

The Thioctic Acid/Lipoic Acid Legacy Archive Project

Welcome to the Thioctic Acid/Lipoic Acid (TALA) Legacy Archive Project. The project is intended for students, scientists, medical practitioners and consumers interested in the historical development and early research on this fascinating compound. The purpose is to post full text English language and /or to post and translate foreign papers to English from mostly out of print or obscure Asian and European journals. Papers posted from journals still in print do not have on-line archives going back far enough to cover the early and highly industrious period in TALA research from the early 1950's to the mid 1960's. We believe it is important to preserve this extensive body of work and make it more accessible; otherwise it will likely be lost or overlooked by future generations. References have been included in the data-base from journals such as Science, Nature and the Journal of the American Chemical Society for completeness and historical perspective but we have not included the full text articles. These journals are still in print and readily accessible on-line or from most university libraries. Additionally (and surprisingly) the publishers are still charging for these 40-60 year old articles.

The purpose of this project is to consolidate early TALA references in one place in order to advance research, establish a research network and to promote new studies. If these references and translations are used in publications, please refer to the web-link so others can easily access the full-text articles and translations.

GeroNova Research Inc's laboratory is next to the Northern Regional Library Facility of the University of California. We have spent a considerable amount of time wrestling with tight binders attempting to make readable photocopies and converting them to PDF's. We have also spent considerable amounts of time copying articles at UC Berkeley, UC San Francisco, Stanford and the Southern Regional Library Facility on the UCLA campus and have received reprints from the British Library. We have access to many shelved, archived journals but there are many other foreign articles we would like to study, translate and post not in the collections of these libraries, so please check the listings for "manuscripts needed" to see if your library has them. If you see an article without an active link to the PDF it means we do not yet have a copy of the article or translation in our collection.

We have attempted in many cases to present the complete titles of the TALA archived articles in the original languages and to translate the titles and articles into English and to post them immediately below the originals. In some cases only the English translation from PubMed is given. When the foreign papers are eventually obtained, the foreign titles will be included. In some cases transliterations have been attempted but in general Japanese or Chinese citations are not presented in the original languages. In other cases we have transliterated the foreign titles into English equivalents. Titles of Italian, German,

Spanish, Portuguese or French citations were either re-typed from the papers or cut and pasted from World Cat <http://www.worldcat.org/> Some of the Russian, Polish and Czech titles were also cut and pasted from World Cat and are presented using the native alphabets. English translations of titles from foreign papers are predominantly from PubMed.

The papers are listed in PubMed format; by the last name of first author followed by the first and middle initials, etc. The references are in approximate chronological order although we did not make any attempt to order articles by month within a given year. If there is an author or title you are looking for and don't find it, keep looking. We have restructured this work many times and yet continue to find references out of place or duplicated. This bibliography has been pieced together from notes and multiple sources over the last twelve years and compiling it proved to be significantly more time and energy consuming than initially envisioned.

PubMed I.D. (PMID) numbers are included for cross reference but some of the older Japanese journals filled with lipoic acid articles such as Bitamin (aka; Nihon Bitamin Gakkai or Vitamins in some data-bases) was not abstracted. In the case of Sangyo Igaku (The Japanese Journal of Industrial Health) PubMed began citations in 1976 but the journal is filled with valuable lipoic acid and dihydrolipoic acid papers throughout the 1960's. The majority of PubMed citations prior to 1980 have no article abstracts. Linked article abstracts in the TALA data base either came from the original papers, Chemical Abstracts or are our summaries of the papers.

We started collecting and translating foreign lipoic acid papers into English several years ago for personal reference. Recently we made the decision to begin making these papers and translations available to the public and decided to make the data-base more comprehensive. This idea came about due to the frustration and the time spent attempting to find information about the scientists involved and their work in the early years of foreign thioctic acid research on-line and coming up empty-handed. We assumed many other interested people have encountered similar problems and experienced the same frustrations.

This body of work clearly demonstrates the extensive nature of the early international research effort as well as the spurious nature of many modern patents claiming "novel" inventions. If enough time is spent studying the old literature it will be realized that in many cases allegedly new and "novel" applications of lipoic acid have been in the public domain for 40-60 years. In the future we will start compiling lists according to topics such as thioctic acid in mushroom poisoning, thioctic acid in atherosclerosis, etc.

There is often a modern bias and misperception that there must not be anything new or of value in this "antiquated" research that has not been reviewed or explored by later researchers. We have consistently found these old articles,

lost on the dusty shelves contain at least one “gem” not seen elsewhere and have frequently found them to be treasure troves of lipoic acid insight and information. Professors and graduate students frequently do not have time or do not take the time to dig through the old literature or take the time to translate it.

Hopefully this project will provide useful translations, fresh insights and ideas leading to new research and applications. Our goal is to encourage modern researchers to revisit some of the early experiments using 21st century techniques in molecular biology and analytical chemistry.

Some of the articles have been translated from Japanese into English by M. Pharm. candidate in pharmacology & medicinal chemistry, Ms. Shiyo Hayashi of James Cook University, Australia.

Some of the German articles, titles and abstracts have been gathered by Andreas Ulrich and translated into English by Heinz Ulrich, M.D. and Ph.D. candidate in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Annette Maczurek of the University of Western Sydney, Australia.

Russian articles have been translated into English by Megan Coffey, M.A.

Italian, Portuguese and Spanish article are being translated by David A. Carlson.

“The Pharmacology of Lipoic acid” by Professor Leonardo Donatelli was partially translated from Italian by Professor Giovanna Ferro-Luzzi Ames (wife of Professor Bruce Ames).

If you have copies or translations of any foreign TALA papers not linked here but cited on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lipoic_acid, PubMed, World Cat or any other data bases please send them.

Please check your libraries for the needed papers and email us the PDF's. If you have any experience or interest in translating technical papers on lipoic acid from German, Czech, Italian, Polish, French, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese and Portuguese to English please contact me: david@geronova.com