



**INE** INSTITUTE OF  
NUTRITIONAL  
ENDOCRINOLOGY

## Micronutrients: Vitamin B5

Dr. Ritamarie Loscalzo

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### B Vitamins At a Glance

Letter	Names	Notes/Actions
B1	Thiamin, Benfotiamine	Energy, heart, muscle, and nerve function
B2	Riboflavin, R 5'-Phosphate	Energy, red blood cells, vision
B3	Niacin, Nicotinic Acid, Niacinamide	Energy, nerve function, circulation and heart
B4	Choline, Adenine, Carnitine	Loosely considered as B vitamins - cell membranes, memory, neuromuscular
B5	Pantothenic Acid	Coenzyme A, adrenals, skin
B6	Pyridoxine, Pyridoxal 5'-Phosphate	Brain and nerve, hormones, protein synthesis
B7	Biotin	Hair, metabolism
B8	Inositol	Loosely considered a B vitamin
B9	Folate, Methylfolate, Folinic Acid	Red blood cell production, DNA repair, brain
B10	Pteroylmonoglutamic Acid (PABA – Para-aminobenzoic Acid)	Really a form of folate, skin protector
B11	Salicylic Acid	Not technically a vitamin, loosely categorized
B12	Cobalamin	Red blood cells, DNA repair, nervous system

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## Vitamin B5 General Info

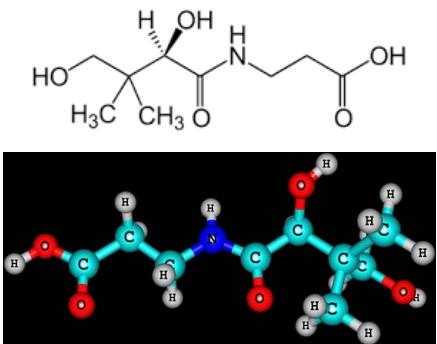
- ✓ Water-soluble B vitamin
- ✓ Also known as **pantothenic acid** or **pantothenate**
- ✓ Consists of B-alanine and pantoic acid joined by peptide bond
- ✓ Name derived from Greek word “panthos” meaning **everywhere** (vitamin B5 is present in virtually all foods)
- ✓ Part of coenzyme A (**CoA**)



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## Vitamin B5 Chemical Structure

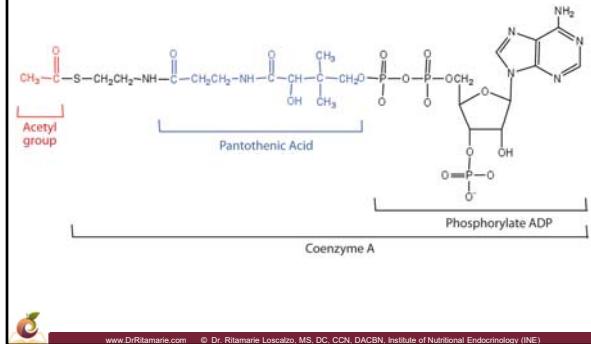


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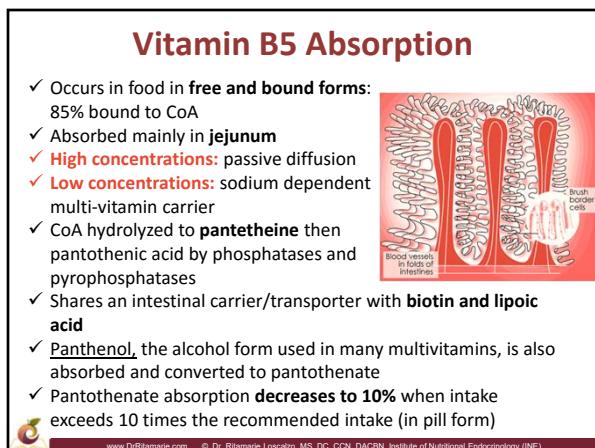
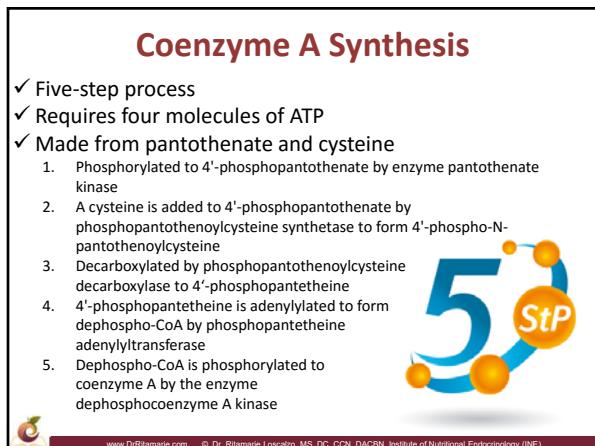
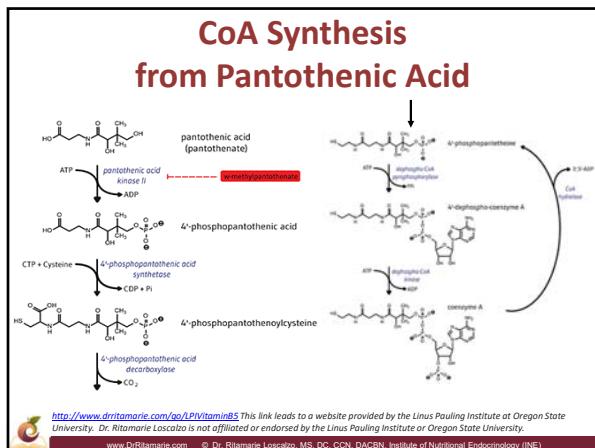
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## Vitamin B5 Coenzyme Form



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## Vitamin B5 Transport and Storage

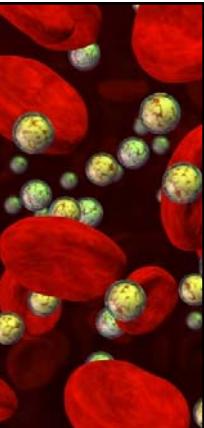
- ✓ Absorbed into intestinal epithelial cells
- ✓ Enters the portal circulation
- ✓ Free form in blood serum
- ✓ Higher concentrations in the red blood cells than in the blood serum
- ✓ **Active transport uptake by:**
  - Heart
  - Brain
  - Muscle
  - Liver
- ✓ Passive diffusion into all other tissues
- ✓ **Found in cells as**
  - 4'-phosphopantothenate
  - Pantetheine
- ✓ **Most pantothenate is used to synthesize CoA**
  - Liver
  - Brain
  - Kidney
  - Heart
  - Adrenal



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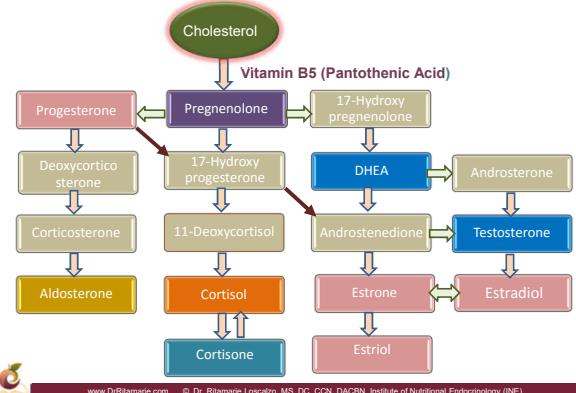
## Vitamin B5 Roles

- ✓ Metabolism of protein, fat, and carbohydrates
- ✓ Krebs cycle
- ✓ Production of cholesterol
- ✓ Production of adrenal hormones
- ✓ Production of sex hormones
- ✓ Production of bile
- ✓ Production of hemoglobin
- ✓ Reducing inflammation
- ✓ Maintaining healthy levels of blood lipids
- ✓ Methylation



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## Vitamin B5 Role in Hormones



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# INE: Micronutrients - Vitamins: Vitamin B5

## Acetylation and Proteins

- ✓ CoA was named for its role in acetylation reactions
- ✓ **Acetylation of proteins** alters their overall charge, their three-dimensional structure, and their function
- ✓ Regulates the **activity of peptide hormones**, including those produced by the pituitary gland
- ✓ Regulates function and half-life of many signaling molecules, **transcription factors**, and enzymes
- ✓ **Acetylation of histones** plays a role in the regulation of gene expression by facilitating transcription



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## Acetylation and Lipids

- ✓ Acetylation is important in formation of **sphingolipids (myelin sheath)**, **phospholipids**, and **fatty acids**
- ✓ **Fatty acid synthase (FAS)** requires pantothenic acid dependent acyl-carrier protein (ACP) in the form of 4'-phosphopantetheine
- ✓ **Acetyl-CoA, malonyl-CoA, and ACP** are all required for the synthesis of fatty acids
- ✓ 4'-phosphopantetheine is required for 10-formyltetrahydrofolate dehydrogenase (FDH) needed to form **tetrahydrofolate**, an essential cofactor in the metabolism of nucleic acids and amino acids

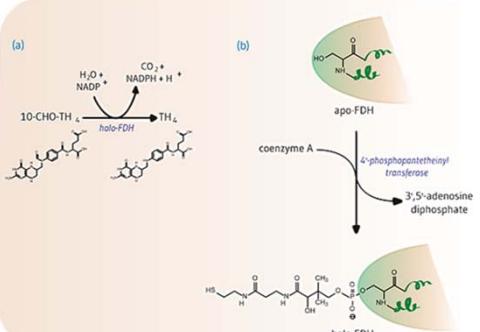


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Figure 3. 4'-Pantetheinylation of Formyltetrahydrofolate Dehydrogenase (FDH)



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# Vitamin B5, Lipids, and Cardiovascular Disease

# Vitamin B5 and Lipids

✓ **University of Minnesota Medical School Study:**

- Healthy, unmedicated adults
- **Double-blind, randomized, placebo controlled and cross-over**
- Each patient was given placebo, 600 mg, and 900 mg pantethine for 6 weeks; under these conditions pantethine:
  - Reduced LDL-c by 10-15%
  - Fasted triglycerides by 20-25%
  - Increased HDL-c by 15-20%

## Vitamin B5 and Artery Health

- ✓ Administered to cholesterol-fed rabbits (0.5% cholesterol diet + 1% pantetheine) for 90 days; results:
  - Total cholesterol levels were reduced 64.7%
  - HDL/total cholesterol ratio increased
  - Total aortic area with evident plaques was reduced by 18.2%
  - Microscopic examination: Reduction in the severity of lesions, both in the aorta and in the coronary arteries
- ✓ 182 patients with coronary heart disease and stable angina given pantetheine, 500 mg/day for 3 weeks; had favorable effects on hemodynamics, lipids, riboflavin, and ascorbic acid

# INE: Micronutrients - Vitamins: Vitamin B5

## Long-Term Pantetheine Study

- ✓ A one-year clinical trial
- ✓ 24 patients with established dyslipidemia of Fredrickson's types II A, II B, and IV, alone or associated with **diabetes mellitus**

✓ Blood lipid assays repeated after 1, 3, 6, 9, and 12 months of treatment

➤ **Consistent and statistically significant reductions in:**

- Total cholesterol
- LDL
- Apolipoprotein B

➤ **Increased levels of:**

- HDL
- Apolipoprotein A



Arsenio L, Bodria P, Magnati G, Strata A, Trovato R. *Clin Ther* 1986;8(5):537-45 PMID: 3094958  
<http://www.drittamarie.com/go/PMID3094958>

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## Vitamin B5 and Fatty Liver

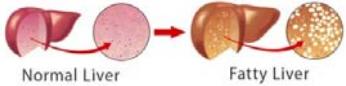
- ✓ 600 mg/day of pantetheine, 16 outpatients with fatty liver and hypertriglyceridemia for six months or longer

➤ **9/16 pantetheine patients were no longer diagnosed as having fatty liver**

➤ Visceral fat calculated from the CT image was significantly reduced

➤ Subcutaneous fat area increased

➤ **Suggests pantetheine may transfer fat from liver and viscera to subcutaneous**



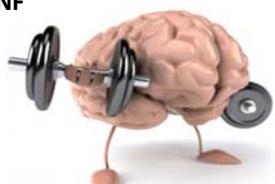
(Osano Y, Hirose N, Nakajima K, Hata Y. "The effects of pantethine on fatty liver and fat distribution." *J Atheroscler Thromb* 2000;7(1):55-8)  
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## Pantetheine and Cognitive Function

- ✓ In rats that received daily injections, **pantetheine facilitated the learning process and activity levels**

- ✓ **Pantetheine supports BDNF**

(Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor)



<http://www.drittamarie.com/go/PMID16797865>

Morisaki N, Matsuoka N, Shirai K, Sasaki N, Saito Y, Kumagai A. "Effect of pantethine on fatty acid oxidation in microvessels of rat brain." *Tohoku J Exp Med* 1983 Sep;141(1):41-5

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## Other Uses of Vitamin B5

- ✓ Large daily doses of pantothenic acid were helpful to relieve symptoms of **arthritis** (Haslock Di, Wright V. "Pantothenic acid in the treatment of osteoarthritis." *Rheumatol Phys Med* 1971 Feb;11(1):10-3)
- ✓ Pantetheine used successfully for heart burn, ulcers, and candida infections, and has been used with some success in the management of **certain allergies**
- ✓ Rat study: **deficiency of pantothenic acid can cause hair to turn gray and fall out**; no human studies
- ✓ Panthoderm may be helpful in treatment of minor skin injuries

## Vitamin B5 Interactions

- ✓ Nutrients that compete for absorption and transport:
  - Biotin
  - Lipoic Acid
- ✓ Medications:
  - **Tetracycline:** Vitamin B5 interferes with the absorption and effectiveness
  - **Alzheimer's drugs:** Cholinesterase inhibitors: B5 increases the effects leading to severe side effects; should not be taken with B5 unless under a doctor's supervision

# Vitamin B5 RDI

**Infants:**

- ✓ Birth up to 6 months: 1.7 mg (adequate intake)
- ✓ 7-12 months: 1.8 mg (adequate intake)

**Children:**

- ✓ 1-3 years: 2 mg a day
- ✓ 4-8 years: 3 mg a day
- ✓ 9-13 years: 4 mg a day

**Adults:**

- ✓ Males: 14 years and older: 5 mg a day
- ✓ Females: 14 years and older: 5 mg a day

**Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding:**

- ✓ Pregnant women: 6 mg
- ✓ Breastfeeding women: 7 mg a day



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## Signs and Symptoms Vitamin B5 Deficiency

- ✓ Fatigue
- ✓ Muscle cramps
- ✓ Plantar Fasciitis
- ✓ Irritability
- ✓ Hypoglycemia
- ✓ Cramps
- ✓ Heart palpitations
- ✓ Hair loss
- ✓ Insomnia
- ✓ Intestinal distress
- ✓ Joint aches
- ✓ Nausea
- ✓ Premature graying of hair
- ✓ Restlessness
- ✓ Vomiting



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## Impact of Vitamin B5 Excess

- ✓ There is no known toxicity to vitamin B5
- ✓ Excess easily excreted in the urine
- ✓ Diarrhea in very high intakes of 10-20 g/day calcium D-pantothenate for 6 weeks
- ✓ One case report of life-threatening eosinophilic pleuropericardial effusion in an elderly woman who took a combination of 10 mg/day of biotin and 300 mg/day of pantothenic acid for two months



Debourdeau PM, Djemmi S, Estival JL, Zammit CM, Richard RC, Castot AC. Life-threatening eosinophilic pleuropERICARDIAL effusion related to vitamins B5 and H. Ann Pharmacother. 2001;35(4):424-426

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## Top Food Sources of Vitamin B5

## Plant-Based

- ✓ Mushrooms
- ✓ Cauliflower
- ✓ Sweet potato
- ✓ Broccoli
- ✓ Beet greens
- ✓ Asparagus
- ✓ Turnip greens
- ✓ Bell peppers
- ✓ Cucumber
- ✓ Celery
- ✓ Avocado
- ✓ Lentils
- ✓ Peas

## Animal-Based

- ✓ Chicken
- ✓ Turkey
- ✓ Yogurt
- ✓ Salmon
- ✓ Beef
- ✓ Eggs



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## Food Preparation Effects on Vitamin B5

- ✓ Easily destroyed by heat
- ✓ Destroyed by light
  - Store away from light to protect vitamin B5 content
- ✓ Can be lost in water when foods are boiled or soaked



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## WH Foods Vitamin B5 Foods Ranking

Food	Serving Size	Cal	Amount (mg)	DR/UV (%)
Mushrooms, Shiitake	0.50 cup	40.6	2.41	52
Mushrooms, Crimini	1 cup	15.8	1.08	22
Cauliflower	2 cup	28.5	0.63	13
Sweet Potato	1 cup	180.0	1.77	35
Broccoli	1 cup	54.8	0.93	17
Butter Beans	1 cup	26.8	0.47	8
Avocado	1 cup	39.6	0.40	8
Turnip Greens	1 cup	28.8	0.39	8
Red Peas/beans	1 cup	20.5	0.29	6
Cucumber	1 cup	15.6	0.27	5
Celery	1 cup	14.2	0.25	5
Asparagus	1 cup	240.0	2.06	42
Lentils	1 cup	229.7	2.42	48
Oranges	1 cup	251.3	1.17	22
Oranges	4 oz	167.1	1.09	22
Turnips	4 oz	164.7	1.02	20
Yams	1 cup	149.4	0.95	19
Spinach	4 oz	157.6	0.92	18
Rice	0.23 cup	108.5	0.81	16
Beef	4 oz	175.0	0.77	15
Lettuce	1 each	77.5	0.70	14
Butternut Squash	1 cup	160.9	0.65	13
Wheat	1 cup	151.1	0.62	12
Broccoli	1 cup	73.8	0.61	12
String Beans	4 oz	134.9	0.59	12
Passata	1 medium	118.7	0.53	11
Winter Squash	1 cup	75.8	0.48	10

<http://www.drritamarie.com/qo/WHFVitaminB5Foods>

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## Herbs High In Vitamin B5



### Black catnip



right



ed clover



## Jack catnip      Eyebright

## Eyebright

## Red clover

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### Yellow dock

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## Risk Factors for Vitamin B5

- ✓ **Alcoholics**
  - Decreased intake
  - Decreased absorption
  - Impaired utilization of vitamin B5
- ✓ **Anorexia**
- ✓ Lactose intolerance
- ✓ **Hypothyroid and adrenal fatigue**
  - The conversion of vitamin B5 into FAD and FMN is impaired
- ✓ **Very physically active people (athletes, laborers)**
  - Slightly increased vitamin B5 requirement



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## What Depletes Vitamin B5?

- ✓ Stress
- ✓ Refined foods
- ✓ Alcohol
- ✓ Beta Blockers:
  - ✓ Blocadren
  - ✓ Tenormin
  - ✓ Nadolim
  - ✓ Toprol XL
  - ✓ Inderal
  - ✓ Lopressor
  - ✓ Cartrol
  - ✓ Brevibloc
  - ✓ Sectral
  - ✓ Betapace
  - ✓ Coregard



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## Assessing Status of Vitamin B5

- ✓ Static serum level not always accurate
- ✓ NutrEval by Genova / Metametrix
- ✓ SpectraCell Labs
- ✓ Diet journal
- ✓ Questionnaires and good history taking for signs and symptoms



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# Vitamin B5 Supplementation

- ✓ Generally included in multivitamins and B-complex vitamins
- ✓ Available forms:
  - Pantothenic acid
  - Panthenol: common in multivitamins
  - Panthethine: possibly most effective
  - Calcium D-pantetheate
- ✓ Capsules, powder, liquid
- ✓ According to Dr. Lam, best with high dose nutritional cocktail of vitamin C, lysine, proline, bioflavonoids, pine bark extract, glycine, carnitine, magnesium, fructooligosaccharides, glutamine, and ascorbyl palmitate



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# References