What is Nattokinase?
Nattokinase is a powerful enzyme used to support normal blood flow, circulation, and blood pressure levels. Derived from a highly purified extract of the traditional Japanese food natto, nattokinase is a natural, highly active enzyme that helps promote normal levels of fibrin. Fibrin is a filamentous protein formed in blood, which can accumulate along blood vessel walls and affect blood flow. Research has shown nattokinase closely resembles plasmin, the only endogenous enzyme that directly dissolves fibrin. It is thought to increase the body’s production of plasmin. Nattokinase has been shown to support activation of many of the body’s 3,000 endogenous enzymes. In addition, while many of the agents involved in promoting healthy blood flow and coagulation either have limitations, and or serious side effects, this formulation of Nattokinase has a potent support activity that lasts for an 8-12 hour period and is safe for long-term use. Each capsule of Nattokinase contains 100 mg of nattokinase.

Overview
Maintaining healthy blood circulation and balanced coagulation is a key part of supporting cardiovascular health. Fibrinolytic enzymes, such as plasmin, produced in the endothelial cells are responsible for ensuring proper blood flow. However, production of these enzymes decreases with age, which can result in increased fibrin levels. Nattokinase also inhibits a key enzyme resulting in arterial dilation to help maintain healthy blood pressure levels, and can generate tissue plasminogen activators helping to promote blood flow. Because it is a highly purified extract derived from soybeans, supplementing nattokinase differs from consuming soybeans in that nattokinase escapes the typical breakdown by digestive enzymes, and is absorbed and taken into the body directly from the small intestine to exert its effects in the plasma.

Research
Discovered by Dr. Hiroyuki Sumi, nattokinase has been shown to help keep blood flowing normally. In a study on the effect of nattokinase on blood flow in the common carotid artery, animals treated with nattokinase regained 62% of their blood flow, while animals given plasmin regained 15.8%, and 0% was regained with elastase. Researchers concluded that in this in vivo model, the circulation supporting activity of nattokinase was stronger than that of plasmin or elastase. Other in vitro studies revealed nattokinase caused a significant, dose-dependent decrease of red blood cell aggregation and low-shear viscosity, effects which were evident at concentrations similar to those achieved with in vivo animal trials. Researchers have also confirmed the presence of unique compounds that inhibit angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) within nattokinase, which supports healthy arterial blood pressure. In a recent eight-week, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of 73 subjects given oral nattokinase supplementation, a healthy effect on blood pressure and blood flow was seen.

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

† 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.
Does Not Contain
Gluten, corn, yeast, artificial colors and flavors.

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

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 soft gel capsule</td>
<td>100 mg</td>
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* Daily Value not established

** At least 20,000 Fibrinolytic Units per gram at time of manufacture.

References