









Minor degree of hypohydration adversely influences cognition: a mediator analysis¹

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ABSTRACT

Background: Because the assumption that small changes in hydration status are readily compensated by homeostatic mechanisms has been little studied, the influence of hypohydration on cognition was examined.

Objectives: We assessed whether a loss of <1% of body mass due to hypohydration adversely influenced cognition, and examined the possible underlying mechanisms.

Design: A total of 101 individuals were subjected to a temperature of 30°C for 4 h and randomly either did or did not consume 300 mL H₂O during that period. Changes in body r s, urine osmolality, monitored. mperat bisodic mem d th rceived di sed a ntion, m the culty of ta s wei he d red with t ons were an asureu on occ use c oac where we looke les diated the influence of hypohydration on psychological functioning. Results: Drinking water improved memory and focused attention. In the short-term, thirst was associated with poorer memory. Later, a greater loss of body mass was associated with poorer memory and attention (mean loss: 0.72%). At 90 min, an increase in thirst was associated with a decline in subjective energy and increased anxiety and depression, effects that were reduced by drinking water. At 180 min, subjects found the tests easier if they had consumed water. Conclusions: Drinking water was shown, for the first time to our knowledge, to benefit cognitive functioning when there was a loss of <1% body mass at levels that may occur during everyday living. Establishing the variables that generate optimal fluid consumption will help to tailor individual advice, particularly in clinical situations. This trial was registered at clinicaltrials.gov as Am J Clin Nutr 2016;104:603-12. NCT02671149.

Keywords: attention, cognition, dehydration, hypohydration, memory

experimentation, even though hydration status plays a role in all aspects of bodily functioning and in many chronic diseases (3). Therefore, because the first signs of subclinical nutrient deficiency are typically psychological in nature (4), aspects of cognition were examined in individuals who were hypohydrated.

A review of the psychological consequences of mild dehydration showed that, when body mass fell >2%, there were mood changes; reports of fatigue increased, whereas alertness declined (5). However, the effects on cognition were less consistent. The relevance of such conclusions to individuals who are going about their everyday life is unclear because it and any ma will occur often. For xample, du dan, was food or liquid is consume by Muslin om supset, use is typically a loss of or 1% of b mass erthe our nowledge, e as nption changes in hydration status are readily compensated has not been systematically considered; in particular, the point at which fluid loss affects mental performance has not been established. Brainimaging studies that have examined subjective thirst have shown increased activation in the anterior cingulate and decreased activation in the parahippocampal gyri (7). Because it is unclear whether these changes have other functional consequences, and these brain areas are associated with both focused attention (8) and episodic memory (9), these variables were examined.

Currently, because there are no adequate biomarkers of hydration status, recommended intakes of water in the United States are based on median intakes (3). These figures can only be valid to the extent that current intakes are optimal and that there are not marked differences in individual needs. In addition, the guidelines simply provide optimal daily intake, which raises the question of whether, within 1 d, there may be times when hydration status is less than optimal. Therefore, the objective of the current study was to consider whether a loss of <1% of



Dehydration Decreases Dynamic Strength and 1RM bench press as during E treatment.

ROB SKINNER, MS, RD, DSCS

Amiesic trainers, coaches, and strength goaches closely watch achietes for signs of dehydration. They, like many sports health professiona's, know that it's critical to avoid dehydration if optimal performance and health of amietes is to be maintained. Now, a recent study 1 published in the Journal of Swength and Conditioning Research, suggests that avoiding dehydrasion may be as important to strength training athletes performing maximum lifts as it is to endurance and team sport athletes.

The study, conducted at Old Dominion University in Virginia, examines the effect of dehydration equivalent to a 1.5 percent less of body weight on one-repetition maximum (1PM) performance in 10 trained male power litters. Yreatments were ran-

were obtained in a domby assigned &



After the D 1RM was determined, subjects rested for two hours and consumed water upon reached their pre-dehydrated weight. rest period, they conducted another press (R).

After dehydration, 1RM bench press wer pounds lower than the first maximum == performed in a well-hydrated state (E1). However, the 1RM lift performed after rehydration was not significantly different than the first euhydration maximum litt (E1).

Interestingly, during E there was a 2.5 percent decrease in the 1RM bench press from the first to second lifts (E1 to E2), which were separated by two hours. The authors indicated that this small decline in performance, despite maintenance of hydration, might have been due to decreased motor unit activation and/or afferent feedback from

the exercising muscle. See Figure 1 for a graphical display of

somly assigned a prospover design	Table 1 Study Protocol				
	Euhydration Test		Warm up, 1RM(E1)	2- hour rest	1RM (E2)
Euhydration Dehydration Rehydration		Sauna-induced dehydration to - 1.5% body weight	Warm up, 1RM(D)	2-hour rest drinking fluids to regain 1.5% body weight	3 6

- Baseline performance was established during a euhydration. treatment (E). In a well-hydrated state, the power lifter subjects performed a warm-up and then determined a IRtA bench press (E1). Then, they rested for two hours before conducting another 1.P/M (E2).
- A second treatment involved dehydration/rehydration (D/R). To accomplish dehydration, the subjects were passively dehygrated (performing no exercise) by sitting in a sauna until each lost 1.5 percent of meir body weight. Dehydration at this level equates to a loss of 3.75 pounds for a 250-pound weight litter. Dehydration was confirmed by a decrease in systolic blood pressure, plasma volume and an increase in hemoglobin, hematocat and heart rate, all indicators of a hypovolimic state.

Once dehydrated, subjects then performed the same warm-up

Given these results. It's elear shot every 1RM lifts, can be affected by dehydration of less than two percent of body weight. The good neers is that rehydration through oral fluid intake can restore an amiete's ability to perform 1RM lifts during training. These results underseone the importance of hydration for every achieve in the weight room.

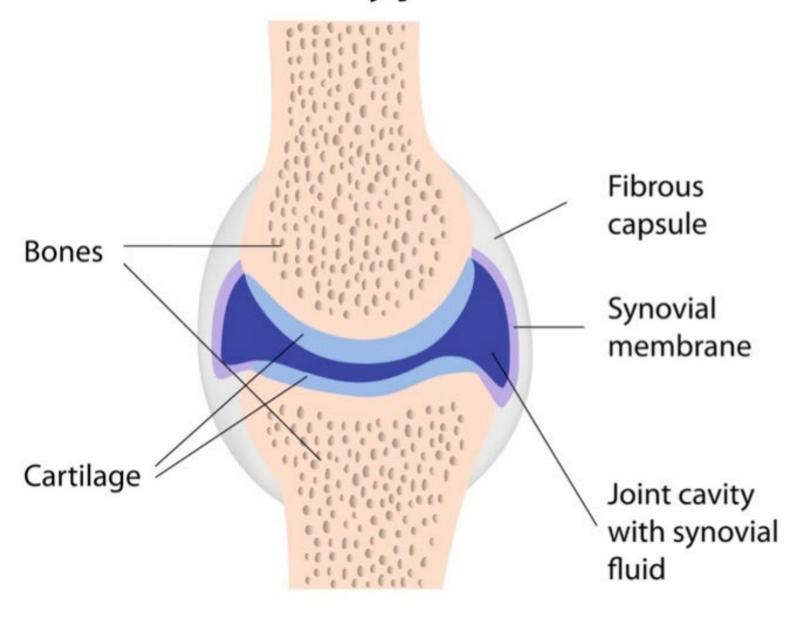
Rob Sixoner, registered dietitian and certified strength and conditioning specialist, is director of sports nutrition at the Georgia Tech Athletic Association. He works with attriated from 17 different NCAA sports, as well as Olympians and players from the NRL, NBA, and MLB.

For more information on nutrition for strength training, visit the Sports Science Center at GSSI sectors at www.gssiweb.com.

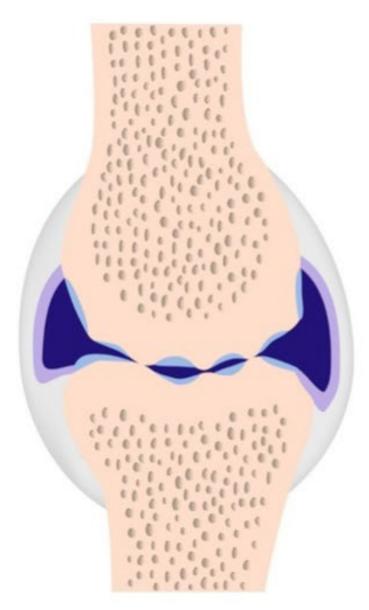
1 Schoffstall JE et al. J. Strength Cond. Res. 15(1):102-107.

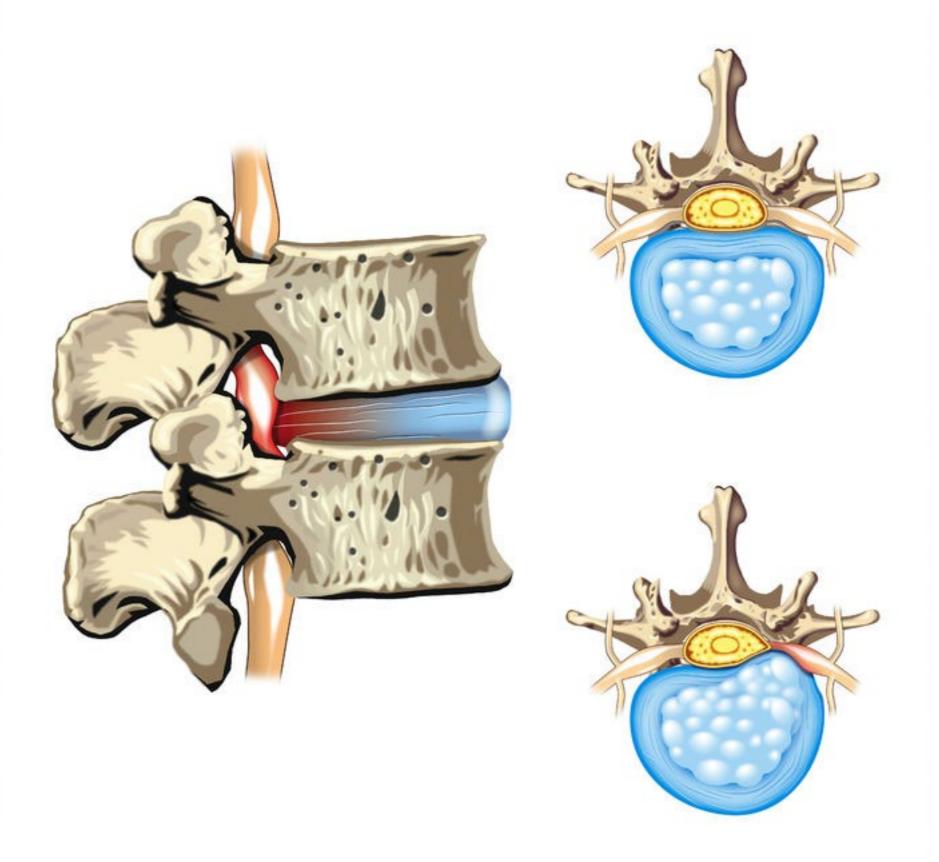
Synovial Joint

Healthy joint



Osteoarthritis



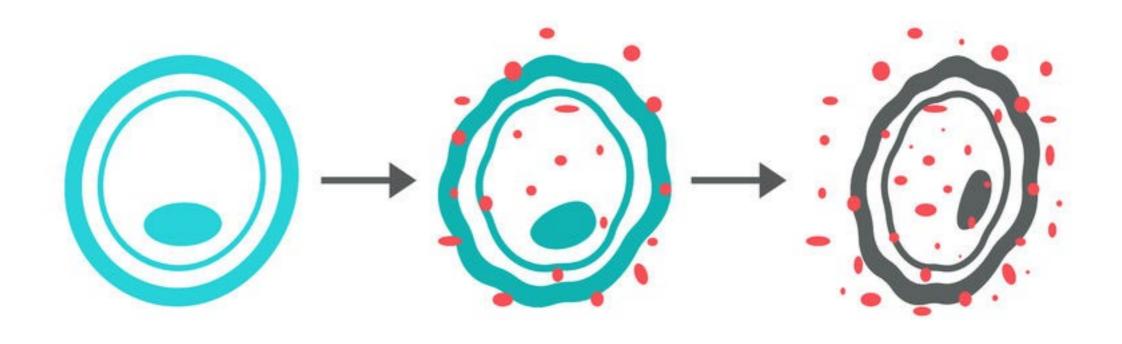






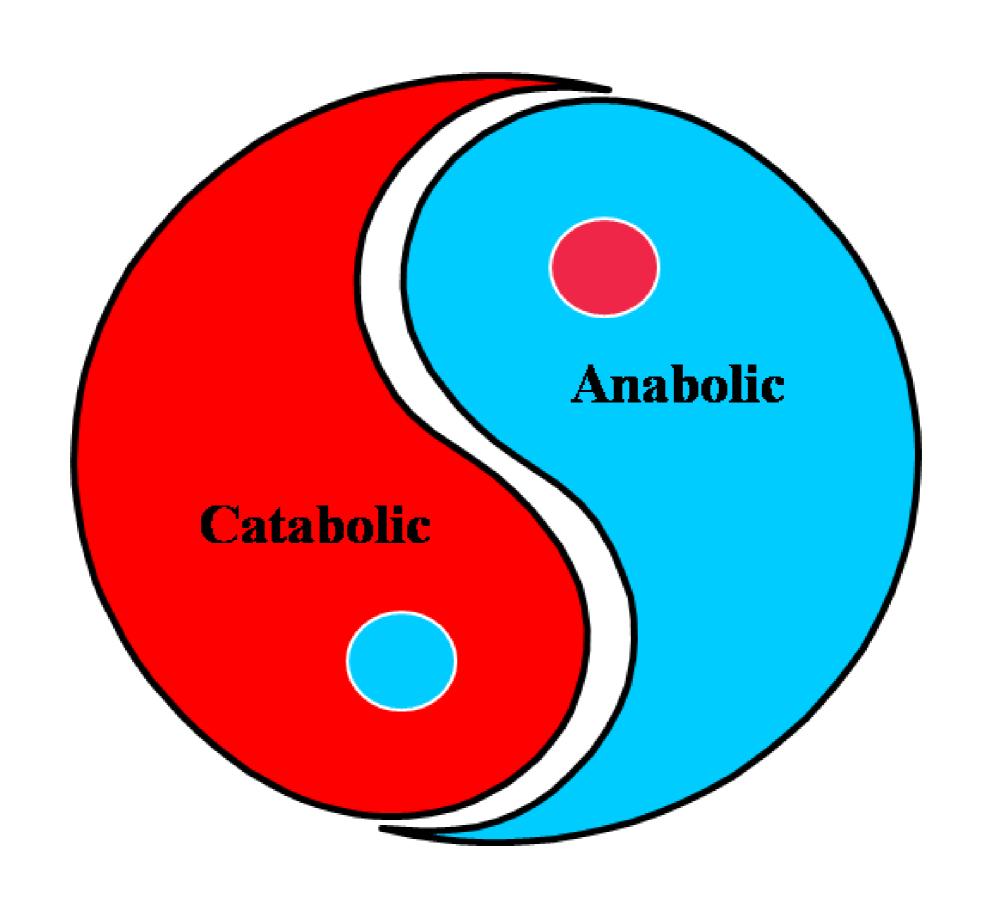


OXIDATIVE STRESS



Normal Cell

Free Radicals Attacking Cell Cell with Oxidative Stress







180 lbs ÷ 2 = 90 ounces of H20







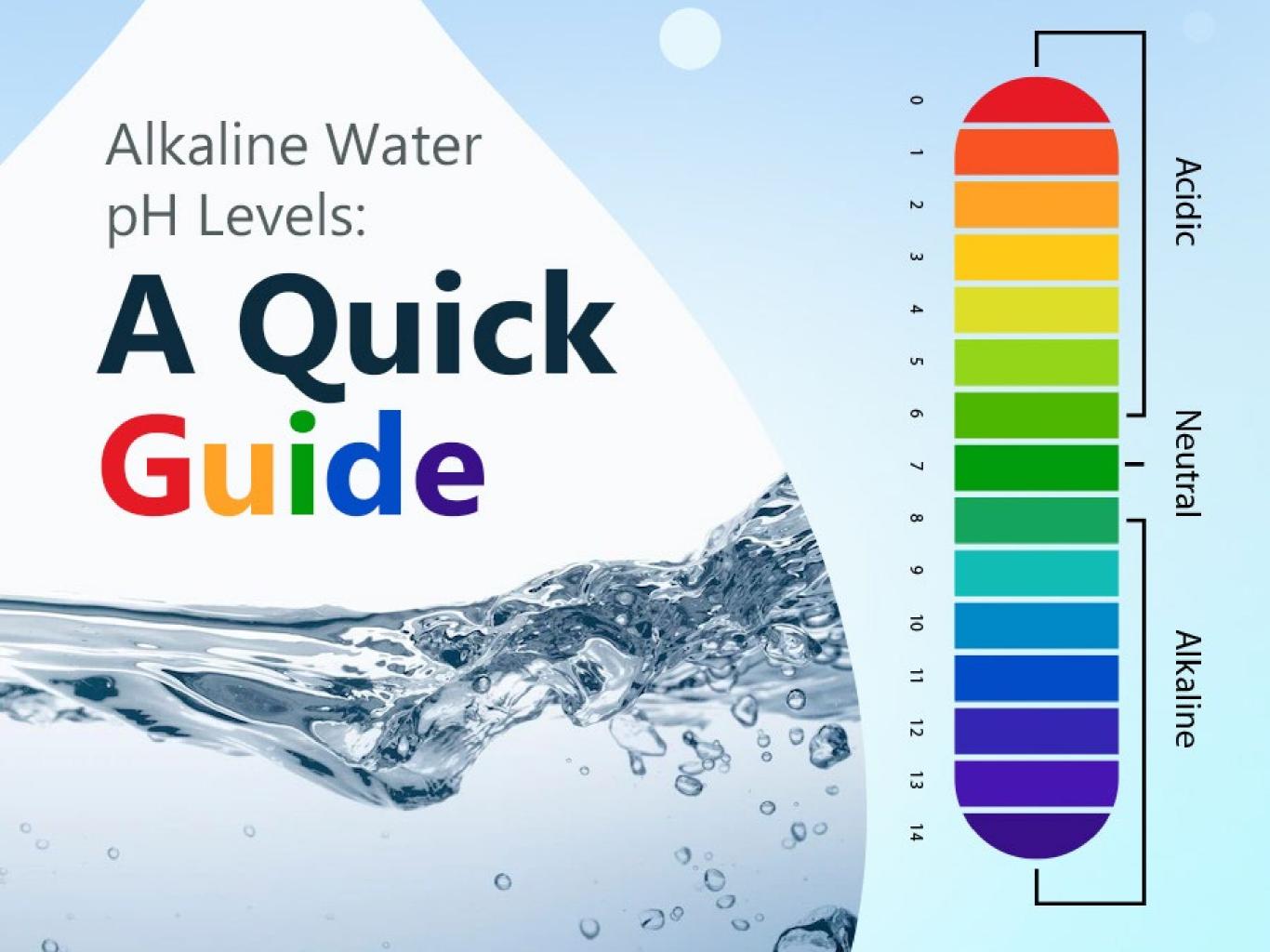


Insensible Fluid Loss

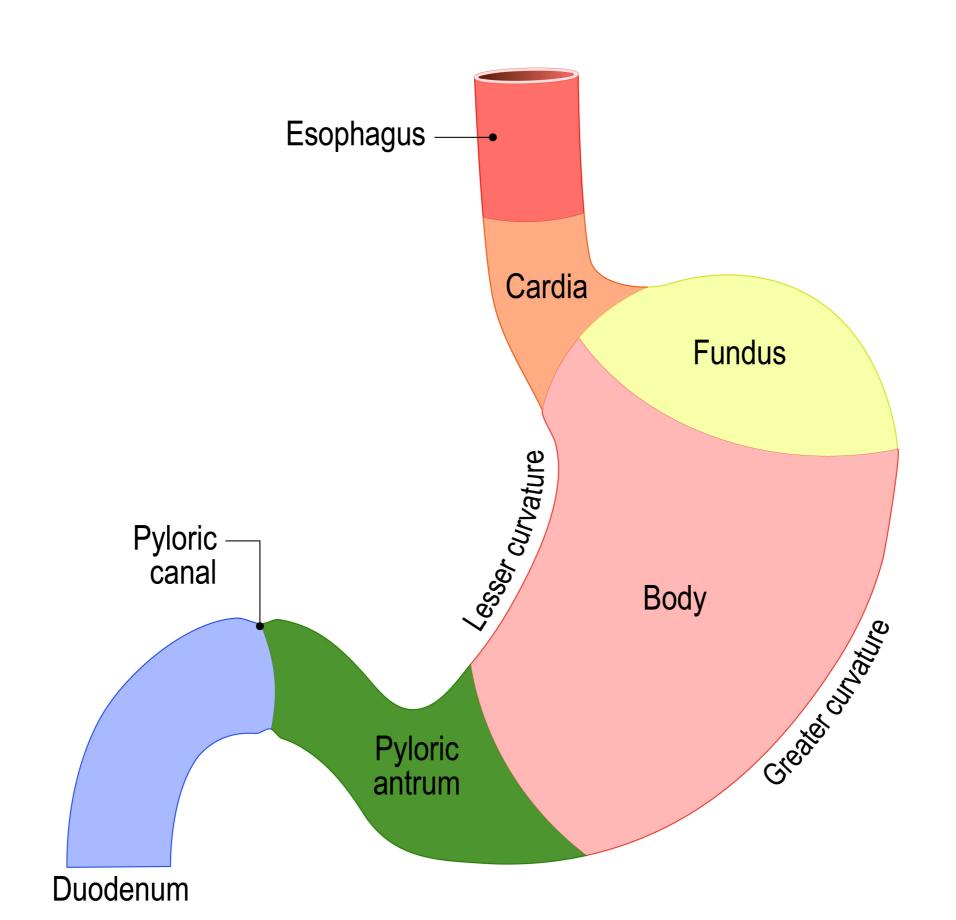








Sections of human the stomach



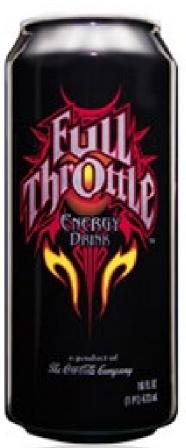






























Personal Hydration Challenge

- Drink half my body weight in ounces of water for the day
- Avoid any drinks with sugar
- Drink 25% of my total intake of water FIRST THING IN THE MORNING
- Add 1 pinch of Celtic Sea Salt or Redmond's Sea Salt to every liter (32 oz) of water
- Drink 50% of my total water intake during a round or golf practice

