

# Nature's Field

An Electronic Journal for NSP Distributors

## Announcements

We have some important announcements to make this month, so we hope you'll read the following carefully.

### Changes in Nature's Field

Nature's Field has changed a lot over the years. I started the publication in 1986 when I was employed by Nature's Sunshine Products. It was a part-time endeavor and had 400 subscribers. A subscription to the bimonthly newsletter was \$12.

We've changed a lot since that time. We're now a free monthly E-zine with over 6,000 subscribers, and it's time for changes again. Starting in April, Nature's Field will become a weekly newsletter instead of a monthly one. Another change will be that the newsletter will be sent in HTML format instead of PDF format. If your E-mail program doesn't receive HTML E-mails, then you'll be sent a hyperlink to view the newsletter online.

These changes will allow us to communicate more regularly with our subscribers and provide links to additional material on our web sites, as well as classes and specials.

### Webinars

Last fall, I started teaching my ABC+D Class via webinar. The program was sponsored through nspwebinars.com.

I like the webinar format because it allows me to teach classes that can be attended via the internet by anyone in the world. I love teaching, but traveling is stressful and it's very difficult to get enough people together to make it financially worthwhile to travel and teach classes.

I see webinars as a great opportunity to teach more classes about more topics to more people. So, I'm going to be offering a lot of webinar classes from now on. Here are some upcoming events.

### Iridology

I love iridology and want to train more people how to use this tool. On March 23, we'll be hosting a free webinar on

iridology. Look for the upcoming e-mail for more information and register. We will be introducing iridology tools and announcing an IIPA Level 1 and Level 2 iridology course we will be teaching later this year via webinar.

### Pain Relief

In April, we will be doing an advanced webinar on natural remedies for pain. This is a class I started putting together about 10 years ago. It will cover a large materia medica of natural remedies that can be used for easing pain and promoting permanent healing of the causes of pain. You can also register for this webinar at treelite.com

### Free Energetic Webinars

I'm also sitting on a large body of information about healing on a broader emotional and social scale. I've got information about improving relationships, enhancing your ability to learn, better parenting, financial prosperity and much more. I've been feeling the urgent need to share this information and the webinar format supplies an ideal way to make this information available to those who want it.

So, if you're interested in holistic healing paradigms that get into the emotional, social, political and environmental aspects of healing, go to <http://www.steven-horne.com/education/abccalls.htm>. You'll find a schedule of topics on this page, the registration link for the next webinar and an email list where you can subscribe to receive announcements about these webinars.

You will be able to attend the webinar for free. If you decide you liked it and want a copy of the webinar and the notes, you will be able to purchase it for download.

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# Seven Stress Solving Secrets

## Strategies to Help You Prosper in Difficult Times

by Steven H. Horne, RH (AHG)



Stress! We all experience it from time to time in our life. Perhaps you, like many others in this country, are feeling some stress because of the economy. If you are, I'd say you're pretty normal. Just listening to news reports of lost jobs, home foreclosures and reduced sales is enough to cause feelings of anxiety in just about anyone, including me. But, stressful events aren't the real problem. It's how we react to stressful events that determines whether we will grow from them or develop chronic worry, anxiety, fear and the physical illness that accompanies it.

Learning how to handle stress is typically called stress "management." The implication is that we can never avoid stressful experiences. However, we can learn tools that help us to deal with (or "manage") them.

I've learned stress management skills because I need them to help me through my own "tough times," which have included three divorces, the deaths of both of my parents and two of my children, and a bankruptcy. Many people going through these types of stressful experiences become bitter, angry, withdrawn, depressed and hardened. They also typically develop serious chronic illness because of this stress. In contrast, I've been able to remain a generally optimistic, happy and healthy person.

The reason I've been able to do this isn't because I possess some natural, special resistance to stress. I'm an A blood type and we have a hard time "burning off" stress hormones, so actually I'm very prone to anxiety and nervous tension. (Just ask my wife, she knows.) But, I experience more of this anxiety and tension when I fail to practice the Seven Stress Solving Secrets I'm about to share with you.

Which is why I begin with this caution—knowing something and learning it are not the same thing. You can know something in your head, but you really don't learn it until you actually practice it. You can't learn these Seven Stress Solving Secrets just by reading this article. You actually have to deliberately practice them on a daily basis. If you do, they will work wonders for you. If you don't, they won't help you a bit.

Learning these skills isn't optional if you want to be healthy and happy. Based on my own experience, and the experience of working with my clients, I believe that stress is half of the cause of all chronic illnesses. My chronically ill clients see the biggest healing improvements in their health, not from herbs and supplements, but from learning how to resolve their emotional stress.

Unfortunately, there are people who would rather be miserable and sick than do what it takes to get well. Some people love to complain about their stress, but won't actually do what they need to do to solve it. So, don't just read about these skills, put them into practice starting today.

Learning and applying these Seven Stress Solving Secrets isn't just going to help you. It's also going to help you help other people. With so many people feeling the stress of "troubled times" right now, being able to help others with their stress is a valuable service you can offer.

Keeping in mind that you can only learn them by practicing them, here are my personal Seven Stress Solving Secrets.

### Stress Solving Secret #1: Pause and Take a Deep Breath

This first secret to dealing with stress is both the simplest and the most important tool you will ever learn for handling stress. Deep breathing will rapidly counteract the physiological effects of stress in your body and help you feel better within minutes. It is completely free and will even improve your ability to solve life's problems!

Here's a practical suggestion for applying this stress solving secret that I learned from one of my professors in college. Whenever you feel yourself getting anxious, worried, fearful or stressed about something, pause and notice your breathing. It will be rapid and shallow.



Start by thinking, "There is a better way to breathe."

Then, make sure that the soles of both feet are in contact with the floor. Feel the floor or ground beneath your feet. This puts you in greater contact with your body and "grounds" you so you feel more solid and stable.

Next, take a deep breath. As you inhale think, "I am..." and as you exhale think, "...relaxed."

Repeat this until you start to feel more calm and centered. This can happen in as little as three to four breaths, but you should probably continue for at least ten to twenty breaths.

Here's what will happen. You will start to feel more relaxed, and your mind will clear. You will find that you are able to cope better with whatever you are experiencing and may even get some clear ideas as to how to proceed.

Here's why this technique works. Breathing is a bridge between your autonomic nervous system and your central nervous system because the diaphragm is the only muscle that is under both voluntary and involuntary control. This means that the autonomic nervous system can alter our breath, but altering our breathing can also alter the autonomic nervous system.

When we are stressed, our sympathetic nervous system is firing and the parasympathetic nervous system is inhibited. This causes our adrenals to fire off epinephrine or adrenaline. At the same time, hormones released from the hypothalamus and pituitary are causing a release of cortisol from the adrenals. These cause the physiological changes in our body that we associate with feelings of fear, stress and anxiety.

One of the effects of this stress response is to shut down rational thought, causing us to react instinctively. This allows faster reaction times, which is why we can swerve to avoid an accident or flee from a potential mugger without having to think about it first.

This response is designed to save our lives when we are in actual physical danger, but it doesn't serve us well when we're faced with long term problems like debts, lost jobs or struggling relationships. Dealing with these sorts of problems requires clear thinking, not instinctive reaction. In fact, reacting instinctively to these kinds of problems often makes them worse! It's why we may snap at our spouse or children, or do something self-destructive like getting drunk or binging out on junk food, when we experience stress. Slow, deep breathing activates the parasympathetic nervous system and delivers more oxygen to our brain, which reactivates awareness and clear thinking.

Of course, you probably won't remember to breathe deeply when you're actually in a stressful situation (because you'll be too stressed, right?) so you need to start training yourself to breathe deeply when you aren't reacting to stress. You do this by spend-

ing at least five minutes, twice daily, practicing deep breathing. If you can do it for 10-15 minutes, that's even better.

Don't even think, "I don't have time for this." You don't have time NOT to do this. The more difficult your life circumstances are right now, the more important it is that you spend a few minutes each day practicing deep breathing.

To practice deep breathing, lay flat on the floor (use a cushion or mat if you need to) or sit upright (with your back straight but not tense) in a chair. Breathe in and count silently to yourself as you breathe in, "in, two, three, four." Then breathe out silently counting to the same number, "out, two, three, four." Make your inhalation time and your exhalation time equal.

Breathe in through the nose and out through the nose. If your nose is plugged, breathe in through your closed teeth and out through your closed teeth.

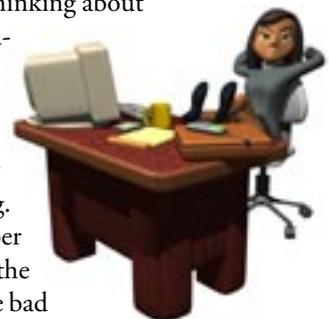
Breathe from your diaphragm. Your tummy should rise as you breathe in and fall as you breathe out. If you cannot breathe from your diaphragm and have to lift your chest and shoulders to breathe, you have a hiatal hernia. (You can read about this problem and how to correct it in my article, Hiatal Hernia: Hidden Cause of Chronic Illness at [www.steven-horne.com](http://www.steven-horne.com).)

Practicing deep breathing will calm your nervous system and focus your awareness. It will help you feel better no matter what is going on in your life. It will also make it easier to remember to take a deep breath in stressful situations. Don't just read about it, start doing it today!

### Stress Solving Secret #2: Experience the Present Moment

Most of us are constantly thinking about the past or worried about the future. We are determined that our life should be different than it is. We fret over past decisions and experiences and fear for what the future might bring. Unfortunately, as we remember bad things that happened in the past or we worry about possible bad things that might happen in the future, we induce in the present the same stress response that occurs when we are actually in a stressful situation.

What this simply means is that 99% of the anxiety, fear and stress we experience has nothing to do with what is happening in our lives right now. In other words, the actual moment we are in probably has nothing stressful about it at all. The stress response we're feeling is being induced by our mind dwelling on the past or worrying about the future.



So, simply by returning our thoughts to the present moment, we can dissolve about 99% of our stress. Now, that's an easy thing for me to say, but how do you actually do it?

Well, for starters, just do the deep breathing exercise I've already shared with you. Deep breathing helps pull you back into the present moment, because you can't breathe in the past or the future. You can only breathe right now.

And, therein lies the secret to bringing your mind back to the present. Just turn your attention to anything which can only be done in the present moment. Here are some practical suggestions.

First, your senses only operate in the present moment. Unless you have some paranormal ability that I don't have, your eyes can only see what is in the present, your ears can only hear what is in the present and you can only touch what is present. (Yes, you can remember sensory input or imagine potential sensory input, but you can only experience sensory input in the present moment.)

So, after you've taken your deep breaths, open your eyes (not just physically, but mentally). Look at your surroundings. Listen to the sounds around you. Notice your body. Feel the sensations of your clothing against your skin. You can also involve your smell and taste. Don't let your brain analyze and dismiss what is around you. Instead, just open up your senses and experience it.

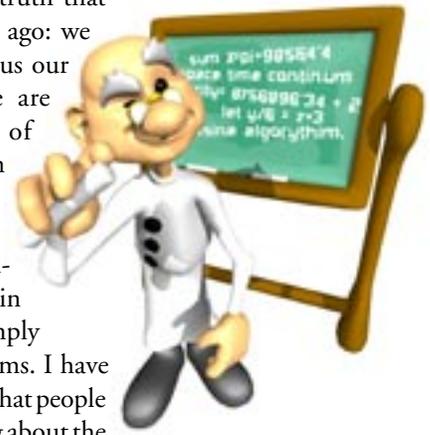
Here's another great exercise I learned from Eckhart Tolle's book, *The Power of Now*. He suggests that you should ask yourself this question, "What in this moment, is lacking?" Try it, right now as you read this article. Stop, take a few deep breaths and ask yourself, "What, in this moment is lacking?" Maybe a bill is due tomorrow that you don't have the money to pay and you're worried about your utilities being shut off. But, how is everything right now, this very instant?

The truth is that 99% of the time, nothing is wrong in the present moment. We just allow the 1% bad moments to overshadow our lives by constantly rehashing them or trying to figure out how we can never let them happen again. This is an awfully stressful way to live.

In the New Testament, Jesus recommended that we, "Take no thought for the morrow...sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." (Matthew 6:34) It's sound advice. We can only deal with the problems of today. What is past is past and what is done is done. We can't change it. And, tomorrow we can deal with tomorrow's problems. Focus on today, or more importantly on the task right in front of your face, and you'll find that much of your stress will disappear.

### Stress Solving Secret #3: Focus on Solutions, Not on Problems

Here is a simple truth that I learned many years ago: we magnify what we focus our attention on. There are many applications of this principle, but in relationship to stress, it means that if we focus too much attention on the problems in our lives, we will simply generate more problems. I have noticed, for instance, that people who are always talking about the problems in the world, seem to attract an unusual number of personal problems and setbacks into their personal lives.



Positive thinking is extremely helpful for managing stress. As we've already stated, much of the stress we experience we create for ourselves by not living in the present moment. Negative thinking is another way we create stress for ourselves.

Negative thinking is simply focusing our mental energy and attention onto what is wrong and what we don't want. In contrast, positive thinking is simply focusing our attention on what is right and what we do want. It's as simple as that.

So, whatever problems or troubles you're experiencing, admit them to yourself, and accept the fact that you're experiencing them. Just as the first step to recovering from drug or alcohol addiction is to admit you're addicted, the first step to dealing with stressful circumstances in our life (after pausing and taking a deep breath and returning to the present moment, of course) is to admit what's happening. Instead of saying, "No, this can't be happening to me," say, "Yes, this is what is happening to me."

But, once you've identified the problem, turn your thinking around. Don't start thinking, "I don't want this." Instead, think, "This is where I am, but where do I want to be?" Start asking yourself questions like, "What do I want?" "What's the solution?" "What could I do right now that would help me change my circumstances?"

Positive thinking isn't believing that thinking will magically solve your problems. It's actually just faith, which means believing that there are solutions to our problems and that we are capable of finding and implementing them. This is my form of positive thinking and I find it really works.

When I realize I have a problem (and sometimes after I've gone through my little bout of stress and feeling sorry for

myself), my positive thinking starts kicking in. I believe that God can help me find answers. So, I start praying for guidance and start looking for the knowledge and skills I need to fix the problem.

I look for mentors, people with track records of success in achieving what I want to achieve. If I don't know a good mentor personally, then I, at least, find books written by good mentors. I then start implementing or trying out their suggestions. I practice the techniques that seem to work and discard the ones that don't.

Often, in the process, I will find stories that inspire me with hope. For example, Dan Kennedy wrote about a man named George Haylings in his December Gold Letter. His story is very inspiring to me. George Haylings lived in a "tent city" during the depression. He did research at the local library and wrote little books on his manual typewriter like, "How to Make Money at Home" and "Hidden Dollars." He became a millionaire during the depression. I found an article about him on the internet you might enjoy. Here's the link: <http://www.infomarketingblog.com/george-haylings-info-marketer-who-laughed-at-the-depression/>

George didn't prosper during the depression by sitting on his behind and "thinking positively." He combined positive thinking with skillful action. When you learn to change your focus from talking about problems to searching for and testing solutions, that's when you are really "thinking positively."

### Stress Solving Secret #4: Cultivate a Gratitude Attitude

Part of the process of shifting our attention from the negative to the positive is to recognize what we already have that is good. Remember the exercise Eckhart Tolle recommends when he says to ask, "What in this moment is lacking?" Well, a powerful extension of that exercise is to look around and ask, "What do I have to be grateful for?"



I use this technique a lot. When I'm feeling down or discouraged, I often look around and start finding all the good things in my life and start saying, "Thank you, God" for everything in my life that I have or that's going right. Most of the time we

have a lot more to be grateful for than we have to be worried about. My attitude starts improving right away.

Here's what I think about when economic difficulties come. In the worst times of my life, I've still had central heating, hot and cold running water and a roof over my head. How many millions of people in the world don't have these things? I've never had to go to bed hungry, except by choice when I've been fasting. Half of the world goes to bed hungry. I live in a land of relative freedom. How many countries live under cruel dictatorships? And, I can go on and on. The truth is that most "poor" Americans are far better off than half of the people living in the world today.

Marketing has convinced most Americans that the only way to be happy is to have more "stuff." But, if that were true, then Americans would be the happiest people on earth. We are not. We have some of the highest rates of depression on the planet. Many people with a tenth of what we enjoy are actually happier than we are.

Now, let me tell you the most powerful part of this secret. It's not easy to put into practice, but it really works. Be thankful for your problems, too. I learned this secret from a little book called *Sons of God* by Christine Mercie. I came to understand

#### About Nature's Field

Nature's Field started out as a printed publication, available by subscription only. Providing reliable information on natural healing for over twenty years, Nature's Field is now a free E-zine produced by Tree of Light Publishing.

#### Production Staff

President and Managing Editor: Steven H. Horne  
 V.P. of Sales and Finance: Darla Steiner  
 Associate Editors: Carolyn Hughes, Hugh Hughes, Sharon Grimes, David Horne  
 Computers and Design: David Horne

#### Important Notice

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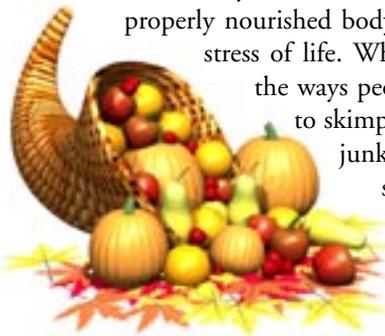
that if we could see our problems from God's perspective, we would get down on our knees and thank Him for everything we had been privileged to suffer.

I started trying to do this. It wasn't easy at first, but I did it. I would say, "Thank you God for this problem (or difficulty). Please help me to learn the lessons you want me to learn from this challenge in my life."

Something miraculous happens when you do this. It's beyond focusing on the good things in our life and being grateful for them. It's a change in perspective that helps you start seeing everything that happens in your life as a good thing, at least in the idea that it is good for you because it contains the seeds of your growth and development.

### Stress Solving Secret #5: Nourish Yourself

The body needs nourishment to thrive and a properly nourished body stands up better to the stress of life. When cash is short, one of the ways people try to save money is to skimp on food by eating cheap junk food. Don't! Skimp on something else, but eat good food.



Actually, eating good food can be more economical than eating unhealthy food. Remember

that processed, canned and refined foods are not only unhealthy, they are unsatisfying. White bread may be cheaper than whole wheat bread but you'll eat four times as much and still not be nourished.

Besides, whatever happened to homemade? My wife, who is from Russia, simply can't understand how so many women in American don't know how to cook. Home cooking is a great way to get better nutrition and save money!

If you actually buy real food (fresh fruits and vegetables, especially locally grown and in season, whole grains, legumes and fresh meat), you can actually save money on your food budget. If you look in most people's shopping carts, you'll see lots of soda, chips, sugary breakfast cereals, frozen dinners and other convenience foods. This stuff costs way more than real food.

Go look at the price of a bag of beans or split peas or lentils compared to these foods. Compare how much you get in a can of produce to how much you can get (volume wise) in fresh produce for the same price. Real food saves money.

Lacking time to prepare it? That can easily be overcome, too. It takes less time to eat an apple, some nuts and a carrot stick than it does to open and warm up a can of something. Simple food can taste great.

Get a crock pot. Throw in vegetables and meat in the morning and come home to dinner in the evening. Soak some beans overnight and cook them in the crock pot the next day. It's actually quite easy to save money and eat healthier at the same time.

Here's another cheap, nutritious food that's easy to prepare. Put some whole grain cereal in water in the evening and it will cook up in a few minutes in the morning. Add a little butter, cream or flax seed oil.

In short, eating healthy doesn't have to be expensive or time consuming. It just takes a little thought and preparation.

And, while we're at it, don't forget our little green friends, the herbs. They can help us, too. You see, plants live with stress, just like we do. They have to endure conditions of excess water or deficient water, extreme heat or cold, poor soil and numerous other challenges in their lives. Because of this, they can "teach" our body how to cope.

Generally speaking, the most useful herbs to help you through periods of stress in your life are adaptagens. Adaptagens like Nervous Fatigue Formula and eleuthero root have helped me a lot during stressful periods of my life. So have nervine herbs like kava kava, skullcap and lobelia.

However, here again, some of the herbs that might help us the most are actually free. They grow in our lawn, in vacant lots and even cracks in the sidewalk. Poor people used to know how to gather their own herbal remedies for free. I'm glad I still know how to do this, because I'm often felt that if things ever got bad enough I could gather my own medicines and still help people.

But, even if you don't know how to gather herbs yourself, how expensive is a cup of chamomile tea or a bottle of eleuthero root capsules? I have a friend in the east who was suffering from anxiety. I suggested he take eleuthero and rhodiola. He was blown away, not only with how fast the herbs worked, but how cheap they were compared to all the drug medications he'd tried for the same problem.

Steven H. Horne is a professional member and past president of the American Herbalists Guild, a certified iridologist with IIPA and a gifted teacher and consultant in the field of natural health care. He is president of Tree of Light Publishing. Steven is available for consults through ABC Herbs 435-627-1682. His website is [www.steven-horne.com](http://www.steven-horne.com).



The bottom line is this, don't skimp on taking care of yourself and nourishing yourself properly during times of stress. Those are the times when you need nutrients the most. You'll be able to think more clearly, have more energy, work harder and solve your problems better if you eat nourishing foods and take some herbs and supplements.

### Stress Solving Secret #6: Plan for Pleasure

Here's a great stress reducing secret I learned from Paul Pearsall, author of *The Pleasure Prescription*—a pleasurable experience does more good for your body than a stressful experience does harm. That's great news!



What it means is that we don't have to avoid stress, we just have to find ways to make our lives more pleasurable. The problem is that advertising and culture have convinced us that if we don't have certain things, we can't be happy. So, basically we tell ourselves, "I have no right to enjoy this pleasure if this and this and this aren't right in my life." I know, I've been a workaholic myself.

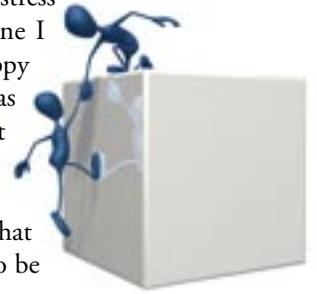
Also, we have convinced ourselves that having fun, that is, experiencing pleasure, costs a lot of money. But how much money does it take to cuddle with someone or trade back rubs? How much money does it cost to take a walk in the park or get out in nature? How much money is a warm, relaxing bath with some essential oils and a candle? There are many pleasurable activities we can engage in that don't cost a lot of money.

Oh, but I might caution you that watching TV is not a very good stress-reducer. TV is designed to stimulate us, not relax us. Yes, TV (and video games, too), kind of lull us into a trance-like state, but that's not the same as doing something that's actually physically pleasurable. Engage your body and your senses, not just your mind.

You can even make ordinary activities pleasurable by focusing on your sensory experience as you do them. For instance, pay more attention to your food when you are eating. Notice the colors, the smells and the taste and focus your attention on them. Remember that when you engage your body and senses you have to be in the present moment. So, learning to experience pleasure also helps you to stay in the present moment.

### Stress Solving Secret #7: Serve Someone Less Fortunate Than Yourself

This is one of the greatest of all stress solving-secrets, and it's the first one I learned. I did not have a very happy home life growing up. It wasn't as bad as some people I know, but it wasn't a really happy life, either. As a result, I became quite depressed as a teenager. The biggest thing that pulled me out of it was learning to be of service to others.



It happened like this. I was on a scout camping trip and I noticed that all the "outcasts" of the troop came and set up camp near me. I realized that these were all the kids that got chosen last to play and who were really not welcomed into their scout patrols. So, I got an idea. I went to the scoutmaster and I pointed out that these kids all felt left out in their various scout patrols. I also pointed out that I was one of the most knowledgeable and highest ranking scouts in the troop, but wasn't considered "cool" and therefore, never got elected to be a patrol leader. I asked him if he would make me a patrol leader and give me all the "outcasts."

Thus, the "mole patrol" was born. I worked with these guys, gave them a feeling of belonging and helped them advance in rank in scouting. After a year, we became the best patrol in the troop as far as achievement goes, and I quit feeling sorry for myself because I was helping kids who were worse off than I was.

[As a side note, after about a year, the scoutmaster decided to break up our patrol and assign these kids to other patrols because they were "leaders" as he put it. I told him this was a mistake, but he did it anyway and most of these kids slipped right back into being outcasts.]

Still, the lesson was one I never forgot. Our lives have more meaning when we serve others. When we lift others, we lift ourselves. And, when we know how to give value to others we rarely lack for meaningful work.

Well, there you have it—my Seven Stress Solving Secrets. All of them are actually integrated into a healthy way of dealing with life's problems. For instance, part of nourishing yourself is allowing yourself to find pleasant experiences. Serving others who are less fortunate helps you cultivate a gratitude attitude for your own blessings. Practicing any of them will help you practice the others, but remember that they won't do you any good if you don't put them into practice. However, I can promise you that if you do put them into practice, you'll find yourself stressing less and being more productive in these troubled times.



## Kimberly Balas' Clinician's Corner

# Stress and Your Adrenals

Stress depletes both our energy and our health. In today's society we are inundated with stress that doesn't let up. Chronic stress repeatedly forces the adrenal glands to sustain high levels of cortisol. This disrupts hormone balance because cortisol is made from DHEA, which is also required to make estrogen, progesterone and testosterone. Overworked adrenals lose the capacity to produce sufficient DHEA, which disrupts hormone balance throughout the body. Insufficient DHEA contributes to fatigue, bone and muscle loss, depression, aching joints, decreased sex drive, and impaired immune function.

High cortisol levels also damage healthy tissue. Eventually, adrenal fatigue sets in, and many experience symptoms such as weight gain, fatigue, insomnia, fuzzy thinking, depression, cravings and mood swings. Once the adrenals become depleted, it can lead to adrenal exhaustion.

In doing saliva testing, I have found that only 1% of the people we test have normal cortisol levels indicating healthy adrenal function. This means 99% are suffering from impaired function, ranging from significant adrenal stress to complete adrenal exhaustion.

In the early stages of adrenal dysfunction, cortisol levels are too high during the day and continue rising in the evening. This is called "hyperadrenia." In the middle stages, cortisol may rise and fall unevenly as the body struggles to balance itself despite the disruptions of caffeine, carbohydrates and other factors, but levels are not normal and are typically too high at night. In advanced stages, when the adrenals are exhausted from overwork, cortisol will never reach normal levels, "hypoadrenia".

Conventional medicine will detect only the extremes of these conditions, when damage to the adrenals has already occurred (Cushing's disease and Addison's disease). Within those extremes, you can feel miserable and still be told your cortisol levels are normal. But by responding to early-stage symptoms of adrenal fatigue, we can reverse the developing dysfunction.

Some indications of adrenal insufficiency include lagging energy during the day, feeling emotionally unbalanced much of the time, sleeping poorly or sleeping less than seven hours a night, inability to lose excess weight while dieting or frequent need to use caffeine or carbohydrates as "pick-me-ups." If you have some of these red flags you should probably do a hormone test to see how it is really affecting you.

You can also take general steps to support your adrenals. First, reduce intake of refined carbohydrates, especially sugar.

Stop using stimulants like coffee and cola drinks. Add essential fatty acids like Omega 3 or Super GLA to your program to help with hormone combustion.

Find ways to handle or reduce stress by using adaptagens like Suma Combination or AdaptaMax, Adrenal Support, Nutri-Calm or B-Complex. I tend to leave people on Adrenal Support for longer periods of time when they exhibit high cortisol and continue to have a lot of stress in their lives.

Find a way to make time for yourself with regular exercise, tai chi, a yoga class or something similar. O Blood types tend to like more physical exercise to remove stress, where A Blood Types do better with yoga. B's like peaceful movement such as Tai Chi or pilates. AB's do well with all the calming movements that incorporate more breathing techniques.

Find time to get more rest. It is okay to take a nap during the day if you have that time.

When cortisol levels are up, the body usually has an inflammatory response. This will create more acid in the system. Alkalizing your body will help reduce stress. You can also use things to combat inflammation. I often use IF Relief, Nature's Cortisol and chlorophyll caps together for extreme and continual stress. Don't use Nature's Cortisol when the cortisol levels aren't low all day long, it will increase fatigue.

I also use Energ-V as an adaptagen when there are low cortisol levels. When you are in the throws of adrenal fatigue, you may need DHEA-F or DHEA-M or even a compounded DHEA to support adrenal function. Licorice and eleuthero can also be helpful.

It's important to emphasize the role of emotional factors. Guilt, pain from past hurts, self-destructive habits, unresolved relationship problems, and your past and present emotional experience may serve as an ever-present source of stress. Dealing with these problems directly is much more beneficial than trying to compensate for the stress they create. Prevention makes a difference.

Kimberly Balas is a board certified naturopath and clinical nutritionist. She is currently head of the research department and a certified instructor for all Tree of Light courses. She is available for consultations by phone or at her Wyoming office. For more information on scheduling a consult, please phone 307-277-2466.

