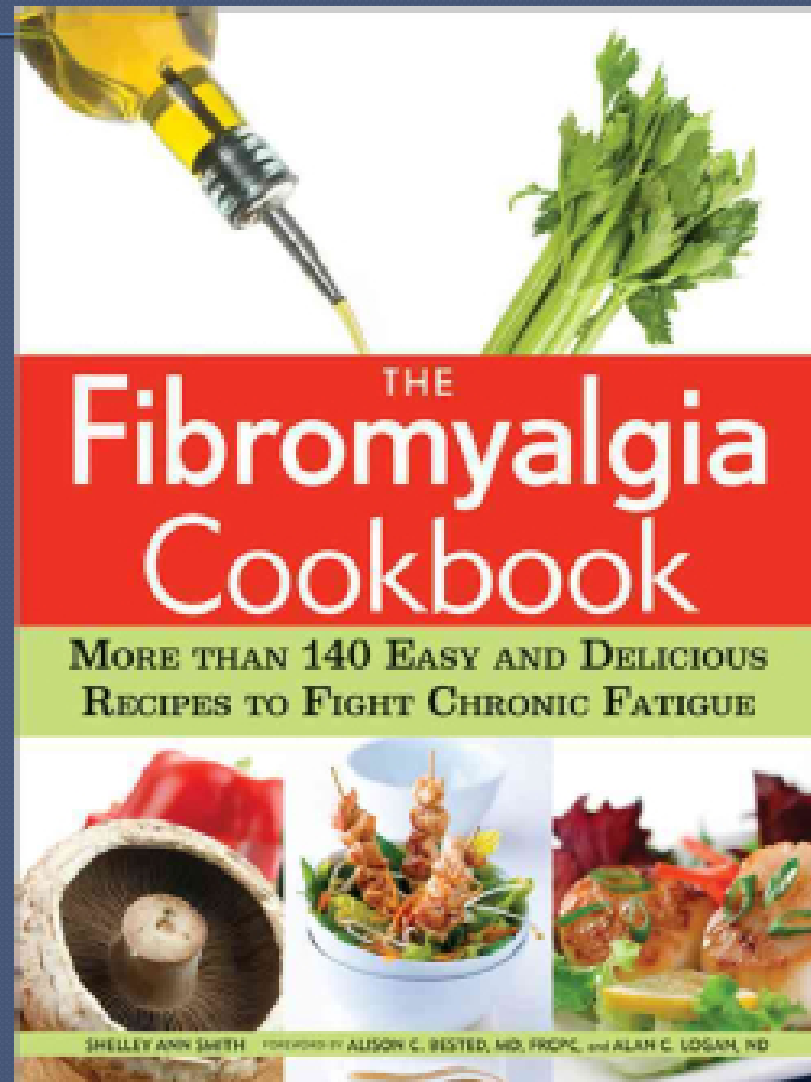
A Daily Guide to Become Healthy Again



Revised Edition

WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
William Crook, M.D.

Written By
MARY MOELLER, L.P.N., T.F.H.
Recovered Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Sufferer



15 foods said to cause fibromyalgia flares

- *Caffeine
- *Refined sugar
- *Aspartame
(also known as NutraSweet)
- High fructose corn syrup
- *Simple carbohydrates
cake, white bread, potatoes, etc.
(white sugar and white flour
products)
- *Saturated fats
- *Red meat
- *Alcohol
- *Processed foods
- Yeast
- Glutens
- Dairy
- Tomatoes
- Bell and chili peppers
- Eggplant

NUTRACEUTICALS

- ◉ Nutraceutical product is a food or fortified food product that not only supplements the diet but also assists in treating or preventing disease (apart from anemia), so provides medical benefits.
- ◉ The word nutraceutical is combined from the words nutrition and pharmaceutical.
- ◉ Nutraceuticals are not tested and regulated to the extent of pharmaceutical drugs.

NUTRACEUTICALS

Check for deficiencies:

Vitamin D, Coenzyme Q10, Carnitine.

Check for allergies/sensitivities:

Gluten, Dairy.

Diet/nutrition Assessment:

Poor dietary choices?
Pro-inflammatory diet?

Supplements that can be used empirically

Fatigue – omega-3-oils, D-ribose.

Neuropathy – acetyl L-carnitine, alpha-lipoic acid.

Gastrointestinal – glutamine, probiotics.

Sleep – valerian root, melatonin.

Mood – SAMe, 5HTP, 1-tryptophan.

Other – magnesium, calcium, Vit. D, malic acid, phyto-inflammatories (Kaprex, Zyflament).

Dietary aspects in fibromyalgia patients: results of a survey on food awareness, allergies, & nutritional supplementation

Arranz LI, Canela MA, Rafecas M. - Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.
Rheumatol Int. 2011 Jul 22.

Design: Questionnaire (six questions regarding dietary habits, FAIs, and NS use): Patients recruited in local fibromyalgia associations. 101 ♀ suffering from FM, diagnosed for more than 6 months, mean age of 53.88 ± 7.78 years.

Our objective was to investigate the dietary awareness, food allergies and/or intolerances (FAIs), and nutritional supplement (NS) consumption of FM patients. Influence of advice from healthcare provider.

Findings:

- Magnesium was one of the supplements most recommended specifically for FM.
- Seventy-four percentage of these patients used NS following advice from health professionals.
- Once patients are diagnosed, they change their dietary habits and nutritional supplement intake, seeking nutritional strategies to improve their symptoms.

Evidence for the efficacy of complementary and alternative medicines in the management of fibromyalgia: a systematic review

De Silva, V., El-Metwally, A., Ernst, E., et al., on behalf of the UK Arthritis Research Campaign working group on complementary and alternative medicines, United Kingdom.

Rheumatology (2010) 49 (6): 1063-1068.

Design: Review of available scientific/medical literature - Randomized controlled trials of FM using CAMs, in comparison with other treatments or placebo, published in English up to March 2009.

To critically evaluate the evidence regarding complementary and alternative medicines (CAMs) taken orally or applied topically for the treatment of FM.

Findings:

- There is insufficient evidence on any CAM, taken orally or applied topically, for FM.
- Further high-quality trials are necessary to determine whether these initial findings can be supported by a larger evidence base.
- Anthocyanidins (flavonoids), capsaicin and SAME each showed at least one statistically significant improved outcome compared with placebo.

ALGORITHM FOR TX OF FM SYNDROME

Confirm dx, explain condition, educate about stress reduction/exercise/sleep hygiene, offer TCA for sleep



Symptoms persist/worsen (no) → [Monitor 😊]
(yes)



Refer to PT for paced exercise program & mental health for CBT



Symptoms persist/worsen (no) → [Monitor 😊]
(yes)



Reevaluate/Most persistent symptoms?



(TP injections, manual tx, acupuncture) Focal ← **PAIN** → Generalized (tramadol, OTC, SNRI, anticonvulsants)

FATIGUE/ALTERED SLEEP?

Review pacing activities, sleep hygiene, Refer for formal sleep evaluation

Treat like any primary sleep disturbance

MOOD DISTURBANCE?

Ψ Evaluation

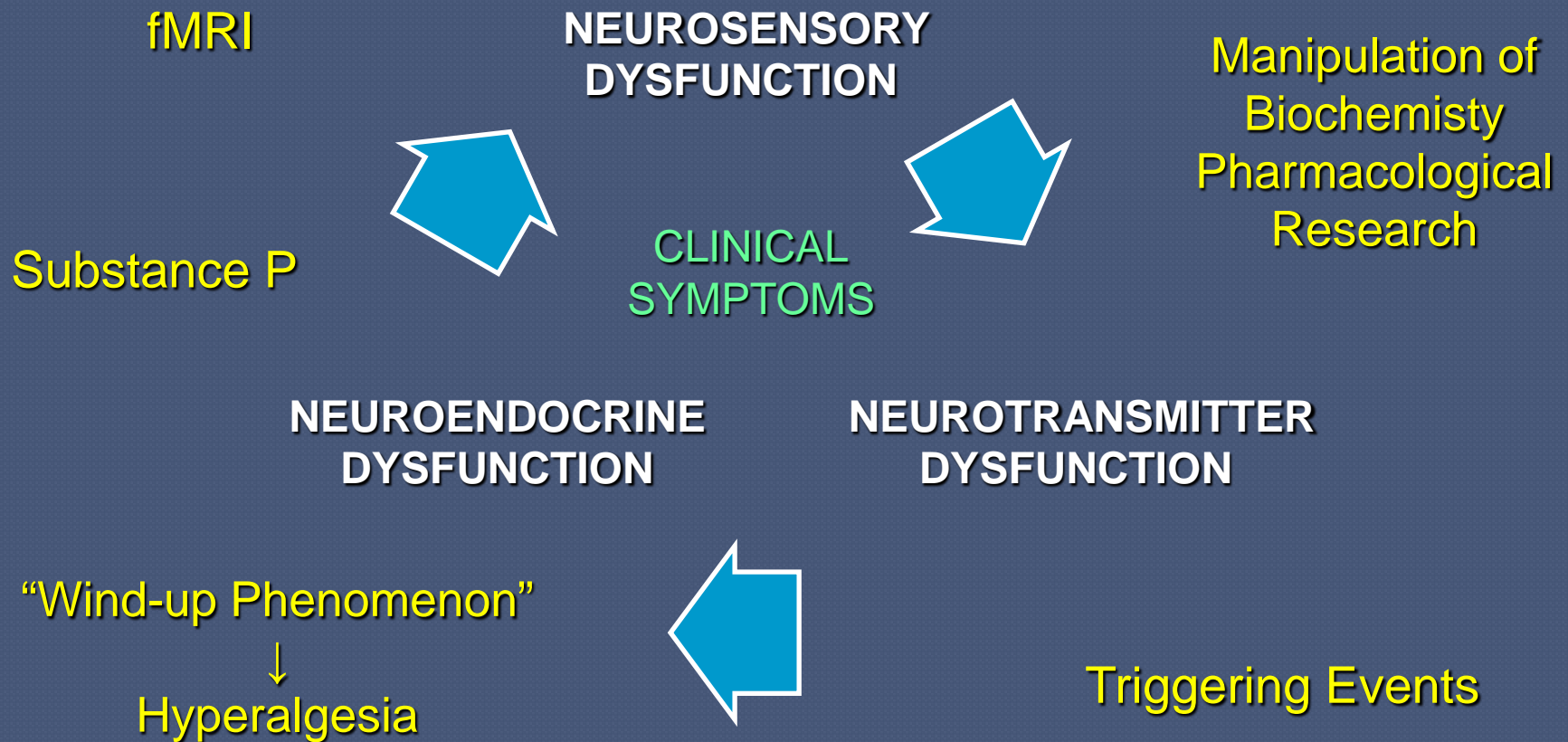
Treat like any major mood disorder

Symptoms Persist → (no) [Monitor]
(yes)

Multidisciplinary Pain Management/Other Specialty Care

Where Is The Research Going?

Familial/Genetic Predisposition
Alteration in the Central Nervous System



Internet Resources

Fibromyalgia Information: <http://fibromyalgia.ncf.ca/>

National Fibromyalgia Association: <http://www.fmaware.org/>

American Pain Foundation: www.painfoundation.org

American College of Rheumatology Fibromyalgia Factsheet:
<http://www.rheumatology.org/public/factsheets/fibromya.asp?aud-pat>

Mayo Clinic: Fibromyalgia:
<http://www.mayoclinic.com/invoke.cfm?id=DS00079>

<http://www.webmd.com/fibromyalgia/guide/fibromyalgia-herbs-and-supplements>

Selected References

- Arnold, L.M. (2007). Duloxetine and other antidepressants in the treatment of patients with fibromyalgia. *Pain Medicine*, 8(S2), S64-S74.
- Arnold, L.M., Zlateva, G., Sadosky, A., Emir, B., & Whalen, E. (2011). Correlation between fibromyalgia syndrome and function domains and patient global impression of change: a pooled analysis of three randomized, placebo-controlled trials of pregabalin. *Pain Medicine*, -----
- Arranz, L.I., Canela, M.A., & Rafecas, M. (2010). Fibromyalgia and nutrition, what do we know? *Rheumatol Int*, 30, 1417-1427.
- Arranz LI, Canela MA, & Rafecas M. (2011). Dietary aspects in fibromyalgia patients: results of a survey on food awareness, allergies, and nutritional supplementation. *Rheumatol Int*, 31(7), -----
- Baranowsky, J., Klose, P., Musial, F., Haeuser, W., Dobos, G., & Langhorst, J. (2009). Qualitative systemic review of randomized controlled trials on complementary and alternative treatments in fibromyalgia. *Rheumatol Int*, 30, 1-21.

Selected References

- Carville, S.F., Arendt-Nielsen, B., Bliddal, H., Blotman, F., et al. (2008). EULAR evidenced-based recommendations for the management of fibromyalgia syndrome. *Ann Rheum Dis*, 67, 536-41.
- Chrubasik S, Weiser W, Beime B. (2010). Effectiveness and safety of topical capsaicin cream in the treatment of chronic soft tissue pain. *Phytother Res*, 24:1877-1885.
- De Silva, V., El-Metwall,y A., Erns,t E., et al. (2010). Evidence for the efficacy of complementary and alternative medicine in the management of fibromyalgia: a systematic review. *Rheumatology*, 49(6):1063–8.
- eMedicine. (2009). *Fibromyalgia*. Retrieved from <http://emedicine.medscape.com/article /312778>
- Goldenberg, D.L. (2007). Pharmacological treatment of fibromyalgia and other chronic musculoskeletal pain. *Best Practice & Research Clinical Rheumatology*, 21(3), 499-511 doi:10.1016/j.berh.2007.02.012

Selected References

- Gracely, R.H., Petzke, F., Wolf, J.M., Clauw, D.J. (2002). Functional magnetic resonance imaging evidence of augmented pain processing in fibromyalgia. *Arthritis Rheum*, 46:1333-1343.
- Holman, A.J., & Myers, R.R. (2005). A randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial of pramipexole, a dopamine agonist, in patients with fibromyalgia receiving concomitant medications. *Arthritis & Rheumatism*, 52(8), 2495-2505.
- O'Brien, E.M., Staut, R.M., Hassinger, A.D., McCulloch, R.C., Craggs, J.G., Atchison, J.W., & Robinson, M.E. (2010). Patient-centered perspective on treatment outcomes in chronic pain. *Pain Medicine*, 11, 6-15.
- Shaver, J.L., Wilbur, J., Lee, H., Robinson F.P., & Wang, E. (2009). Self-reported medication and herb/supplement use by women with and without fibromyalgia. *Journal of Women's Health*, 18(5), 709-716.
- Wolfe, F., Smyth, H.A., Yunus, M.B., Bennett RM, et al. (1990). The American College of Rheumatology 1990 criteria for the classification of fibromyalgia. *Arthritis Rheum* , 33:160-72.

Selected References

- Wolfe, F., Clauw, D.J., Fitzcharles, M., Goldenberg, D.L., Katz, R.S., Mease, P., Russell, A.S., Russell, I.J., Winfield, J.B., & Yunus, M.B. (2010). The American College of Rheumatology preliminary diagnostic criteria for fibromyalgia and measurement of symptom severity. *Arthritis care & Research*, 62(5).
- Wood, P.B. (2008). Symptoms, diagnostics and treatment of fibromyalgia. *Virtual Mentor*, 10(1), 35-40.
- Younger, J., & Mackey, S. (2009). Fibromyalgia symptoms are reduced by low-dose naltrexone: a pilot study. *Pain Medicine*, 10(4), 663-672.