

# Pain and Sleep: An Intimate Connection

Over 90 percent of people with chronic pain also have disordered sleep. This causes an ever-worsening downward spiral—pain begets poor sleep, and poor sleep begets more pain and lack of healing.

Poor quality sleep not only causes physical damage and escalates pain, it prevents your body from making key hormones that give you vitality and protect you from illnesses like cancer and heart disease. Health conscious consumers select nutritious food, incorporate an exercise program, and include dietary supplements in their daily regimen, but may devote little thought to the loss of sleep and how it prevents healing and even accelerates the aging process.

In this issue of *Terry Talks Nutrition*®, I'm going to share with you information on dietary supplement ingredients that can powerfully address BOTH pain and disordered sleep!

## Our Sleep-Deprived World

Lack of quality sleep is associated with a whole host of physical problems, because many physiological functions that impact our health significantly occur only in certain stages of sleep.

Sleep – specifically stage four, or deep sleep – is when our body kicks into repair mode. In one scientific study, it was found that lack of sleep actually slowed the healing of burns. Additionally, two hormones, melatonin and human growth hormone (HGH), are made almost exclusively during the sleep cycle. Melatonin protects against cancer, and human growth hormone is nature's anti-aging hormone. Impairment of HGH production by reduced sleep cycles speeds up the aging process. It also decreases daytime vitality and physical healing. Even one night of short sleep increases inflammatory chemicals in the blood. It also increases hunger-promoting hormones, which may be why lack of healthy sleep promotes obesity. Chronic sleep loss (insomnia) increases the risk of several diseases, such as heart disease, depression, high blood pressure, diabetes and Alzheimer's.

## Pain Makes a Bad Situation Worse

I think that now you are seeing how pain and interrupted sleep are a deadly duo. Pain keeps you tossing and turning all night, and prevents full relaxation into deep sleep. Lack of deep sleep keeps you from producing the messengers that direct tissue repair and healing. Lack of healing results in more pain... and on it goes.

In order for you to feel your best, you need to eliminate pain and improve sleep quality. Let's start with my recommendations for the most effective, natural pain and sleep formula I have ever encountered: curcumin, boswellia and DL-phenylalanine (DLPA), combined with melatonin and pyridoxal-5-phosphate, or P-5-P.

## Curcumin

Curcumin has been touted as the "most anti-inflammatory herbal ingredient on the planet" for a good reason. This multifaceted compound has proven activity against multiple inflammatory pathways, including COX-2, LOX, TNF-alpha, IFN-gamma, and NF-kappaB. In America, it is estimated that more than 56 million adults experience chronic pain, with the top five conditions cited being: low back, arthritis, migraine, jaw/lower facial, and neuropathies.

Reducing inflammation is the key. That's why curcumin is an ideal ingredient. It addresses multiple inflammatory pathways with virtually no side effects.

However, standard curcumin doesn't absorb well. That's why you need a specialized curcumin that is blended with turmeric essential oil. This natural process means that this curcumin has significantly better absorption and longer blood retention time at meaningful levels, as compared to standard curcumin extracts or plain turmeric.

## Boswellia and DLPA

Boswellia's anti-inflammatory and pain-reducing activity is linked to the array of boswellic acids in the extract. Scientists found that every single boswellic acid has anti-inflammatory properties—except one.

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## Terry's Bottom Line

When you're in pain, you lose sleep – and with it, the chance to heal naturally. Common, over-the-counter painkillers don't fix the problem. In fact, they cause a lot of dangerous side effects, and can cause serious damage.

Fortunately, there is a natural, safe way to stop pain, and provide a good night's sleep that helps you heal. Together, these ingredients will:

- Stop pain in its tracks
- Reduce joint-damaging inflammation
- Help you fall asleep – and stay asleep
- Boost tissue repair
- Relax muscles throughout your body
- Improve your mood & boost serotonin levels

## HERE IS THE FORMULA I SUGGEST:

Vitamin B6 (as pyridoxal-5-phosphate)	60 mg
Proprietary Complex	1,400 mg
DLPA (DL-Phenylalanine), Boswellia ( <i>Boswellia serrata</i> ) Gum Resin Extract standardized to contain >70% Total Organic and Boswellic Acids with AKBA >10%, with < 5% beta-boswellic acids, Curcumin ( <i>Curcuma longa</i> ) Rhizome Extract enhanced with turmeric essential oil and standardized for curcuminoid complex (curcumin, demethoxycurcumin and bisdemethoxycurcumin)	
Melatonin	5 mg

One boswellic acid (beta) was actually pro-inflammatory. They found that boswellia's

*More...*

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activity greatly increased when beta-boswellic acid was reduced to less than 5%.

Research studies have found that boswellia is especially potent at reducing joint pain associated with arthritis. It does this by inhibiting the inflammatory enzyme, 5-LOX. Together, curcumin and boswellia reduce the activity of the two most significant pain pathways in the body – COX-2 and 5-LOX.

The pain reliever DL-phenylalanine, also known as “DLPA,” is an amino acid that improves mood-elevating chemicals in the brain, such as dopamine, epinephrine and norepinephrine, in addition to blocking a nervous system enzyme (enzyme carboxypeptidase A) that intensifies pain signals. DLPA prevents the breakdown of one of the brain’s natural pain-killing substances, enkephalins, which are in the same family as endorphins. Since DLPA combines the “l” and “d” forms of phenylalanine, they work synergistically to reduce chronic pain and improve mood—two concerns that are interconnected. And a healthy balance of neurotransmitters is much more conducive to deep, satisfying sleep.

## Pyridoxal-5-Phosphate, or P-5-P

There is a special, active form of vitamin B6 that your body can easily utilize called pyridoxal-5-phosphate, or P-5-P for short. This form has amazing healing properties. I frequently recommend it to people suffering from nerve pain, burning feet (diabetic neuropathy), carpal tunnel syndrome, PMS, and edema (tissue swelling and water retention), among other conditions. The results for these people have been outstanding.

Standard vitamin B6 has to be converted by the liver to the active form the body needs, which is P-5-P. But the low rates of conversion from the inactive to the active form of vitamin B6 can have serious health consequences. By consuming vitamin B6 in the active P-5-P form, conversion is no longer necessary, and the full benefits are available immediately after absorption. P-5-P is effective for pain, but it is also very useful for quality sleep. P-5-P is required as a co-enzyme in the creation of the feel good hormone, serotonin. Inadequate serotonin is associated with

depression and poor quality sleep, so this is an important nutrient to add to your regimen.

## Melatonin: The Hormone of Darkness

Melatonin is called the “hormone of darkness” because natural melatonin production is reduced when light strikes the retina of the eye. So it’s important to keep your bedroom as dark as possible and avoid lights in the middle of the night.

Melatonin helps regulate your circadian rhythms, which are deeply integrated with your sleep and wake schedule. It is a potent antioxidant, and may have cancer prevention properties. But it is probably best known for the impact it can have on increasing REM and stage 4 sleep (the stage of repair and rejuvenation). You may notice that you have very vivid and lively dreams when you first use melatonin. That is because of its expansion of the time you spend in REM (or dreaming sleep). This often tapers off with continued use.

## Why Drugs Are Not the Answer!

I believe that it is almost criminal that these over-the-counter drugs are being marketed for nightly use. Let’s take a look at the down side of some of these drugs marketed for pain and sleep.

**Diphenhydramine (i.e., Benadryl®).** This allergy medicine is actually sold for its adverse effect – sleepiness. Other side effects include motor impairment (ataxia), dry mouth and throat, flushed skin, increased heart rate (tachycardia), blurred vision, lack of pupil accommodation which can lead to dangerous falls in older adults, abnormal sensitivity to bright light (photophobia), pupil dilation (mydriasis), urinary retention, constipation, difficulty concentrating, short-term memory loss, visual disturbances, hallucinations, irregular breathing, dizziness, irritability, itchy skin, confusion, decreased body temperature, erectile dysfunction and delirium.

**Ibuprofen (i.e., Motrin®, Advil®).** It’s astounding to think that this non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) is responsible for over 16,000 deaths per year, and it is still considered “beneficial”. Aside from that terrible statistic, other adverse effects include: gastric bleeding, ulcers, confusion, hypertension, increased risk

of heart attack and stroke, coughing up blood or vomit; swelling or rapid weight gain; urinating less than usual or not at all; kidney failure; nausea, stomach pain, low fever, jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes); fever, sore throat, and headache with a severe blistering, peeling, and red skin rash; bruising, severe tingling, numbness, pain, muscle weakness; or fever, headache, neck stiffness, chills, increased sensitivity to light, purple spots on the skin, and/or seizure (convulsions).

**Acetaminophen (i.e., Tylenol®).** It is shocking that a drug Americans think of as “harmless” is actually the number one cause of liver failure, as well as the most common cause of serious overdose in North America! Acetaminophen is especially dangerous with alcohol consumption, and it depletes glutathione, a vital endogenous antioxidant and detoxifying compound. Other adverse effects are associated with liver toxicity, and include jaundice, nausea, vomiting, abdominal tenderness, interference with normal blood clotting, weakness, kidney failure, cardiomyopathy, and death.

## Potent Combination, Astounding Results!

The best answer to the deadly duo of pain and disturbed sleep is a natural solution. Curcumin, boswellia, DL-phenylalanine, P-5-P, and melatonin combine to make the most powerful anti-inflammatory, pain relieving, and sleep combination you can find. These ingredients have been proven time and again to be highly effective and safe for extended use.

These ingredients will benefit anyone who is suffering from sleep problems worsened by pain, whether it is acute, sudden pain such as a strain, over exercising, sprains, or any exercise-induced injury, or chronic pain from arthritis, migraine headaches, bursitis, back pain, or any recurring pain. Research shows that these ingredients are as effective (or more so) as synthetic drugs, but without side effects. You’ll notice an amazing change for the better, getting the rest you need and once again, enjoying your life to the fullest!

When in doubt, always consult your physician or health care practitioner. This article is intended to provide you with information to maintain your health.

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**Reg Price \$23.95**  
**Sale Price \$19.16**

**SUPPLEMENT FACTS**

Serving Size: 2 Capsules  
 Servings Per Container: 15

Amount Per 2 Capsules (Veg):		%DV
Vitamin B6 (as pyridoxal-5-phosphate)	60 mg	3,000%
Melatonin	5 mg	**
Proprietary Complex	1,400 mg	**
DLPA (DL-phenylalanine), Boswellia ( <i>Boswellia serrata</i> ) Gum Resin Extract (BosPure®) standardized to contain >70% Total and Organic Boswellic Acids with AKBA >10%, with less than 5% beta-boswellic acids, Curcumin ( <i>Curcuma longa</i> ) Rhizome Extract (BCM-95®) enhanced with turmeric essential oils and standardized for curcuminoid complex (curcumin, demethoxycurcumin and bisdemethoxycurcumin)		

\*\* Daily Value (DV) not established

**Other Ingredients:** vegetable cellulose capsules, silicon dioxide, vegetable source magnesium stearate, cellulose powder.

**No** sugar, salt, yeast, wheat, gluten, corn, soy, dairy products, artificial coloring, artificial flavoring, or artificial preservatives. It contains natural ingredients. Color variations are normal.

**Recommendations:** 1 to 2 capsules, preferably 30 minutes before bedtime.

If pregnant or nursing, consult a healthcare practitioner before use.