chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Treatment Diet: Nourishing Your Way to Better Energy

chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet is gaining attention as a crucial component in managing this complex and often debilitating condition. While chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS), also known as myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), remains a medical mystery with no definitive cure, diet and nutrition can play a significant role in alleviating symptoms and improving quality of life. If you or someone you know is navigating the challenges of persistent fatigue, brain fog, and muscle pain, understanding how dietary choices influence your energy levels and immune function can be empowering.

In this article, we'll explore how a thoughtful chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet can support your body's healing process. We'll discuss key nutrients, foods to embrace, those to avoid, and practical tips for creating a balanced eating plan tailored to the unique needs of CFS sufferers.

Understanding Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Its Dietary Needs

Chronic fatigue syndrome is characterized by profound fatigue that doesn't improve with rest and worsens with exertion. Alongside exhaustion, many experience cognitive difficulties (often called "brain fog"), sleep disturbances, and pain. Because CFS affects multiple body systems, nutrition plays a multifaceted role in managing symptoms.

One major aspect is how diet influences inflammation and oxidative stress, both believed to contribute to symptom severity. Additionally, since some individuals with CFS experience digestive issues or food sensitivities, diet becomes not only a source of energy but also a tool to reduce discomfort.

Why Nutrition Matters in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Treatment

The body's energy production depends heavily on vitamins, minerals, and macronutrients working synergistically. When nutrient intake is inadequate or imbalanced, fatigue and weakness can worsen. Moreover, an anti-inflammatory diet can help calm persistent low-grade inflammation often observed in CFS patients.

Incorporating foods rich in antioxidants supports the body's defense against oxidative damage, potentially easing symptoms like muscle pain and brain fog. A carefully crafted diet also helps maintain a healthy gut microbiome, which is increasingly recognized as influential in immune regulation and overall wellbeing.

Key Nutrients to Focus on in a Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Treatment Diet

Certain vitamins and minerals stand out as particularly beneficial for those managing chronic fatigue syndrome. While individual needs vary, ensuring sufficient intake of these nutrients can help optimize energy metabolism and neurological function.

Vitamin B Complex

B vitamins, especially B12, B6, and folate, are vital for energy production and nerve health. Many people with CFS report improvements in fatigue and cognitive clarity when supplementing or increasing dietary sources of these vitamins. Foods like leafy greens, eggs, poultry, and fortified cereals are excellent sources.

Magnesium

Magnesium plays a critical role in muscle relaxation, nerve transmission, and energy synthesis. Deficiencies can exacerbate muscle cramps, pain, and fatigue. Incorporate magnesium-rich foods such as nuts, seeds, whole grains, and dark chocolate into your meals.

Omega-3 Fatty Acids

Known for their anti-inflammatory properties, omega-3s from sources like fatty fish (salmon, mackerel), flaxseeds, and walnuts may help reduce the inflammation linked to CFS symptoms. Regular consumption supports brain health and may alleviate mood disturbances common among sufferers.

Antioxidants

Vitamins C and E, selenium, and polyphenols found in colorful fruits and vegetables combat oxidative stress. Berries, citrus fruits, spinach, and nuts are great options to include daily to help reduce free radical damage and support immune function.

Foods to Embrace and Foods to Avoid

Dietary choices can either exacerbate or soothe chronic fatigue syndrome symptoms. Understanding which foods to prioritize and which to limit is essential for crafting an effective treatment diet.

Foods That Support Energy and Reduce Inflammation

- Whole grains: Brown rice, quinoa, and oats provide steady energy and fiber for gut health.
- Lean proteins: Chicken, turkey, tofu, and legumes support muscle repair and neurotransmitter synthesis.
- Fresh fruits and vegetables: Rich in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants to combat oxidative stress.
- Healthy fats: Olive oil, avocado, and nuts promote brain function and reduce inflammation.
- **Hydrating foods:** Cucumbers, watermelon, and celery help maintain hydration, which is vital for energy levels.

Foods That May Worsen Symptoms

- **Processed and sugary foods:** These can trigger inflammation and cause blood sugar spikes leading to energy crashes.
- Caffeine and alcohol: While caffeine may offer temporary alertness, it often disrupts sleep quality, worsening fatigue. Alcohol can interfere with recovery and immune function.
- Gluten and dairy (for some): Sensitivities or intolerances may aggravate digestive issues and inflammation in certain individuals.
- **Artificial additives:** Preservatives, colorings, and sweeteners can provoke immune reactions or digestive discomfort.

Practical Tips for Implementing a Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Treatment Diet

Adopting a new diet can feel overwhelming, especially when energy is limited. Here are some strategies to help make the transition smoother and more sustainable.

Start Small and Prioritize Nutrient-Dense Foods

Focus on gradually adding more fruits, vegetables, and whole foods to your diet rather than drastic overhauls. Even small changes, like swapping white bread for whole grain or adding a handful of nuts to snacks, can make a difference.

Meal Planning and Preparation

Planning meals ahead helps avoid last-minute unhealthy choices and conserves energy. Preparing larger batches of meals and freezing portions can be a lifesaver on days when fatigue is overwhelming.

Stay Hydrated

Dehydration can worsen fatigue and cognitive issues. Aim to drink water consistently throughout the day, and consider herbal teas or infused water for variety.

Listen to Your Body

Since CFS symptoms and triggers vary widely, pay attention to how different foods affect your energy and wellbeing. Keeping a food diary can help identify patterns and sensitivities.

Consult Professionals

Working with a registered dietitian familiar with chronic fatigue syndrome can provide personalized guidance and ensure nutritional adequacy. They can also help navigate supplements if needed.

Integrating Lifestyle Changes Alongside Diet

While diet is fundamental, combining it with other lifestyle adjustments enhances overall symptom management. Gentle physical activity suited to your energy level, stress reduction techniques like mindfulness or yoga, and prioritizing quality sleep complement the benefits of a nutrient-rich diet.

Nutrition fuels your body's resilience, but holistic care addresses the multifactorial nature of chronic fatigue syndrome.

Exploring foods that nurture energy, reduce inflammation, and support brain function can be a transformative part of living with CFS. It's about finding what works uniquely for you, offering not just sustenance but hope and empowerment on your healing journey.

Frequently Asked Questions

What dietary changes can help manage chronic fatigue syndrome symptoms?

Incorporating a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats can help manage symptoms of chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) by providing essential nutrients that support energy production and immune function.

Are there specific foods to avoid for people with chronic fatigue syndrome?

Yes, it is generally recommended to avoid processed foods, excessive sugar, caffeine, and alcohol, as these can exacerbate fatigue and inflammation in people with chronic fatigue syndrome.

Can supplements improve energy levels in chronic fatigue syndrome patients?

Certain supplements such as vitamin B12, magnesium, coenzyme Q10, and omega-3 fatty acids may help improve energy levels and reduce fatigue, but it is important to consult a healthcare provider before starting any supplementation.

Is an anti-inflammatory diet beneficial for chronic fatigue syndrome?

An anti-inflammatory diet, which emphasizes foods like leafy greens, berries, nuts, and fatty fish, may reduce inflammation and improve symptoms in some individuals with chronic fatigue syndrome.

How important is hydration in managing chronic fatigue syndrome?

Proper hydration is crucial for managing chronic fatigue syndrome as dehydration can worsen fatigue and cognitive difficulties, so drinking enough water throughout the day is recommended.

Should people with chronic fatigue syndrome follow a gluten-free or dairy-free diet?

Some individuals with chronic fatigue syndrome may experience symptom improvement on a gluten-free or dairy-free diet, especially if they have sensitivities or allergies, but these diets are not universally necessary and should be tailored to individual needs.

Additional Resources

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Treatment Diet: Exploring Nutritional Approaches to Manage CFS

chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet represents a critical area of interest for patients and healthcare providers alike, as managing this complex and often debilitating condition remains a challenge. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS), also known as myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), is characterized by profound fatigue that is not alleviated by rest and is often accompanied by cognitive difficulties, sleep disturbances, and pain. While the etiology of CFS is not fully understood, emerging evidence suggests that dietary interventions could play a supportive role in symptom management and overall quality of life.

This article provides an analytical overview of the chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet, examining current research, nutritional strategies, and practical recommendations. It explores how specific dietary components might influence inflammation, energy metabolism, and gut health, all of which are implicated in CFS pathophysiology. By investigating these intersections, the article aims to inform both patients and clinicians on optimizing nutritional care for CFS.

Understanding the Role of Diet in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

Dietary management in chronic fatigue syndrome is not a cure but rather a complementary approach intended to alleviate symptoms and improve functional status. Since CFS symptoms vary widely, nutritional interventions often require personalization. The chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet focuses on reducing systemic inflammation, supporting mitochondrial function, and maintaining gut microbiome balance—factors frequently disrupted in CFS patients.

Research indicates that oxidative stress and immune dysregulation contribute to the fatigue and malaise experienced by individuals with CFS. Nutrients with antioxidant properties, such as vitamins C and E, as well as minerals like magnesium and zinc, have been investigated for their potential to mitigate these

processes. Additionally, emerging studies suggest that poor gut health, including dysbiosis and increased intestinal permeability, might exacerbate systemic inflammation, making dietary fiber and probiotics relevant considerations.

Anti-Inflammatory Nutritional Strategies

Chronic inflammation is a hallmark of many chronic diseases, including CFS. Adopting an antiinflammatory diet can be beneficial in managing symptoms. Such a diet emphasizes:

- High intake of fruits and vegetables rich in antioxidants and phytochemicals
- Inclusion of omega-3 fatty acids, commonly found in fatty fish like salmon and mackerel
- Limiting processed foods high in trans fats and refined sugars
- Incorporation of whole grains and nuts

Omega-3 fatty acids, in particular, have been shown to modulate inflammatory pathways and may improve fatigue levels. Some clinical trials assessing omega-3 supplementation in CFS patients have reported modest symptom relief, although larger studies are needed to confirm efficacy.

Supporting Energy Metabolism Through Diet

Given that mitochondrial dysfunction is hypothesized to contribute to the energy deficits in CFS, a treatment diet that supports mitochondrial health is logical. Nutrients such as Coenzyme Q10, L-carnitine, B vitamins, and magnesium play essential roles in cellular energy production. While not all patients respond uniformly, supplementation with these compounds has shown some promise in small-scale studies.

Complex carbohydrates with a low glycemic index are also recommended to provide a steady energy supply without causing blood sugar spikes that can worsen fatigue. Foods like quinoa, oats, and legumes fit well within this framework. Avoiding excessive caffeine and sugar is generally advised, as these can lead to energy crashes and exacerbate symptoms.

Gut Health and the Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Treatment Diet

The gut-brain axis has garnered increasing attention in the context of chronic illnesses. In CFS, gastrointestinal symptoms such as bloating, irritable bowel syndrome, and food sensitivities are common. Addressing gut health through diet can hence be a strategic component of symptom management.

Probiotics and Prebiotics

Probiotics—live beneficial bacteria—and prebiotics—non-digestible fibers that feed these bacteria—may help restore gut microbial balance. Studies exploring probiotic supplementation in CFS have suggested improvements in both gastrointestinal and neuropsychological symptoms, although evidence remains preliminary.

Sources of prebiotics include:

- Garlic, onions, and leeks
- Asparagus and artichokes
- Whole grains such as barley and oats

Probiotic-rich foods like yogurt, kefir, sauerkraut, and kimchi can be incorporated into the diet, but patients should approach probiotic supplements cautiously and under medical advice, as individual responses vary.

Elimination Diets and Food Sensitivities

Some individuals with CFS report heightened sensitivities to foods such as gluten, dairy, or additives. While comprehensive scientific evidence is lacking, elimination diets that temporarily remove potential irritants followed by systematic reintroduction can help identify triggers that exacerbate symptoms.

For example, gluten-free diets have gained popularity among CFS sufferers, partly due to overlap with symptoms seen in celiac disease and non-celiac gluten sensitivity. However, indiscriminate adoption of restrictive diets without professional guidance risks nutritional deficiencies and should be approached carefully.

Comparative Insights: Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Treatment Diet

vs. General Healthy Eating

Many principles of the chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet overlap with general healthy eating guidelines. However, the emphasis on anti-inflammatory foods, mitochondrial support, and gut health distinguishes this approach for CFS management.

While a standard balanced diet promotes overall well-being, the treatment diet for CFS specifically targets biochemical pathways implicated in fatigue and immune dysregulation. This targeted focus may translate into improved symptom control for some patients.

Nevertheless, individual variability in dietary response underscores the importance of personalized nutrition care. Registered dietitians specialized in chronic illness can tailor recommendations based on symptom patterns, comorbidities, and lifestyle factors.

Potential Challenges and Considerations

Implementing a chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet is not without challenges. Patients often struggle with:

- Fatigue-related limitations affecting meal preparation
- Food intolerances and fluctuating symptoms complicating dietary consistency
- Psychological factors such as anxiety or depression impacting appetite and motivation

Therefore, practical strategies such as meal planning, batch cooking, and involving caregivers in nutritional support can be valuable adjuncts.

Moreover, the risk of orthorexia, an unhealthy obsession with healthy eating, should be monitored to prevent exacerbating stress or nutritional imbalance.

Emerging Research and Future Directions

Ongoing research continues to explore how diet can influence the course of chronic fatigue syndrome. Novel approaches under investigation include:

- Ketogenic diets aimed at optimizing mitochondrial function
- Targeted amino acid supplementation to support neurotransmitter synthesis
- Use of nutraceuticals such as curcumin and resveratrol for their anti-inflammatory properties

While these interventions hold theoretical promise, robust clinical trials are required to establish safety, efficacy, and practical guidelines. Integration of dietary strategies with other therapeutic modalities like graded exercise therapy and cognitive behavioral therapy remains a key consideration.

In practice, patients and clinicians are encouraged to adopt a flexible, evidence-informed approach when incorporating dietary changes into chronic fatigue syndrome treatment plans. Monitoring symptom patterns and nutritional status over time facilitates optimization of care.

The chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet continues to evolve as scientific understanding deepens, offering hope for improved symptom management through personalized nutrition.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Treatment Diet

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chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet: Diagnosis and Treatment of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Myalgic Encephalitis, 2nd ed. Sarah Myhill, 2018-04-25 Mitochondria are the powerhouses of our cells, essential for the production and management of energy at the cell level. Dr. Sarah Myhill has spent years studying the relationship between mitochondrial malfunction and one of the most common problems that lead people to the doctor's office: fatigue. In Diagnosis and Treatment of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Myalgic Encephalitis, Dr. Myhill examines this essential role of our mitochondria in energy production and why it is key to understanding and overcoming Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) and the inflammation that often accompanies it: Myalgic Encephalitis (ME). She explains the importance of healthy mitochondria, how we can assess how well they are functioning, what we can do to keep them healthy, and how to restore them to health if problems arise. Since publication of the first edition in 2014, new research and new clinical findings have shed further light on a condition that is debilitating to those who suffer from it, but "all in the head" to many doctors. The second edition of this groundbreaking book includes new insights and chapters on why CFS/ME is the most poorly treated condition in Western medicine, the role of the gut, allergy and autoimmunity, Lyme disease and other coinfections, reprogramming the immune system, reprogramming the brain, and the roadmap to recovery.

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practitioners and scientists in the field and patients living with CFS have a thorough resource on current clinical and patient management of the disease.

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chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet: Chronic Fatigue Syndrome For Dummies Susan R. Lisman, M.D., Karla Dougherty, 2011-05-06 You've been repeatedly poked, prodded, tested and scanned, yet, despite how awful you feel, your doctor, like many of your friends, co-workers, and family members have begun dropping subtle (and some not-so-subtle) hints that they think it's "all in your head." Maybe you're one of the lucky few CFS sufferers who've received an accurate diagnosis but nothing your health care provider does seems to help. Well, you're not alone. According to recent estimates, of the approximately 800,000 Americans with CFS, more than 90% have been misdiagnosed, dismissed, or are not receiving proper treatment. Don't despair, help has arrived. Written by a national expert who has successfully treated scores of CFS patients in her own practice, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome for Dummies gives you the knowledge and tools you need to beat CFS and get back to living a normal life. In plain English Doctor Susan Lisman fills you in on: What CFS is, how you get it, and how it effects your body Its major symptoms and warning signs Getting an accurate diagnosis Avoiding situations that might be making you sicker Teaming up with the right doctor and crafting a treatment plan The most effective drugs, therapies and alternative approaches Coping with CFS in your personal and professional lives Packed with checklists, self-tests, questionnaires, and other powerful tools, and featuring many inspiring real-life stories of patients who've licked CFS, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome for Dummies puts you on the road to recovery.

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and Thriving.' This comprehensive guide delves into every aspect of CFS, from its historical roots and diagnostic challenges to the latest research and innovative treatments. Discover practical strategies for managing daily life, coping with the emotional impact, and building a supportive network. Each chapter offers in-depth insights, personal stories, and expert advice to help patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals navigate the often misunderstood world of CFS. Whether you're newly diagnosed or have been living with CFS for years, this book provides the knowledge and tools to thrive despite the limitations. Join us in shedding light on CFS and advocating for a future filled with hope and progress.

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Syndrome: Understanding Pathophysiology, Diagnosis, and Management Dr. Spineanu Eugenia, 2025-02-19 Discover a comprehensive exploration of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) in this in-depth treatise. This authoritative resource delves into the complex pathophysiology, emerging biomarkers, and novel therapeutic targets associated with ME/CFS. Learn about the latest advancements in diagnosis, treatment strategies, and the role of lifestyle modifications in managing symptoms. With a focus on psychological and social determinants of health, this treatise offers valuable insights into the multifaceted nature of ME/CFS. Additionally, explore innovative clinical trials and complementary therapies that hold promise for improving patient outcomes. Whether you are a healthcare professional, researcher, or patient, this treatise serves as an essential guide to understanding ME/CFS and the latest developments in its management. Enhance your knowledge and support your journey through the complexities of this debilitating condition with this well-researched, evidence-based resource.

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chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet: Herbal Treatment of Children Anne McIntyre,

2005-09-07 Increasingly, healthcare professionals are encountering patients who are, or wish to be, taking herbal medicines. This book not only provides answers to frequently asked questions, but will also enable healthcare professionals to recommend safe alternatives to orthodox treatment if appropriate. A practical guide to the safe and effective use of herbal medicines in pediatric primary care, written by a respected and internationally known expert Easily accessible information ensures quick reference in practice Case histories and practical tips make this an essential companion for all professionals in primary care

chronic fatigue syndrome treatment diet: Myalgic Encephalomyelitis / Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, 2003-02-06 An important medical milestone for anyone connected with ME/CFS! Myalgic Encephalomyelitis / Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Clinical Working Case Definition, Diagnostic and Treatment Protocols includes a clinical definition (clinical diagnostic criteria) for myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS). The clinical case definition was developed by an expert medical consensus panel of treating physicians, teaching faculty and world leaders in the research of ME/CFS. An expert subcommittee of Health Canada established the Terms of Reference for the consensus panel. The definition more adequately reflects the complexity of symptoms of a given patient's pathogenesis and should establish ME/CFS as a distinct medical entity and help distinguish it from overlapping medical conditions in the absence of a definitive laboratory test. "The clinical definition will enable clinicians to make an early diagnosis which may assist in lessening the impact of ME/CFS in some patients," said Dr. Bruce M. Carruthers, lead author of the definition. "It will reduce the expensive problem of patients being sent to many specialists before being diagnosed and will allow patients to receive appropriate treatments in a timely fashion." The panel's clinical case definition determines that more of the prominent symptoms are compulsory and symptoms that share a common region of pathogenesis are grouped together for clarity. In addition to severe prolonged fatigue, the definition includes the hallmark symptoms of post-exertional malaise and/or fatigue, sleep dysfunction, pain, two or more of the given neurological/cognitive manifestations, and at least one of the given symptoms from two of the categories of autonomic, neuroendocrine, and immune manifestations. Diagnostic exclusions and common co-morbid entities are also given. The special issue of the Journal of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome also includes a discussion of prominent symptoms, clinical practice diagnostic and treatment guidelines based on the best available research evidence, and an overview of available research on ME/CFS. The expert panel of 11 physicians—who have diagnosed and/or treated more than 20,000 ME/CFS patients between them—has developed a clinical case definition that provides a flexible conceptual framework based on the characteristic patterns of symptom clusters, which reflect specific areas of pathogenesis. The expert subcommittee of Health Canada selected the expert consensus panel. Authors include: Dr. Bruce M. Carruthers, lead author of the consensus document; co-author of the draft of the original version of the ME/CFS clinical definition, diagnostic and treatment protocols document; internal medicine, Galiano, British Columbia. Dr. Anil Kumar Jain, co-author of the draft the original version of the ME/CFS consensus document, affiliate of Ottawa Hospital, Ontario. Dr. Kenny L. De Meirleir, Professor Physiology and Medicine, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium; ME/CFS researcher and clinician; organizer of the World Congress on Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Related Disorders; a board member of the American Association for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome; and co-editor of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Critical Reviews and Clinical Advances (Haworth) Dr. Daniel L. Peterson, affiliate of the Sierra Internal Medicine Associates in Incline Village, Nevada; ME/CFS researcher and clinician; a board member of the American Association for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome; and member of the International Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Study Group Dr. Nancy G. Klimas, Clinical Professor of Medicine in Microbiology/Immunology/Allergy and Psychology, University of Miami School of Medicine; ME/CFS researcher and clinician; a board member of the American Association for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome; and member of the federal CFS Coordinating Committee Dr. A. Martin Lerner, staff physician at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan; Clinical professor and former chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Wayne State University's School of Medicine; and ME/CFS researcher and clinician Dr. Alison C. Bested,

haematological pathologist; former head of the Division of Haematology and Immunology at the Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital; affiliate of the Environmental Health Clinic and Sunnybrook & Women's College Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, Ontario; ME/CFS researcher and clinician Dr. Pierre Flor-Henry, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of Alberta; Clinical Director of General Psychiatry and Director of the Clinical Diagnostic and Research Centre, both based at Alberta Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; ME/CFS brain researcher Dr. Pradip Joshi, internal medicine, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Canada Dr. A. C. Peter Powles, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Health Science, McMasters University, Hamilton; Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto; Chief of Medicine and Sleep Disorders Consultant, St. Joseph's Health Centre, Toronto; Sleep Disorder Consultant at the Sleep Disorder Clinic at St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton, and Central West Sleep Affiliation, Paris, Ontario Dr. Jeffrey A. Sherkey, family medicine, affiliate of the University Health Network, Toronto, Ontario; and diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome nearly 10 years ago Marjorie I. van de Sande, Consensus Coordinator; and Director of Education for the National ME/FM Action Network, Canada Myalgic Encephalomyelitis / Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Clinical Working Case Definition, Diagnostic and Treatment Protocols also addresses diagnostic exclusions and common co-morbid entities. This groundbreaking book is must reading for anyone connected with the disease—personally or professionally.

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