

# NFAM

## YEAR'S END UPDATE

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### NFAM INVESTIGATIONS PORTFOLIO: SIX INNOVATIVE TREATMENTS FOR PARKINSON'S DISEASE



Parkinson's disease (PD) is estimated to affect 1.4 million Americans. No cure has been found for PD, and the present treatment options are often ineffective and usually temporary. PD is caused by the malfunction and death of cells in the thalamus of the brain which produces a

neurotransmitter called dopamine; reduced levels of dopamine cause symptoms such as tremors, rigidity, and imbalance.

Answering the call to this terribly debilitating disease, NFAM's global investigations program has identified several novel complementary and alternative medical (CAM) therapies that have emerged over the last several years and which have shown promise for treatment of PD. Many of these CAM therapies are supported by patient testimonials regarding their safety, effectiveness, and exceptional promise. They work by targeting the four mechanisms responsible for the development and clinical progression of PD, by:

- Decreasing neuronal inflammation, oxidative stress, and cell death
- Increasing dopamine function

- Restoring rhythm of neural circuits and synapse functions

- Eliminating pathogens and toxins that mimic PD symptoms

The following therapy descriptions are excerpted from a comprehensive report completed by NFAM. The report, which includes scientific discussions, case studies, and published references, is available in its entirety at [www.nfam.org](http://www.nfam.org).

**pTesla Electromagnetic Therapy** originated at the Democritus University of Thrace in Greece, where PD patients are being treated with very weak electromagnetic fields, often with remarkable success. A team of Greek scientists discovered frequency specific abnormalities in EEG brain wave signals of subjects diagnosed with PD. They have found improvement in symptoms with use of specific

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Patient undergoing pTelsa Electromagnetic Therapy for Parkinson's Disease

## PARKINSON'S

### CONTINUED

electromagnetic frequencies (EMFs) which are thought to balance patients' brain wave abnormalities by reviving the brain's melatonin and dopamine synthesis. This non-invasive therapy has been reported to produce improvements in other aspects of the disease.

**Synaptic® Electromagnetic Device** is marketed in accordance with FDA regulations for the treatment of pain. However, the company has frequently noted that after the use of the device, patients also achieved positive results in the relief of PD. The company hypothesizes that the Synaptic® technology induces electronic impulses that ascend to higher brain centers, producing secretion of neurotransmitters. These neurotransmitters may be filtered into the bloodstream and delivered to sites where their absence has created the conditions for PD.

**Striatal Enhancement** is a formula containing nutrients known to support the function of a region of the brain with a high concentration of dopamine producing neurons. The main components of the Striatal Enhancement Formula are the antioxidant L-glutathione and the neurotransmitter enhancing herbs, "Mucuna pruriens" and "Rhodiola crenulata". They are bolstered by other nutrients and vitamins that are known to support the dopamine pathways in the brain. The Striatal Enhancement Formula is provided as an oral spray, to facilitate absorption; ingredients are

further enhanced with a patented laser process that further facilitates absorption of nutrients in tissue.

**Holistic Biotech Protocol** is a dietary approach to the treatment of PD developed by Dr. Amy Arrow Yasko. The protocol involves the removal of excitotoxin triggers from the diet; excitotoxins are neurotransmitters (such as glutamate or aspartate) that can excite the nerves to death when their levels are not regulated properly. The protocol also calls for supplements to stop the inflammatory process created by the excitotoxins, as well as repair the damage and generate nerve growth. In addition, Dr. Yasko uses proprietary RNA molecules as a non-toxic dietary supplement to reduce neural inflammation and aid in the detoxification of metals.

**AT-101** is a motion platform bed with a motorized, state-of-the-art, patented technology that moves the body repetitively, vibrating the patient from head to foot. This action improves limited mobility and impaired circulation. The bed vibrates between 120 to 180 times per minute, which is within the safety standards recommended by the ISO (International Organization for Standardization) international regulatory body. The treatment has the potential to mitigate PD symptoms by promoting a nitric oxide (NO) induced regulation of a gene associated with inflammation and disease. This is

supported by studies regarding nitric oxide's (NO) impact on cell signaling, which earned the 1998 Nobel Prize in Medicine, and animal studies conducted at Mt. Sinai Hospital.

**Samento Supplement** is an herbal medication recently reported to ameliorate Parkinson-like symptoms caused by Lyme disease. It is a biologically potent variety of the medicinal plant called *Uncaria tomentosa*, (Cat's Claw). Samento's proprietary formula does not contain TOA (tetracyclic oxindole alkaloid), which inhibits the natural benefits of the herb on the immune system. Thus, Samento exerts a more potent restorative effect on the human immune system, which reduces neural inflammation and oxidative stress. Furthermore, Samento is potentized using minerals charged with specific frequencies using a patented device developed by a Russian scientist.

These innovative approaches clearly demonstrate the potential for better treatments for Parkinson's disease. It is essential for research to continue on therapies such as these, so that patients everywhere can benefit. Please contact NFAM (305-358-9700) to learn how you can support research that will help us pave the way for new and better treatments for Parkinson's disease. 🌱



analgesic effect. The study findings will be published soon.

For year 2, NFAM has proposed several outcome studies to evaluate the therapies identified in year 1. Since military personnel spend

## NFAM RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT:

# CAM FOR THE MILITARY, GRANT ACTIVITIES

In November, NFAM completed the year one grant activities to screen clinical practices and evaluate therapies that have direct relevance for U.S. military readiness (ie, easily administered, portable treatments for acute and chronic pain, wound healing). Over the past year, NFAM screened 11 clinical practices (that used electromagnetic, acupuncture, and other approaches), and completed three field investigation/retrospective studies. From these studies, NFAM found two electromagnetic devices that appear to offer immediate and long-term pain relief: Electro Pressure Regeneration Therapy (EPRT) and the PAP Ion Magnetic Inductor (PAPIMI). These energy devices deliver a pulsed electromagnetic field to the cells and increase circulation and the flow of nutrients, among other hypothesized actions, to accelerate healing. The third field study

examined the use of direct micro-current plus silver plated nylon dressing for wound healing for patients suffering from severe burns.

Finally, in collaboration with the Samueli Institute, NFAM managed a clinical study evaluating auricular acupuncture for patients presenting with acute pain in the emergency room setting at a military hospital. The study was based on scientific data showing that acupuncture stimulates the release of endorphins (endogenous opioids) for an

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**"The MILCAM program allows NFAM to be the eyes and ears of the CAM field and to collect reliable data on low-cost complementary and alternative therapies for a range of health concerns"**

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limited time on the battlefield, our site visits and field investigations will be expanded to include therapies for non-battlefield health concerns that confront soldiers and veterans. The MILCAM program allows NFAM to be the eyes and ears of the CAM field and to collect reliable data on low-cost CAM therapies for a range of health concerns. ☺





# HIGHLIGHT

## MORE NFAM RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS: THE E MACHINE & CANTRON

### Planned Clinical Pilot Studies: The E Machine Electromagnetic Therapy

The rapidly developing field of electromagnetic (EM) medicine bridges scientific principles of biology and physics to create novel treatments for chronic and acute health conditions. It is believed that "energy medicine" is the medicine of the future and will be at the forefront of allopathic medicine. NFAM acknowledges the potential for energy medicine and is taking the lead in investigating these approaches, as illustrated by our MILCAM activities.

NFAM has developed a clinical protocol to test an EM device for heart disease, and has recently obtained approval by an ad hoc scientific review committee (Step 7 – see Research Methods article). The E machine delivers non-invasive, transcutaneous electrical stimulation using a square waveform pulse. The emitting pulse modulates the vibrational frequencies of biological molecules and modifies cellular activities. EM therapies are non-invasive

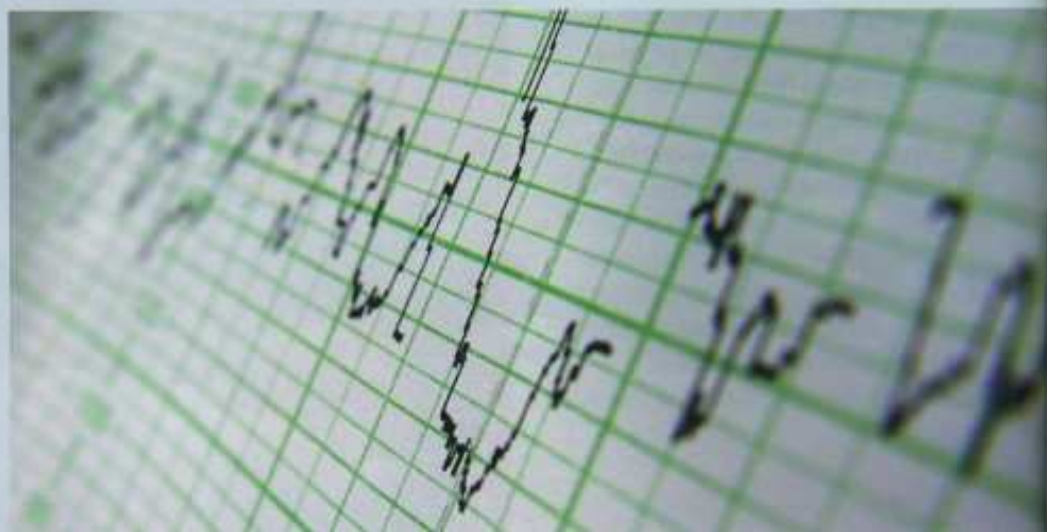
approaches that influence the systemic defense and repair mechanisms of the body. Several case reports of patients using the E machine therapy suggest dramatic improvement in heart function and related symptoms.

After NFAM Board approval, as well as Institutional and International Review Board approvals, the pilot study will collect preliminary data on the benefits of the E machine treatment for patients with advanced cardiovascular disease who are receiving care at the National Heart Institute in Lima, Peru.

In 1999, cardiovascular disease contributed to one-third of global deaths, and by 2010, is estimated to be the leading cause of death in developing countries. Currently, 4.7 million Americans are afflicted with heart failure, approximately 1.5% of the population. (American Heart Association 2001). Patients with heart failure account for about 1,000,000 hospital admissions annually. One-third of such patients are readmitted within 90 days. Although progress has been made in the treatment of heart failure, the overall annual mortality is 20%. If NFAM's study shows that the EM therapy is beneficial, this treatment has the potential of becoming a low-cost treatment for millions suffering from heart disease.

### Cantron Anti-Oxidant Formula

Cantron is a nutritional formula that has been used by more than 20,000 cancer patients with reports of safety and potential benefit. The formulation





contains vitamins, minerals, and a proprietary blend of organic compounds.

Despite the widespread use and potential of Cantron, no clinical research has been conducted to assess the efficacy. NFAM has finalized a clinical protocol to assess the safety and potential benefit of Cantron for patients with advanced prostate cancer, and the study has been approved by our ad hoc scientific review group (Step 7 see Research Process). If funded and approved by the NFAM Board, the clinical study will be conducted at the Bahamas Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Nassau Bahamas by an international team of medical researchers and clinicians.

In 2004, over 230,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and nearly 30,000 men will die from the disease. After lung cancer, prostate cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the U.S. In the Bahamas, prostate cancer is the most common tumor among men and in 2001, was responsible for 29% percent of all male cancer deaths. Cantron is a nutritional formula 20 times less toxic than aspirin and costs about \$30 a month. With funding, NFAM's study could potentially be the catalyst needed to fully research and develop this non-invasive, low-cost treatment for prostate and other cancers. ☺

## MORE ON ELECTROMAGNETIC DEVICES

HOMEOPATHY CAN HELP US UNDERSTAND ENERGY MEDICINE AND ELECTROMAGNETIC TECHNOLOGY

As a follow up to his scientific article on homeopathy and electromagnetic devices, NFAM Medical Advisor, Thomas Firor, MD, has completed a second article for NFAM currently posted on [www.nfam.org](http://www.nfam.org). In this article, Dr. Firor continues his scientific exploration of electromagnetic devices and energy medicine. In the world of energy medicine, EMF and electronic devices have promised the transmission of energy in such a way as to create varying health effects on the human body. Due to a lack of research and consistent verification of specific effects, coherent theories are still developing. In part II of this series, Dr. Firor discusses the potential of this movement. ☺