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Stop the Time for Your Skin: A Search for Aging Process

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6 Abstract

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One of the most common yet mis and poorly understood topic is ageing process and how it 7 affects the body. Aging is a complex phenomenon that emerges in the coming years. Skin 8 aging can be classified as intrinsic aging and extrinsic aging (photoaging). The skin changes 9 over time due to decrease in hormone levels, chronic sun exposure, chronic inflammation and 10 many other reasons. It occurs at microscopic level with physiological, histological and 11 metabolic changes, at macroscopic level with wrinkles, dryness, loss of elasticity and stain 12 formation. Delaying skin aging and alleviating the signs of aging with cosmetic products is one 13 of the most important tasks of cosmetic science. The use of topically applied cosmeceuticals 14 containing ingredients that affect deep biological functions has increased significantly in recent 15 years. Antiaging cosmetic products used in facial care should be scientifically proven products 16 whose efficacy and reliability are intended to show anti-aging effects using different biologically 17 active ingredients. It is the intention of this article to review which biomolecules cause aging, 18 why they cause it, and which crops can prevent unwanted problems caused by aging. 19

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Index terms— aging, anti-aging, skin elasticity, herbal medicine, testosterone, estrogen, physical characteristic, hyaluronic acid, photo aging.

23 1 I.

What is Aging Process? ging is the continual processes of wear and tear in body which affect us both physically 24 and mentally. Aging is an inevitable life fact and one of the most reputable problem of the current century. 25 With its symptoms, almost all people have a fear of becoming old. Although symptoms of aging change person 26 to person, loss of beauty in aesthetical features appears in general. While getting old, people face with growing 27 white hair and hair loss, vision loss, hearing loss, skin deterioration, decay in posture, etc. In addition to these 28 symptoms of physical appearance, the ones that cause health problems are far more important. While people 29 get old, they become more susceptible to the age-related diseases like cancer, diabetes, cardiac dysfunctions, 30 Alzheimer and many more. Those reasons can result in the decrease of self-confidence and life quality. Because 31 of that, being young is the best way to live a healthy life with a sharp memory, strong muscles, good-looking 32 physical appearance, good health, healthy brain and efficient immune system. 33

Even if people argue over what drives any or all of those processes, they all seem to agree on how they Author re-mail: hcerit@istanbul.edu.tr affect us; they make us prone to falling apart. Not surprisingly, aging has a long history of humankind and their cultural traditions. [1] II.

³⁷ 2 Theories that Explains Aging Process

Even though there are a lot of theories for the explanation of the process of aging, none of them are fully convincing. Traditional ones support that aging is not an adaptation or genetically programmed. Modern biological theories of aging divided into two main categories which are programmed and damage or error. Programmed theory divided into three sub-categories but the main idea is aging is a continuation of growth

42 and development which follows a biological timetable. In damage and error theories, aging is a result of an

43 environmental assault which induces cumulative damage on living organisms. [2] The free radical theory proposes

that tissues and cells are damaged by the oxidative respiration as a result of aerobic metabolism. There are couple

45 of evidence to support that: lifetime of the species depends on the metabolism rate and antioxidant activity which

46 is protective to the body; increased production and expression of antioxidative enzymes can affect the lifetime of 47 species; cellular level of free radical damage that is caused by some of the molecules, increases in time; additional

or excessive calorie intake which causes extra free radicals also reduce the lifetime. [3] III.

⁴⁹ 3 Main Biochemical Processes in Antiaging

50 The biochemical processes that involved in aging are oxidation, glycation, and methylation. Other appropriate 51 processes are chronic inflammation and hormonal deregulation.

⁵² 4 a) Oxidation

Free radicals are produced by oxidation in oxygen metabolism within cells. They are a simple compound with an electron missing from their chemical structure which makes them unstable. Because of that, they seek out other chemical structures, so that they can acquire an electron and make the other structure unstable. The defense mechanism against free radicals is inactivating them after the production, removing them from antioxidants and increasing the elimination of material Which already damaged by free radicals. Free radicals damage the cell membrane which is composed of lipids and proteins. Their interaction with proteins and lipids causes the

production of malondialdehyde which is very harmful, contributing to another aging process called glycation.

⁶⁰ 5 b) Glycation and Carnisone

Glycation is the attachment of glycose, fructose, and other sugar molecules to proteins. The binding between 61 sugar and protein results in a cross-linking of proteins. Cross-linked proteins cause more damage by reacting 62 with free radicals and other toxins. In addition to proteins, glycation reactions affect DNA too, resulted in cross 63 linked DNA molecules which are no use at all. Dipeptide carnosine (b-alanyl-L-histidine), discovered a century 64 earlier, is found in animal tissue, especially in muscle and brain, and sometimes in millimolar concentrations. 65 There is increasing evidence that carnosine may be an effective anti-gelling agent, at least in model systems and 66 cultured cells. Dipeptide can be used to inhibit the formation of protein carbonyls and to inhibit the formation 67 of crosslinks induced by reducing sugars and other reactive aldehydes, malondialdehyde, and methylglyoxal. [4] 68 Carnosine has some healing effects on aging, cellular and all animal levels. Carnosine suppresses aging in cultured 69 human fibroblasts and even plays older cells. More recently, carnosine has been shown to protect the telomeres of 70 cultured cells against oxidative damage. The beneficial effects of carnosine agingaccelerated mice on the survival, 71 Drosophila and rodent fibroblasts was also described. [4] 72

⁷³ 6 c) Methylation

74 Methylation is the addition of methyl groups to proteins, DNA, and other molecules to keep them in good and 75 active condition. Increased level of homocysteine reflects low methylation that is found indiabetes and heart

⁷⁶ disease. Increased intake of methylators reduces the risk of these diseases.

77 7 d) Chronic Inflammation

Chronic inflammation is the process of destruction of body tissues by toxic chemicals. Results in dementia,
thickening of the arteries, diabetes, hormonal imbalance and others.

Recent data indicate that systemic aging can be affected by inflammation with neuroendocrine markers3. At a tissue level, inflammation may contribute to senescence 5,6,7 in progeria mouse models4 and DNA damage, indicating synergistic interactions between DNA damage responses (DDRs) and inflammatory signals.

Latest data show that systemic aging might be influenced by inflammation via neuro-endocrine signaling [5]. On a tissue level, inflammation might contribute to aging in mouse skin [6] and in DNA damage-driven progeria mouse models [7,8,9], suggesting synergistic interactions between DNA damage responses (DDRs) and

⁸⁶ inflammatory signals.

87 8 e) Hormonal Deregulation

Hormonal deregulation is an important factor in aging since hormones are needed to be replaced and reactivated
during aging to prevent the body from falling apart [10].

90 9 f) Proteins

91 The most common symptom of aging at the molecular level is the accumulation of altered proteins both in and

out of cells; The modifications may be in either the polypeptide chain length or the amino acid composition.
 Modified proteins are produced continuously, both biosynthetically and synthetically.

Altered proteins are also associated with many age-related pathologies such as Alzheimer's disease (AD),

95 Parkinsons' disease (PD), cataractogenesis, atherosclerosis, diabetic secondary complications, etc. Consequently,

⁹⁶ it is thought that these accumulations are possibly causative to much age-related pathology and interventions to

⁹⁷ either prevent the production of the altered protein forms or facilitate their removal could delay certain age-related

98 diseases [4] .

⁹⁹ 10 g) Photoaging

Chronic exposure to the sun leads to the photoaging of human skin, a process characterized by clinical, histological, and biochemical changes that are chronologically elongated. In recent years significant progress has been made in resolving the underlying mechanisms of photography. Recently, the induction of matrix metalloproteinases as a consequence of activator protein (AP) -1 and nuclear factor (NF) -KB activation and mitochondrial DNA mutations has been described [11].

105 **11 IV.**

106 What is Anti-Aging?

Anti-aging means prevention or limitation of the process of becoming old. Furthermore, the meaning of antiaging changes in medical and scientific fields. In the scientific field, anti-aging refers to prevention, deceleration, or reversion of aging process. In the medical field, it refers to early detection, prevention, and treatment of age-related diseases. For instance, heart diseases are age related and a treatment method that do not effect on the aging process can help people to live longer and healthier lives. The treatment method is anti-aging according to medical fields. However, scientific fields do not approve [12].

113 12 a) Applications of anti-aging

There are a lot of different types of applications of anti-aging like; ? Without addressing aging, treatment a specific disease.

116 ? Slowing down aging process by preventing or delaying physiological decline and regaining lost functional 117 abilities. ? Cosmetic treatments.

? Altering our bodies to improve the basic molecular and genetic processes of maintenance and repair to make
 them work more efficient, and longer. ? Use of the body's intrinsic capacity for selfmaintenance and repair ??13]
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V.

122 What are the Key Molecules that used in Anti-Aging?

123 ? Estrogen Sex hormones are involved in changes in skin texture, elasticity, and growth of hair. The effects of 124 estrogen on human skin studied and results shows that it has a delaying or preventing effect on skin aging [14]. 125 In the skin, estrogens affect thickness, wrinkle formation and moisture. Estrogens may enhance glycosamino-126 glycan (GAG), such as Hyaluronic Acid, to maintain fluid balance and structural integrity. At the same time, 127 they can increase the production of collagen, maintaining epidermal thickness and allowing the skin to remain 128 fuller, hydrated and wrinkle-free. It is not the only external feature that utilizes skin from estrogens. In addition 129 to revealing a fuller, healthy skin, estrogens can make your hair longer and healthier [15].

¹³⁰ 13 a) Estrogens and the skin

Loss of estrogen in the menopause has a profound effect on the skin. Postmenopausal women have shown that estrogen treatment increases collagen content, skin thickness and elasticity, and the effect of estrogen on skin water content is also promising [16].

134 14 ? Testosterone

Some of the effects of testosterone treatments are studied and by the results, it is clear that testosterone treatment 135 to increase lean body mass, decrease visceral fat mass, increase bone mineral density, and decrease total cholesterol 136 for aging hypogonadal men [17]. Rougher hair, thicker and oilier skins, and usually a sign of skin aging, is linked 137 to testosterone. Female paternal alopecia or baldness is associated with increased androgen levels and is the most 138 common cause of hair loss in women. With age, the ratio of estrogen-androgen 3 becomes unbalanced, and changes 139 occur after menopause. Since androgens and especially testosterone are involved in skin sebum production, 140 increased fatness or even adult acne may occur when hormones become unbalanced during menstruation or 141 menopause in women. The effects of androgens on the skin are important in both male and female patients, both 142 of which may be affected by varying levels of androgens [15]. 143

¹⁴⁴ 15 b) Testosterone delays vascular smooth muscle cell (VSMC) ¹⁴⁵ senescence and inhibits collagen synthesis

In this study, muscular mechanism of testosterone in protecting against VSMC senescence was found. Results showed that testosterone plays a fundamental role in cell senescence which could be a critical mechanism for delaying vascular aging [18] c) Testosterone increases renal anti-aging klotho gene expression via the androgen receptor-mediated pathway They found that renal klotho mRNA and protein expression were significantly reduced

in the aging kidneys of male mice that have a lower serum testosterone level and lower AR expression than young 150 mice. Moreover, testosterone supplement up-regulated both klotho and AR expression in testosterone-deficient 151 ORX mice and in NRK52E cells, suggesting that renal klotho mRNA expression may be regulated by testosterone 152 in an AR-dependent mechanism [19] ? Phytochemicals Phytochemicals are secondary plant metabolites that 153 present in food, fruits, vegetables, nuts, cocoa, beverages and many more. Abilities of many phytochemicals have 154 been studied and they have been found that they have an effect on the prevention and treatment of diseases like 155 cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity, Alzheimer and other neurological dysfunctions [20] Betanin is a 156 sub group of one of the seven main categories of phytochemicals, betalains. It presents in beets and chard. 157

¹⁵⁸ 16 d) Effect of betanin on a rat paraquat-induced acute lung ¹⁵⁹ injury (ALI)

In this study, paraquat was injected intraperitoneally at a single dose and betanin was orally administered 3 days 160 before and 2 days after paraquat administration. Rats were sacrificed 24 hours after the last betanin dosage, 161 and lung tissue and bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF) were collected. In rats treated only with paraguat, 162 extensive lung injury characteristic of ALI was observed. In rats treated with betanin, paraquat-induced ALI 163 was attenuated in a dose-dependent manner [21] e) Effect of betanin on reducing accumulation and crosslinking of 164 collagen in high-fructose-fed rat heart Because of its antagonizing effect with insulin resistance, according to this 165 study; betanin treatment reduces the cardiac collagen accumulating, crosslinking and inhibited profibrotic factor-166 TGF-B1 and CTGF protein expression in fructose-fed rat heart [22] f) Betanin attenuates carbon tetrachloride 167 (CCl4) induced liver injury in common carp (Cyprinus carpio L.) This study, protective effect of betanin against 168 liver injury induced by carbon tetrachloride (CCl4) in common carp was investigated. The fish were treated with 169 betanin in fodder throughout the experiment. After 20 days of treatment, the fish were intraperitoneally injected 170 with CCl4, and were killed three days after CCl4 intoxication, and then, histological and biochemical assays were 171 performed. Results showed that CCl4induced liver CYP2E1 activity, oxidative stress, and injury, as indicated 172 by the depleted glycogen storage, increased serum aspartate aminotransferase (AST)/alanine aminotransferase 173 (ALT) activities and liver histological damage. Compared with the CCl4 control group, the betanin-treated 174 groups exhibited, increased liver antioxidative capacity (increased glutathione level and superoxide dismutase 175 and catalase activities), increased liver glycogen storage, reduced CYP2E1 activity, decreased malondialdehyde 176 level, and reduced serum AST/ALT activities, with significant differences in the 2 and 4 groups ($p \setminus 0.05$). In 177 178 conclusion, betanin attenuates CCl4-induced liver damage in common carp. Moreover, the inhibition CYP2E1 activity and oxidative stress may have significant roles in the protective effect of betanin [23]? Hyaluronic acid 179 Hyaluronic acid is a polysaccharide which is a part of the glycosaminoglycan family. It consists of a basic unit 180 of two sugars, glucuronic acid, and N-acetylglucosamine. As a result of senescence, size of the HA polymers in 181 the skin decreases over time [24]. Thus the epidermis loses the principle molecule responsible for binding and 182 retaining water molecules, resulting in loss of skin moisture. 183

¹⁸⁴ 17 g) Hyaluronic acid and wound healing

In this study, an experiment model of ethanolinduced dermatotoxicity and hepatocytoxicity using normal human
keratinocytes and normal human hepatocytes that preserve inducible cytochrome p450 activities was developed.
Results showed that hyaluronic acid could be used safely for skin regeneration. Both alone and combination with
herbals choices are viable [25,26].

189 18 ? Melatonin

Melatonin has a favorable influence on the aging process because it has an inverse effect with regard to body weight; food restriction raises the levels of melatonin and decreases its age-related decrease. With increasing age comes a decrease of melatonin production, which may have a connection to sleep disorders suffered by elderly people. It also was shown that melatonin can prevent the tumor development and growth. Interestingly, a study showed that patients with the tumor has a low level of melatonin compared to healthy individuals [27,28].

h) What are the herbs that can or might affect aging process Some of the herbs defining as anti-aging herbs.
Especially in Asian countries, medical herbs have a long history of usage as medicine. Anti-aging herbs have
different effects on the body; they can boost the level of vital energy, act as food to provide essential nutrients,
can be used for therapeutic effects [29]. Aloe vera L. (Family: Liliaceae) Aloeverais known for its medicinal uses
for a very longtime. The usefulness of the plant was proven for minor burns and sunburns. However, medical
and cosmetic effectiveness is still studying among scientist.

It has been shown that Alloin (1) and B inhibit Clostridium histolyticum collagenase in a reversible and reciprocal manner. Both aloe gel and alloin are also effective inhibitors of stimulated granulocyte MMPs [30] . It has been reported to modulate melanogenesis through the competitive inhibition of aloesin [2-acetonyl-8betaglucopyranosyl-7-hydroxy-5-methylchromone], tyrosinase, isolated from A. vera. Tyrosine hydroxylase and 3,4-dihydroxyphenylalanine oxidase activities of tyrosinase from normal human melanocyte cell lysates were inhibited by aloesin in a doza-dependent manner [31]. Camellia japonica L. (Family: Theaceae) The anti-aging properties of C. japonica oil have been reported in human dermal fibroblast cells due to concentration in the

analysis of the human COL1A2 promoter luciferase [32]. Human type I procollagen synthesis was found to be 208 induced by C. japonica oil while MMP-1 activity was inhibited. C. japonica oil can also retain trans-epidermal 209 water loss (TEWL) without any side effects. Camellia sinensis L. (Family: Theaceae) Originally cultivated 210 211 in East Asia, this plant grows as large as a shrub. Sunscreen formulated with 2-5% green tea extract has been reported to protect UV irradiation induced photoaging, photoimmunosuppression, cutaneous erythema, 212 thickening of the epidermis, over expression of CK5/6, CK16, MMP-2, MMP-9, etc. [33]. A double-blind, 213 placebo-controlled trial has been executed with moderate photoaging treated with either a combination regimen 214 of 10% green tea cream and 300 mg twice-daily green tea oral supplementation or a placebo regimen for eight 215 weeks to monitor the clinical and histologic appearance of photoaging skin [34]. Patients treated with topical 216 217 as well as oral combination regimens have shown histological improvement in tissue elasticity, but no clinically significant changes have been found and may require a longer reinforcement for clinically observable developments. 218 Green tea polyphenols have been reported to be suitable sunscreen to protect the skin from adverse effects such 219 as catechin, epigallocatechin, epiglutocatechin-3gallate, etc., caused by UV radiation, inflammation, oxidative 220 stress and DNA damage. skin cancer risk [35]. 221

Curcuma longa L. (Family: Zingiberaceae) C. longa extract has been found to make potential changes in 222 skin thickness, elasticity, pigmentation and wrinkles caused by long-term, low-dose UV-B irradiation in melanin-223 224 containing hairless mice [36]. It prevents wrinkle and melanin formation and increases in the diameter and length 225 of the skin blood vessels and reduces matrix metalloproteinase-2 (MMP-2) expression. For this reason, skin rash can be reduced with curcumin. Glycine max L.Merr (Family: Fabaceae) Anthocyanin isolated from black soybean 226 seed responsible for downregulation of in vitro and in vivo UVB induced reactive oxygen species levels and 227 apoptotic cell death through the prevention of caspase-3 pathway activation and reduction of proapoptotic Bax 228 protein levels [37]. Finding highlights that anthocyanin from the seed coat of black soybean is useful compounds 229 to modulate UVBinduced photoaging. 230

dulcis Mill. (Family: Rosaceae) The role of almond oil in reducing the degradative changes induced in skin 231 upon exposure to UV radiation has been proposed and illustrated that biochemical parameters, glutathione, 232 and lipid peroxidation have been ameliorated by almond oil [38]. Vaccinium uliginosum L. (Family: Ericaceae) 233 Fruits of bog blueberry (V. uliginosum) are rich in anthocyanins like cyanidin-3-glucoside, petunidin-3-glucoside, 234 malvidin-3-glucoside, and delphinidin-3-glucoside which have been documented for pigmentation and attenuation 235 of photoaging through removal of reactive oxygen species (ROS) production and the resultant DNA damage 236 responsible for activation of p53 and Bad in UV-B-irradiated human dermal fibroblasts [39]. Zingiberofficinale 237 L. (Family: Zingiberaceae) Topical application of Z. officinale extract to hairless mouse skin significantly inhibited 238 the wrinkle formation induced by chronic UV-B irradiation at a suberythemal dose accompanied by significant 239 prevention of the decrease in the skin elasticity [40]. 240

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18 ? MELATONIN

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