

Cures for Summer tiredness

Feeling tired lately? Join the club! Statistics suggest as many as 63 million of us feel fatigued during the warm weather. Here's why . . .

gauzv

Lightweight,

reflects heat and sunlight, helping

you avoid

Summer fatigue trigger: **Hidden yeast!**

Ice cream, Popsicles, icy sodas . . . Summer is a time of sugary treats—which can encourage the growth of yeast in your digestive tract! "Most people don't realize that intestinal

yeast infections often produce no noticeable symptoms except chronic fatigue, reveals Jacob Teitelbaum, M.D., author of From Fatigued to Fantastic.

heat-related ©Easy Rx: Avoid sweet fatique soda and desserts-and eat one cup of yogurt (made with live bacterial cultures) daily. These two steps can quickly wipe out pesky yeast for

67% of women.

Summer fatigue trigger: Low iron stores!

You don't have to have fullblown anemia to suffer its telltale fatigue-you just need to be a tad under the recommended daily allowance of 15 mg. iron; 16% of us get too little iron.

Easy Rx: Eat iron-rich, lean red meat three times a week! Not a meat eater? A handful of pumpkin seeds daily will also do the trick.

Pairing acidic foods—like pranges and tomatoes-with red meat increases iron absorption as much as 33%.

Summer fatigue trigger: Seasonal insomnia!

Research shows we're five times more likely to have sleep problems in the summer when late sunsets and hot, humid weather throw

off your body's biorhythms, making it more difficult to nod off, says Meir Kryger, M.D., author of A Woman's Guide light-colored clothing to Sleep Disorders.

• Easy R_X: Fueling up with 2.5 mg. to 5 mg. of the natural anti-fatigue compound NADH at breakfast will help your body convert food

into energy, making it easier to stay alert during the day-without sleep problems at night!

Important: Check with your doctor before taking a new supplement.

Summer fatigue trigger: Dehydration!

Being even a little short on liquids utes, notes Cheryle Hart, M.D., author of The Insulin-Resistance

melon! This mouth-watering summer treat is 92% water! Downing eight glasses of water a

uct that contains it.

Taking allergy meds at bedtime

Summer fatigue trigger: Relaxing too much!

Sure it's hot and muggy, and the last thing you probably feel like doing is exercising. But guess what? UCLA research shows that exercise improves the ability of your body and brain cells to convert blood sugar into fuel. In fact, just exercising for 20 minutes daily can as much as double your get-up-and-go!

Easy Rx: Head to the mall! Walking in a cool, air-conditioned environment will also give you a mental boost, by improving blood flow to the brain, says Ann Kulze, M.D., author of Dr. Ann's 10-Step Diet. -Brenda Kearns

Fatique fighters!

These simple strategies can

make you happier and more alert:

Eating five or six small meals daily—instead of three big ones—helps stabilize blood



Fighting off allergens taxes your immune system, so it's no wonder that as many as 75% of women with this problem report feeling listless, especially in summer, when humidity and heat encourage the growth of mold-one of the most common allergy triggers.

Easy Rx: Once a week, wipe down high-risk mold zones like windowsills and shower curtains with diluted bleach or a cleaning prod-

cuts a.m. fatigue for up to threequarters of allergy-prone women!

Enjoy avocados They're rich in potassium—a nutrient essential for proper energy production.

sugar levels.

Opt for mini meals

✓ Sip ginseng tea In one Korean study, it boosted energy levels 50% in one week.

✓ Watch a sitcom Laughter cuts feelings of fatigue in half, studies show.

Get sun in the a.m. Just 20 minutes of morning sun blocks production of melatoninthe hormone that makes you crave sleep.

Our expert: Connecticut's University of Bridgeport School of Human Nutrition

can bring on fatigue within min-Diet. "If your lips are dry or your urine is dark yellow, you need to replenish your fluid stores."

Easy Rx: Have a slice of waterday is also smart.

Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink up. By the time you feel thirsty, you could already be dehydrated.

Before you use artificial sweetener... Check the label. "If, like Splenda, it's made with

chlorine-rich sucralose, it may disrupt blood sugar control, triggering brain fog, lethargy and fatigue," believes Linda Page, Ph.D., author of *Healthy Healing*. A better bet: Natural sweeteners like stevia or agave cactus nectar.



