**Discussion**

5-Hydroxytryptophan ("5-HTP") is a naturally-occurring amino acid precursor to serotonin. Numerous studies during the '90s, including those randomized, double-blind, and placebo-controlled, confirmed the safety and efficacy of 5-HTP in reducing appetite and food intake in obese healthy and non-insulin-dependent diabetic individuals.[1,2,3] A 2006 study in mice concluded, "5-HTP-induced anorexia may be mediated by facilitation of leptin secretion."[4] Vitamins B6 and C are important cofactors in the 5-HTP to serotonin pathway. Among the several serotonin receptors thus identified, the 5HT2C receptors are suspected in control of food intake. Mice without this receptor exhibit increased food intake and become obese.[5]

**DL-Phenylalanine (DLPA)** is a combination of the d- and the l- forms of this essential amino acid. Phenylalanine suppresses appetite by regulating the release of cholecystokinin, which in turns signals satiety in the brain. D-phenylalanine increases endorphins, while L-phenylalanine is an amphetamine-like stimulatory compound. DLPA has been found to elevate mood, curb appetite and reduce pain.*

**L-Tyrosine**, an essential amino acid is needed for conversion into the catecholamine neurotransmitters stress depletes: dopamine, norepinephrine, and epinephrine. It is also a precursor for thyroxine. Doctors use tyrosine as a mood elevator, to increase alertness after sleep deprivation and as an appetite suppressant; although support for the latter appears anecdotal.*[6]

**L-Glutamine**, well-recognized for gut and immune support, has also been espoused to reduce carbohydrate cravings and support alcohol withdrawal, although the mechanism of action for these benefits is not known.*[7,8]

**Chromium**, as chromium picolinate is widely used to optimize insulin function; thereby preventing swings in blood glucose levels that may be responsible for carbohydrate cravings. The mineral in the form present was indeed demonstrated to reduce carbohydrate cravings in a double-blind, placebo-controlled study.*[9,10]

*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.
Supplement Facts

Serving Size: 4 Capsules
Servings Per Container: 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient</th>
<th>Amount Per Serving</th>
<th>% Daily Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin C (as ascorbic acid)</td>
<td>500 mg</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin B6 (as pyridoxine HCl)</td>
<td>37.5 mg</td>
<td>1875%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromium (as TRAACS® Chromium Nicotinate Triglycinate Chelate)</td>
<td>60 mcg</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DL-Phenylalanine</td>
<td>1 g</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L-Tyrosine</td>
<td>750 mg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L-Glutamine</td>
<td>375 mg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-HTP (5-Hydroxytryptophan) (from Griffonia simplicifolia (seed))</td>
<td>75 mg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Daily value not established.

Other Ingredients: HPMC (capsule), stearic acid, rice flour, magnesium stearate, medium-chain triglycerides, and silica.

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Directions

Take four capsules before breakfast and four capsules before 3 PM, or use as directed by your healthcare practitioner. Do not take after 3 PM.

Consult your healthcare practitioner prior to use if you have, or suspect you have, a medical condition or are taking prescription drugs for depression, migraines, Parkinson’s disease, or psychiatric disorders. Not for use by children.

Does Not Contain

Wheat, gluten, yeast, soy, animal or dairy products, fish, shellfish, peanuts, tree nuts, egg, ingredients derived from genetically modified organisms (GMOs), artificial colors, artificial sweeteners, or preservatives.

References


Cautions

Do not use with other dietary supplements containing L-tryptophan, 5-HTP, St. John’s wort, SAMe, or Hawaiian baby woodrose. Do not take if you are, or suspect you are, pregnant or if you are lactating.

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