



St. Catharines Naturopath Shares New Resource on Brain Fog and Nutrient Deficiencies

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Dr. Aoife Earls, ND, a St. Catharines naturopathic doctor, is drawing attention to the potential role of nutrition when persistent brain fog occurs alongside fatigue, difficulty concentrating, or changes in energy. Certain vitamins and minerals play important roles in normal neurological function, energy metabolism, and red blood cell production, but determining whether nutritional status is relevant requires more than simply choosing a supplement marketed for memory or mental clarity.

To provide greater context on the subject, Dr. Earls has published a new educational article titled "What Nutritional Deficiencies May Affect Brain Fog in St. Catharines?"

The resource examines several nutrients commonly discussed in relation to fatigue and cognitive health, including vitamin B12, iron, vitamin D, folate, and magnesium. It also addresses a question frequently asked by people experiencing brain fog: whether taking vitamins or supplements can improve memory, concentration, or mental clarity.

The article emphasizes an important distinction between correcting an identified nutritional deficiency and taking additional nutrients when a deficiency has not been established. Although vitamins and minerals participate in processes necessary for normal brain and nervous-system function, this does not mean that taking more of a particular nutrient will necessarily improve cognitive performance.

Vitamin B12 is among the nutrients examined in greater detail. The resource discusses B12's role in normal neurological function, red blood cell formation, and other biological processes. It also explains that inadequate B12 status may occur for different reasons. Dietary intake can be relevant, particularly for individuals following certain vegetarian or vegan dietary patterns, but the body's ability to absorb B12 is another important consideration.

Iron is also discussed because of its role in oxygen transport, energy metabolism, and neurological function. The article explains the distinction between iron deficiency and iron-deficiency anemia, noting that iron stores may become depleted before an individual meets the diagnostic criteria for anemia. This provides additional context for people who associate persistent fatigue or difficulty concentrating exclusively with anemia.

Another section examines vitamin D, a nutrient frequently discussed online in connection with brain fog. While researchers have identified associations between vitamin D status and cognitive outcomes in some populations, the article cautions against interpreting an association as proof that vitamin D deficiency causes everyday brain fog or that supplementation will necessarily improve mental clarity.

Folate and magnesium are also reviewed as examples of nutrients with important biological roles that should not automatically be promoted as treatments for cognitive symptoms. The article encourages readers to distinguish between a nutrient being necessary for normal health and evidence that supplementation produces a particular cognitive outcome.

The new resource additionally addresses growing interest in creatine supplementation and cognition. Although creatine is neither a vitamin nor a mineral deficiency, recent research has examined its potential effects on areas such as memory, attention, and processing speed. Dr. Earls' article presents creatine separately from nutritional deficiencies and emphasizes that current research should not be interpreted as establishing creatine as a treatment for brain fog.

A central theme of the publication is that nutritional deficiencies do not always develop simply because someone is failing to eat enough of a particular food. Dietary patterns, gastrointestinal conditions, medications, blood loss, increased nutritional requirements, age, previous gastrointestinal surgery, and other medical factors may influence nutritional status.

That relationship provides a connection to Dr. Earls' previous educational resource and press release about how gut health may influence brain fog in St. Catharines residents. The earlier publication examined the gut-brain axis, digestive symptoms, the gut microbiome, diet, probiotics, and the developing research surrounding communication between the gastrointestinal system and brain. The latest resource extends that discussion by considering how digestive and absorption-related factors may also be relevant when evaluating nutritional status.

Together, the two resources reinforce the broader theme of Dr. Earls' ongoing brain fog educational series: cognitive symptoms may involve overlapping health and lifestyle factors rather than a single universal explanation. Digestive health, nutritional status, thyroid function, hormonal changes, sleep, stress, medications, and other medical considerations may all warrant discussion depending on the individual.

The nutritional-deficiencies article also explains how an assessment may differ from simply ordering a broad collection of vitamin tests. Depending on a person's symptoms and circumstances, a healthcare professional may consider dietary patterns, current medications and supplements, digestive health, previous laboratory results, menstrual or other blood loss, medical history, and known risk factors before determining whether particular laboratory investigations are appropriate.

For patients discussing brain fog in St. Catharines with a naturopathic doctor, nutritional status may therefore be considered as one component of a broader health assessment. Where appropriate and within the naturopathic doctor's scope of practice, laboratory investigations may be recommended or collaboration with other healthcare professionals may be considered.

The resource does not present supplementation as a universal answer to brain fog. Instead, it encourages readers to consider whether there is a reason to suspect a deficiency, whether further assessment is warranted, and whether other factors may better explain persistent cognitive concerns.

Dr. Earls' educational series is intended to provide accessible, evidence-informed information about the different factors that may be associated with brain fog while acknowledging the limitations of current research and avoiding one-size-fits-all explanations.

Readers can access the complete article on www.draoife.com. To inquire about an appointment, contact the clinic at (289) 815-1668 or info@draoife.com.

Dr. Aoife Earls, ND, is a licensed naturopathic doctor practising in St. Catharines, Ontario. She provides individualized, evidence-informed naturopathic care for a variety of health concerns, including women's

health, digestive health, stress management, and healthy aging. Dr. Earls offers both in-person consultations at her St. Catharines clinic and virtual consultations for residents throughout Ontario.

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For more information about Dr. Aoife Earls, ND, contact the company here: Dr. Aoife Earls, ND
Dr. Aoife Earls, ND (289) 815-1668 info@draoife.com 581 Ontario St, St Catharines, ON L2N 4N8

Dr. Aoife Earls, ND

Dr. Aoife Earls, ND serves as a Naturopath in St. Catharines and in the GTA for over 10 years. As a Naturopathic Doctor, she offers telemedicine and essential in-person consultations.

Website: <https://www.draoife.com/>

Email: info@draoife.com

Phone: (289) 815-1668

