"Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence.
Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful people with talent.
Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb.
Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts.
Persistence and Determination alone are omnipotent.

"Press on" has solved and always will solve

the problems of the human race."

- Calvin Coolidge American 30th President of the United States, 1872-1933





"Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.,



Patient Zero (PT)

### An N of 1

From Mid-November 2002 to date

The stopping and reversal of heart disease by 10.2% in Score and Volume since 2012 As Measured by Computed Tomography (CT)

A Precise, Concise, & Condensed

**Controls Engineer's 50,000' view (it's all about connecting the dots)** 

of

The Key Roles of

Vitamin K-1 and MK-7 and associated parallel Bio-Chemistry

This 30 minute presentation represents the body of work to date of:

\* 16,000 + hours of peer reviewed literature analysis by PT

\* Exhaustive blood analysis during this same period of PT

20+ CT scans of PT's heart

(neutral third party analysis of the scans during this same period)









### With the first question asked in November of 2002 being:

## What Changed?

Followed by: Who, When, Where, Why, & How All based on Objective Evidence and Objective Analysis of the Data with some inferential logic sprinkled in.

## ABOUTGEROUMERTEID

# IF A PROBLEM YOU WANT TO FIX...

**DEFINE** Define the problem and the ideal in terms of the target to achieve.

**MEASURE** Collect relevant data about the process and the problem. Analyse the process to identify the cause-effect relationship between inputs and outputs. Identify the vital few root causes.

IMPROVE Determine the optimum values for key contributing process inputs. Implement solutions to eliminate the root causes.

INNOVATE

**CONTROL** Establish standards and controls to sustain improvements in the long run.

Time, Temp, pH, Flow, Pressure, Chemical Consistency, Rheology80/20 rule:20, 4, 1.8, 0.36, 0.07Cannot hit a target you cannot see and you cannot hit a target you do not have

### Which Resulted in the Following Discoveries

#### DMAIC SIGNIFICANT DISCOVERIES BY APRIL 1 2003:



VITAMIN D MAGNESIUM SELENIUM THYROID GUT BACTERIA

CARBS BAD FATS SURFACE CHEMISTRY/SURFACE GEOMETRY VITAMIN C

APOE INFECTIONS (example: gum disease) CoQ-10



#### SIGNIFICANT DMAIC DISCOVERIES IN JULY 2010:

VITAMIN K – ALL FORMS

**Fetuin-A** 

Which Resulted in the New Heart Disease Definition

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**2010 New Definition of the Problem:** 

Heart Disease Appears to Be: Insufficient Carboxylation of Matrix Gla Proteins resident on Macrophages, Foam Cells, & VSMCs Caused by Insufficient MK-7 et.al. Resident on or in LDL, HDL, and VLDL

Impacted & Influenced by Free T3 - - - Vitamin D - - - - Magnesium - - - - CoQ-10 - - - - Fetuin-A - - - - miRNA

Which Resulted in the New Pictorial Model

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### Now Lets Drill Down:

1st: How are Fat Soluble Vitamins Transported and Who does the Transporting?

2<sup>nd</sup>: Size Matters with Regard to the "Trucks" (4 slides)



3<sup>rd</sup>: The "Readers Digest Version" Explanation of the Reversal of Heart Disease

4<sup>th</sup>: The "Painful Version" (trust me I will not dwell on it)

5<sup>th</sup>: A Practical Blue Collar Working Philosophy

6<sup>th</sup>: Everything you wanted to know about "K" but were afraid to ask (6 slides)

7<sup>th</sup>: Fetuin-A

8<sup>th</sup>: Suggested Tests

<sup>9th</sup>: Tips, Trick, Trivia, Terms, Trends, & Tantalizing Tidbit Travails (if we have time)

<sup>10th</sup>: A Plethora of References for your Reading Pleasure













### The Delivery System of A, D, E, K, Ca, Q-10









"Its kinda-sorta-like-a-porcupine"

### Lipoprotein Subclasses



### Size Matters As it Impacts Not Only How Much is Carried but How it is Carried Which IS

The Surface Chemistry & Surface Orientation/Configuration Issue - - - - Consider the Round Peg – Square Hole Analogy or Golf ball vs Beach ball



	AVG Diameter			% Diff Lo to Hi
Particle	nM	Lo	Hi	Volume
СМ	637	75	1200	409,600%
VLDL	55	30	80	1,896%
IDL	38	25	50	800%
LDL	23	18	28	376%
HDL	10	5	15	2,70 <mark>0%</mark>
	AVG Diameter			% Diff Lo to Hi
Particle	AVG Diameter nM	Lo	Hi	% Diff Lo to Hi Surface Area
Particle CM		Lo 75	Hi 1200	
	nM			Surface Area
СМ	nM 637	75	1200	Surface Area 25,600%
CM VLDL	nM 637 55	75 30	1200 80	Surface Area 25,600% 711%
CM VLDL IDL	nM 637 55 38	75 30 25	1200 80 50	Surface Area 25,600% 711% 400%



#### At the biophysiological level - - - the following appears to happen "Readers Digest Version"

The foam cell or macrophage or VSMC or the like gives off a warning chemical such as TNF-a and the like

These "fire alarm" chemicals are basically the body's version of "hey there is a problem here and I need help **NOW**" aka inflammation

#### Here is the internal fire department sans the Dalmatians:

First, is there is sufficient D in the system?

Second, are the LDL, VLDL, and HDL are properly coated with the appropriate K & E & Q-10 in sufficient amounts?

Third, did the Fetuin-A show up in sufficient amounts but not too much or too little?

Fourth, the Free T3, is it in the proper range - - - not too much or not too little?

**Fifth**, is there is sufficient Magnesium in the system? (it "sloshes around in the serum")

Sixth, the APOE genotype does not express the "4" allele ?

Seventh, are the organic based antioxidants at the right level and available?

**Eighth,** is the calcium in the proper range - - - not too much or not too little?





### The apparent sequence or "race to put out the fire":

ABCA-1/ABCG-1 is activated or up-regulated by FreeT3 (range of 3.5 to 5.0) "D" riding on its carrier protein shows up due to the activation of ABCA-1/ABCG-1 the "D" in turn up-regulates the dp-ucMGP on the Macrophage/Foam Cell surface Beta-HDL shows up with MK-7 attached and the MK-7 then carboxylates the MGP

Carboxylated MGP then allows for the HDL to start sucking out the lipids from the lipid core (reverse cholesterol transport) with help from CoQ-10 & miRNA



Carboxylated MGP caused by the presence of MK-7 on the LDL/HDL/VLDL particles then calls for and allows for Fetuin-A to go in and remove the Calcium from the area of the corrupted VSMC. If there is sufficient Magnesium present, it basically "loosens up" the Calcium associated with the hydroxyapatite thus, allowing for serum Calcium efflux (sorta like dissolving kidney stones) via Fetuin-A.

Fetuin-A now carrying the Ca, has two options to deal with the Ca. The first is dropping off the Calcium onto the bone or going back to the liver to be reprocessed (it has a half life of between 1 and 2 days - - similar to HDL).

Carboxylated MGP then allows for VLDL and LDL to go in and "kill" the Foam Cell/Macrophages Via K-1/MK-(x) - - - for autoschizis - - - - possibly "D/C" are also involved

Eventually, the "dead" VSMCs and the other cellular trash are reabsorbed over time.

One hitch is your APOE status and the associated clearance rates of the VLDL, HDL, and LDL etc.



### Now that the process has been clarified, lets do a deep dive

### **Triage Theory of Vitamin K**

### Vitamin K in its forms

**Fetuin-A** 

**Key Tests** 



The Sequence of Cardiac "fire fighting"

Fits the following philosophic model:

Measure it/Acknowledge it



Stop it

**Regress it** 

Heal it

Don't let it Happen Again



The "20 year fix" - - - - Cardiac Reliability Maintenance Goal

### Vitamin K, the Omni Vitamin - - - - "a bio-chemical passion play"

#### Vitamin K and Triage Theory

- Nature ensures that at suboptimal supply, vitamins and minerals are primarily used for functions required for short-term survival. The best example is the RDA for K-1 ONLY reflects clotting requirements. Also of note if one does not have enough K-1 but MK-7 is present or other MK's, the respective MK is substituted.
- ◆ K is not stored in any appreciable amount in any form as it appears to be too valuable all the time.
- Preferential distribution of phylloquinone et al to the liver is consistent with the triage theory proposed by McCann and Ames.
- Because carboxylation of the most essential Gla proteins is localized in the liver and that of the less essential Gla proteins in the extrahepatic tissues, a transport system has evolved ensuring preferential targeting to the liver to preserve coagulation when dietary vitamin K is inadequate. Only when at hepatic vitamin K sufficiency, particularly the long-chain menaquinones, is K transported to extra-hepatic tissues. 17 K dependent proteins that are known.
- McCann and Ames concluded that long-term micronutrient insufficiencies are a risk factor for the development of a wide variety of age-related diseases, such as osteoporosis, cardiovascular disease (CVD), and cancer which are the result in part due to the incomplete or non-carboxylation of extra-hepatic Gla proteins aka Matrix Gla Proteins (MGP)
- \* Note: you cannot ever be fully Carboxylated
- ◆ The liver recycles "K" and has two pathways to do it, one could term it proactive sparing
- "MKs" in the intestine and liver appear to be made from other "anti-oxidants" aka precursors and that is signaling based much like "D" and Ca liberation from the gut.
- ◆ VK3 is remanufactured in the gut to other "Ks" (lots of alternative pathways)





### Now, lets "drill down" in this "bio-chemical passion play"

Starting first with Vitamin K and its isoforms

K-1: Phylloquinone

MK(x): Menaquinone (4 to 14)

- A. Cannot take too much, per the FDA, but you have to take enough
- B. The half-life of K-1 one to two hours and MK-7 lasts two to three days. MK-4 lasts a few hours to a half a day (much debate to MK-4 "life") (Gut Bacteria? - - folks forget that if you take a vitamin you are also feeding the gut bacteria too)
- C. When taking a combination of both K's, lipid values will change dramatically especially if you are on a statin and then stabilize as LDL will increase then stabilize and HDL will increase and then stabilize. **(I did this on myself)**
- D. They are transported on the delivery trucks of the liver, namely the VLDL, LDL, & Chylomicrons and Chylomicron ruminants (note: HDL is the USPS truck of the liver and does double duty - - pickup and delivery)
- E. K-1 deficiency is implicated in Alzheimer's and K-1 is carried on LDL (G. Ferland)
- F. MK's in all their forms carboxylate K dependent proteins. Which is good.
- G. MKs range from MK-4 to MK-14 (made or liberated in liver and/or gut and/or diet)
- H. Therapeutic dose of K intake per day based on literature and conversations



### The "bio-chemical passion play" Continued:

- I. The Liver appears to make A in ratio to D and K so keep your Beta-Carotene levels sufficient
- II. MK-7 Impacts Pulse Wave Velocity positively over time so make sure you have sufficient MK-7
- III. Abnormalities in the *MGP* gene have been linked with **Keutel syndrome** and **Pseudoxanthoma elasticum** (PXE) (absent or reduced MGP and Fetuin-A)
- IV. Mice that lack *MGP* develop to term but die within two months as a result of arterial calcification which leads to blood-vessel rupture.
- V. The isoprene units or phytyl units are hydrophobic thus stick onto or into the lipoprotein
- VI. The term, Autoschizis: is a term derived from Greek meaning "self", "to split". Autoschizis can be initiated via in vivo treatment with vitamin C (VC), synthetic vitamin K (VK3) or, better, a combination of both. The process that appears to what "kills" Macrophages &/or Foam Cells.
- VII. Both phylloquinone and MKs may activate the steroid and xenobiotic receptor (**SXR**). SXR is a nuclear receptor involved in the transcriptional regulation of enzymes such as cytochrome P450 (in particular the CYP3A4 isoform).



- VIII. Vascular calcification is an active ostogenic process thus driven in part due to the absence of "K" and the associated lack of carboxylation.
- IX. Morphogen, BMP2, has an inhibitor, and its MGP. Warfarin inhibits MGP expression.
- X. K-vitamins.com is the clearing house for peer reviewed literature by subject associated with K and its isoforms (specific "K" references included)

### What is Carboxylation? Adding a COO to a protein via MK-7 and GGCX enzyme



### **Vitamin K- dependent proteins**







### This Test Needs to be Routine!!!

Fetuin-A, which is also known as alpha 2-Heremans-Schmid glycoprotein (AHSG), is a multifunctional protein. In the fetus, fetuin-A is synthesized by multiple tissues. It is known as the Chaperone of Calcium

In adults, >95% of Fetuin-A is secreted by the liver. Fetuin-A inhibits insulin receptor tyrosine kinase and regulates bone remodeling and ectopic mineralization.

Increased levels of Fetuin-A have been linked to obesity and metabolic syndrome, chronic hyperglycemia and type 2 diabetes mellitus, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, and the risk of albuminuria.

Fetuin-A is one of the hepatokines linked to obesity and cardiovascular diseases.

**Fetuin-A** 

High serum Fetuin-A levels are associated with increased risks for myocardial infarction and ischemic stroke, carotid artery stiffness, and the severity of coronary artery disease.

In contrast, low Fetuin-A levels had been linked to an increased risks of coronary artery calcification and associated diseases.

1 to 2 day half life

Fetuin-A works in parallel with Vitamin D and Vitamin K and Magnesium. Neither of the three are required for Fetuin-A to be manufactured but upregulated MGP appears to activate Fetuin-A.

It is Known as the Chaperone of Calcium

#### **SUGGESTED TESTS RELATED TO THE PRESENTATION WITH RANGES & SUGGESTIONS:**

PIVKA II (proteins induced in vitamin K absence) aka DCP: ng/ml 0.0-7.5 (ideal 0.00)

Uncarboxylated Osteocalcin: ng/ml 0.00 to 6.00 (lower is better – target less than 2.00)

Prothrombin Time: seconds 9.1 - 12.0 (suggest 11.0)

Vitamin D: ng/mL 10.0 - 100.0 (suggest over 60 but under 100)

Fetuin-A: mg/L 150 – 900 (suggestion 300 to 500 est) - - - NOT AVAILABLE!!!!!

CoQ-10: ug/mL 0.44 - 1.64 (suggest over 3.00)

APOE: Saliva Test, results provided as: 4/4,, 4/3,, 4/2,, 3/3,, 3/2,, 2/2

Vitamin K-1: (only useful for baseline) ng/mL 0.28 - 1.78 (when on K it will be saturated)

**Red Blood Cell Magnesium:** mg/dL 4.2 - 6.8 (suggest over 5.0)

CT Scan Once a Year: (ideal 0.00)

Red Blood Cell Selenium: mcg/L 120-300 (suggest mid-to-high range)

Vitamin C: mg/dL 0.2–2.0 (suggest 2.0 or greater or nominally 3 to 6 grams per day)

Free T3: pg/ml 3.5 to 5.0 (higher or lower is not good - - - mid range is ideal)

### SUMMARY FOR THE PATIENT:

There is now hope based on objective evidence!

There is now a rational working definition

There is now a rational and easily understood working model

There is now a rational and easily understood working philosophy

But, Each patient is slightly different so revel in the uniqueness because "one size don't fit all"

So

Test, Test, Test

L

Mellow out that Dragon

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### Tips, Tricks, Trends, Terms, Trivia, & Tantalizing Tidbit Travails

### **Role of Cholesterol**

- **Cholesterol is used to:**
- a.) Make cell membranes and nerve tissues
- b.) Makes all the hormones starting with Pregnenolone
- c.) Makes vitamin D
- d.) OBTW vitamin D "talks" to the gut bacteria to release Calcium from food
- e.) Produces bile, which helps digest fats





APOE isoforms differ in their rates of catabolism such that  $\epsilon 2$  is catabolized more slowly than  $\epsilon 3$  or  $\epsilon 4$ .

The increased rate of catabolism of apoE 4 leads to reduced availability of apoE to serve as a clearance protein, required for the clearance of cholesterol and toxic amyloid-beta (Aβ) oligomers.

Over 87% of centenarians are ε2/ε3 or ε3/ε3 among the majority of populations studied, including France, Japan, Spain, Italy, and Finland. While the ε3 allele is the most common, the prevalence among this age group is greater than the general population

The 4/4 VLDL competed with human LDL for binding to the human LDL receptor slightly better than 3/3 VLDL, but the VLDL clearance rate in 4/4 mice was half that (read as took longer) than in 3/3 mice.

On an atherogenic diet, there was a trend toward greater atherosclerotic plaque size in 4/4 mice compared with 3/3 mice. These data, together with our earlier observations in wild-type and human *APOE\*2*-replacement mice, demonstrate a direct and highly significant correlation between VLDL clearance rate and mean atherosclerotic plaque size.

Therefore, differences solely in apo E protein structure are sufficient to cause alterations in VLDL residence time and atherosclerosis risk in mice.

The prevalence of APOE traits were  $\epsilon$ 2: 7.35%,  $\epsilon$ 3: 77.56%, and  $\epsilon$ 4: 15.09%





### Tart Red Cherry Typical Anti-Oxidants (look familiar?)





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### Top K-1 & K-2 Containing Foods - - - - 100 grams aka a "quarter-pounder"

#### K-1 Foods in mcg

dried basil -1714.5 dried sage - 1714.5 dried thyme - 1714.5 fresh parsley - 1640 dried coriander leaf – 1359.5 raw swiss chard - 830 raw dandelion greens - 778.4 cooked collard greens - 623.2 dried marjoram - 621.7 dried oregano - 621.7 cooked mustard greens - 592.7 raw cress - 541.9 cooked spinach - 540.7 cooked turnip greens - 518.9 cooked beet greens - 484 cooked kale – 418.5

K-2 Foods in mcg natto – 939 soft cheese – 506 blue cheese – 440 goose liver – 369 hard cheese – 282 beef liver –106 pepperoni – 41.7 (sausage - tbd) full-fat milk – 38.1 chicken meat –35.7 bacon – 35 turkey frankfurter – 31.2

Big Assumption(s) - - - - the "K" is Liberated Completely & Your Grocery Store Carries the "Stuff"