

Calming Your Immune System: From Overwhelmed to Balanced

What is an Overwhelmed Immune System?

Think of your immune system as a dedicated **Security Team**. Their job is to keep you safe. Sometimes, this team gets so many "danger signals" at once—from stress, certain foods, or poor sleep—that they get overwhelmed. When this happens, they stay on high alert, which can make you feel tired, foggy, and achy. It's not that your body is "broken"; it's just that your system's "bucket" is overflowing and needs to be emptied.

Why This Matters For You

- **Validation for Your Symptoms:** It explains why you feel "off" (like having brain fog or joint stiffness) even when standard lab tests come back looking "normal."
- **A Clear Path Forward:** Instead of just "watching and waiting" for things to get worse, we can take action now to calm the security team down.
- **Better Daily Energy:** By identifying what is filling your "bucket," we can help reduce the flares that leave you feeling exhausted and puffy.

What You Can Do Today

1. **Check Your "Bucket":** Take a moment to notice what might be stressing your system today. Is it a lack of sleep? A high-stress project? A specific food that makes you feel bloated? Just noticing these triggers is the first step.
2. **Support Your Gut:** Since about 70% of your immune system lives in your gut, small changes here make a big difference. Try to eat whole, colorful foods and notice if removing things like gluten helps you feel "lighter" or clearer.
3. **Give the "Security Team" a Break:** Your immune system calms down when you are in a relaxed state. Spend 5 minutes today practicing deep breathing or taking a quiet walk to tell your body it is safe.

Questions to Discuss with Your Practitioner

- Based on my history, what are the top 2 or 3 things likely filling my "immune bucket" right now?

- How can we work together to support my gut health so my immune system doesn't feel so overwhelmed?
 - What are the "optimal" signs we are looking for to know my immune system is moving back into balance?
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