What is Saccharomyces boulardii?
Saccharomyces boulardii is a health promoting, probiotic yeast. To be an effective probiotic, microorganisms must have certain qualities to withstand the natural defense factors of the host. These include resistance to gastrointestinal (GI) transit and the ability to thrive at human core temperatures. Saccharomyces boulardii is a stomach acid-resistant probiotic, proven to survive high temperatures and transit into the intestines. As a probiotic, S. boulardii actively promotes healthy gastrointestinal flora, strengthens intestinal barrier function, and enhances immune function. This formulation of Saccharomyces boulardii is freeze-dried, lactose-free, and strain-verified through genetic typing to ensure maximum efficacy.

Overview
S. boulardii was first identified in the 1920s by French microbiologist Henri Boulard. Since its discovery, there have been 250 peer-reviewed articles examining S. boulardii, making this one of the most studied probiotics available. S. boulardii is a non-pathogenic yeast and maintains distinct taxonomic and physiological difference from Saccharomyces cerevisiae or “brewer’s yeast.”[1,2] S. boulardii has been shown to support gastrointestinal health by boosting secretory IgA (sIgA) levels. sIgA is an immunoglobulin (protective antibody) that is found in the digestive tract and in mucosal secretions throughout the body. Maintaining healthy sIgA levels is crucial for supporting immune health, particularly in the GI system where there can be significant exposure to pathogenic organisms and viruses. sIgA acts as the first line of defense against foreign invaders in the gut by attaching and neutralizing proteins that are unrecognized by the body. Depleted levels of sIgA are often found in people with low immune response, food intolerance and dysbiosis. Dysbiosis occurs when fewer than normal probiotic organisms and an overabundance of potentially harmful bacteria, yeast or parasitic organisms prevail. In addition to boosting sIgA levels, S. boulardii promotes GI health by competing for space and nutrients against pathogens.

In 53 clinical trials, encompassing 8,475 subjects investigating the safety and efficacy of S. boulardii in pediatric and adult populations, 43 trials (81%) found significant protective efficacy of this probiotic.[3] Supplementation with S. boulardii is an important part of supporting GI health and strengthening the immune system, particularly for those with recent antibiotic use. Each capsule of Saccharomyces boulardii includes 5 billion CFUs of this health promoting, probiotic yeast.

Healthy Intestinal Barrier Function
Healthy intestinal barrier function is a key factor in maintaining health. Within the GI tract, tightly packed intestinal cells act as a protective barrier preventing substances such as allergenic compounds, undigested food, parasites, and toxins from leaking directly into the bloodstream. These represent the major barrier found within the pathway between intestinal epithelial cells. S. boulardii has been shown to improve tight junction structure ensuring that foods and nutrients from the diet are properly absorbed, while blocking the entrance of potentially harmful substances.[4]

Pathogen Blockade
The intestinal ecosystem is in a state of equilibrium when healthy species of bacteria, or probiotics, are abundant and pathogenic species are kept under control. Factors that can
upset the balance of a healthy intestinal ecosystem include antibiotic use, diets high in refined and processed foods, as well as stress and pathogen imbalance. S. boulardii has been shown to promote healthy microbial balance by competing against harmful bacteria. [3] Pathogen adherent microflora (PAM) are probiotics that bind and eliminate pathogens during normal probiotic transit. [6] S. boulardii is an ideal PAM because it attracts pathogens to the mannose component of its cell wall.

Research has demonstrated that pathogens such as Escherichia coli and Salmonella irreversibly bind to the cell wall of S. boulardii resulting in reduced binding to intestinal cells. [7] S. boulardii effectively competes against Clostridium difficile, a bacterium known to flourish during antibiotic use and is responsible for many cases of GI disturbances following antibiotic therapy. [3] S. boulardii has also been shown to effectively compete against fungal (Candida) colonization. [8]

Healthy Immune Balance†

In addition to supporting sIgA levels and intestinal barrier function, S. boulardii boosts immune response by supporting healthy white blood cell activity. [9] A double-blind, placebo-controlled trial showed that patients given S. boulardii demonstrated an increase in sIgA levels and a subsequent decrease in C-reactive protein (an indicator of a balanced inflammatory response). The researchers of this study concluded that S. boulardii supports a healthy immune response and protects GI barrier function by maintaining a healthy inflammatory cycle in the GI tract. [10]

Directions

1 capsule two times per day or as recommended by your health care professional.

Does Not Contain

Wheat, gluten, soy, corn, animal or dairy products, fish, shellfish, peanuts, tree nuts, egg, artificial colors, artificial sweeteners or preservatives.

Cautions

If you are pregnant or nursing, consult your physician before taking this product.

References


Supplement Facts™

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<tr>
<th>Serving Size</th>
<th>Amount Per Serving</th>
<th>% Daily Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 capsule</td>
<td>5 billion CFU++</td>
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* Daily Value not established

ID# 529060 60 Capsules

† These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.