

Concept to The Eternal Youth

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Abstract

Eternal youth, a concept once relegated to the realm of fantasy, is becoming a reality through advancements in regenerative medicine and cellular technologies. Central to this breakthrough is the replacement of aged adult stem cells, which lose their regenerative potential and accumulate old centrioles and mutations, with rejuvenated, functional stem cells. Aged stem cells divide slowly, contributing to tissue dysfunction, and their targeted removal is critical for restoring youthful cellular environments. Rejuvenated stem cells are induced by reprogramming a patient's somatic cells, creating personalized cells with enhanced regenerative capacity and division rates. This approach ensures biocompatibility, eliminating risks of immune rejection. Complementarily, stem cells from ethically sourced umbilical cords and placentas have demonstrated exceptional safety and effectiveness. These cells undergo stringent testing to mitigate risks of tumorigenesis or immunogenic responses, ensuring optimal safety standards. By combining the elimination of senescent cells with the transplantation of robust, rejuvenated stem cells, this innovative strategy revitalizes tissues, enhances metabolic processes, and extends biological youth. Grounded in rigorous safety and ethical principles, this transformative approach represents a scientifically credible pathway to combat aging and maintain long-term health.

Keywords: eternal youth; rejuvenation technologies; aging population; bioengineering; stem cell therapy; economic stability

Introduction

Shortage of Working-Age Population

Since the end of the 20th century, demographic aging has become one of the key issues affecting the economic and social stability of societies. Since 1991, the working-age population in most developed countries has begun to decline, which is particularly noticeable in the manufacturing sectors. This trend is accompanied by an increase in the proportion of elderly people who require pension support and medical care.

The decrease in the workforce ratio leads to an increased burden on the working population. Each working person is forced to provide a greater volume of social benefits for those who cannot participate in economic activity. This causes an increase in the tax burden and, consequently, a reduction in the standard of living for the active population. Such a situation threatens the stability of pension and healthcare systems.

Demographic aging also impacts labor productivity. Elderly employees, although they possess experience, are often less productive due to a decline in physical and cognitive abilities. This imposes limitations on economic growth and innovative development.

To address this issue, new approaches are needed, such as increasing birth rates, attracting migrants, and extending the working-age. However, these measures have their limitations and raise social and political debates. In this context, rejuvenation technologies for the working population could become an innovative solution capable of ensuring the long-term stability of economic systems. Regular rejuvenation of employees could significantly reduce the social burden and increase overall productivity.

Complexity of Technologies

Modern technologies are becoming increasingly complex, which requires significant efforts to prepare specialists. The rapid development of science-intensive industries such as bioengineering, artificial intelligence, and quantum computing places increased demands on the knowledge and skills of employees. As a result, standard educational programs often prove inadequate, and professional training takes longer than before.

Engineers, scientists, and other specialists are forced to constantly learn in order to stay competitive. For example, mastering new technologies often requires additional courses, certifications, and participation in continuous education programs. However, the duration of these programs can extend for several years, increasing both the time and financial costs for workers and employers.

Moreover, the high level of technological complexity is often accompanied by increased specialization, which reduces the versatility of specialists. This limits their ability to retrain and complicates adaptation to new working conditions. In such conditions, it is critically important to develop methods that support the cognitive abilities and physiological health of employees at a high level.

The introduction of rejuvenation technologies can significantly shorten the time required for specialist training, as younger and healthier employees acquire new knowledge faster and adapt more quickly to changes. This, in turn, contributes to accelerating technological progress and increasing overall manufacturing efficiency.

Rapid Adaptation of Specialists

The modern world is characterized by rapid technological progress and changes in the labor market. For successful professional activity, specialists need to have high adaptability. This includes not only mastering new tools and methods of work but also rethinking outdated approaches in the face of constant change.

One of the key problems is the decline in cognitive abilities, which is often observed with age. Brain aging is accompanied by slower information processing, impaired memory, and reduced learning ability. This limits the ability of specialists to respond quickly to new challenges and acquire complex skills.

In modern conditions, workers face the necessity of regularly retraining, as in-demand skills can change within just a few years. For many, this becomes a serious challenge that requires considerable effort and time. However, physical and mental health plays a crucial role in the success of such training.

Rejuvenation technologies offer a solution to this problem. By restoring cognitive and physical functions, they allow specialists to remain active participants in the labor market for decades. Moreover, maintaining youth and energy helps increase self-confidence and motivation to learn.

Regularly updating physiological characteristics to the level of a young organism can become a strategic advantage for the economy. This would not only reduce training and retraining costs but also accelerate the introduction of innovations due to greater flexibility and adaptability of the workforce. As a result, rejuvenation technologies could become the foundation for building a stable and highly effective labor system of the future.

Space Physiology

Long-duration space missions represent one of the most complex challenges for science and technology. Missions that may last hundreds or even thousands of years require maintaining the health and functionality of the crew throughout the mission. The main problem is aging, which is accompanied by a decrease in physical endurance, cognitive function, and an increased risk of developing chronic diseases.

The space environment itself exacerbates these processes. Prolonged exposure to microgravity leads to the loss of muscle and bone mass, changes in the cardiovascular system, and a decrease in immune function. Radiation exposure in outer space significantly increases the likelihood of mutations and related diseases, including cancer. These factors make the task of maintaining crew health even more urgent.

Modern rejuvenation technologies could become the key solution for ensuring the long-term viability of astronauts.

Periodic updates of physiological characteristics to the level of a young organism would not only slow down the aging processes but also restore lost functions. For example, restoring muscle mass, improving cognitive abilities, and strengthening the immune system would help astronauts effectively handle tasks even under extreme conditions.

Moreover, rejuvenation technologies could be integrated with other life support systems such as gene therapy and bioengineering implants. This would create a comprehensive approach to maintaining the health and performance of the crew. In the future, such solutions could become an integral part of preparation for interstellar missions, opening new horizons for space exploration.

Core Principles of Eternal Youth

Cellular Regeneration

Aging is a complex biological process characterized by the gradual deterioration of cellular function. Among the most promising strategies for combating aging are gene editing and telomere extension, both of which aim to repair, rejuvenate, and maintain cellular health. These advanced technologies hold the potential to significantly extend lifespan and improve the quality of life.

Gene editing refers to the manipulation of an organism's genetic material to correct mutations, repair damaged DNA, or introduce beneficial genes. One of the most powerful tools in gene editing is CRISPR-Cas9, a technology that allows for precise, targeted modifications to the genome. This tool has revolutionized molecular biology by making genetic modifications faster, cheaper, and more accurate than ever before.

In the context of aging, gene editing can help in several ways. First, it can repair genetic damage that accumulates over time. As cells divide, errors in DNA replication can occur, leading to mutations that contribute to aging and disease. By using gene editing to fix these mutations, it is possible to maintain the integrity of the genome and prevent the cellular decline associated with aging.

Another significant application of gene editing in the context of longevity is the introduction of beneficial genes. For example, scientists can use gene editing to activate or enhance genes associated with DNA repair, cellular rejuvenation, and longevity. By optimizing the expression

of these genes, it may be possible to slow down the aging process at a cellular level, improving tissue regeneration and promoting healthier, longer lives.

Telomeres are repetitive sequences of DNA located at the ends of chromosomes. They serve as protective caps, preventing the loss of important genetic information during cell division. However, each time a cell divides, the telomeres shorten, and once they become too short, the cell enters a state of senescence or dies. This telomere shortening is closely linked to aging and age-related diseases, as it limits the number of times a cell can divide and regenerate.

One of the most exciting avenues for combating aging involves telomere extension—the process of lengthening or maintaining telomeres to preserve cellular function. This can be achieved through the activation of telomerase, an enzyme that adds repetitive DNA sequences to the ends of chromosomes, counteracting the shortening of telomeres. In some organisms, telomerase activity is naturally high, which allows for longer lifespans and greater regenerative capacity.

Scientists have already been able to induce telomerase activity in certain human cells, leading to the extension of telomeres and the rejuvenation of cellular function. By reactivating telomerase or introducing genes that mimic its activity, researchers hope to delay cellular aging, increase the number of times a cell can divide, and ultimately extend the lifespan of tissues and organs.

While gene editing and telomere extension each hold promise on their own, their combined potential is even greater. By simultaneously repairing genetic damage and extending telomeres, it may be possible to create a holistic approach to combating aging. Gene editing could not only fix the underlying genetic mutations that cause aging-related diseases but also enhance the cellular machinery responsible for maintaining telomere length.

The synergy between these technologies could result in rejuvenated tissues, healthier organs, and improved regenerative capacities, potentially allowing humans to live longer, more vibrant lives. Furthermore, the ability to edit genes and extend telomeres could offer new treatments for age-related diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and heart disease, significantly improving quality of life for aging populations.

Despite the enormous potential of gene editing and telomere extension, these technologies raise important

ethical questions. The ability to manipulate the human genome and extend telomere length could lead to unintended consequences, such as genetic inequalities, overpopulation, and unforeseen side effects. As such, researchers and policymakers must carefully consider the implications of these technologies, balancing their potential benefits with the need for regulation and oversight.

Gene editing and telomere extension represent the forefront of scientific research aimed at extending lifespan and reversing the effects of aging. By repairing genetic damage, enhancing DNA repair mechanisms, and maintaining the integrity of chromosomes through telomere extension, these technologies offer promising solutions to the challenges of aging. While ethical considerations remain, the potential for a future where aging can be significantly delayed or reversed is rapidly becoming a reality. As research in this field progresses, the dream of achieving longevity and enhanced vitality may one day be within our grasp.

Enhancing Longevity and Cellular Health

Metabolism is the complex set of chemical reactions that occur within living organisms to maintain life. It involves converting food into energy, building proteins and cells, and removing waste products. As we age, our metabolism naturally slows down, leading to a reduction in energy production, accumulation of cellular waste, and an overall decline in health. Metabolic optimization is the process of enhancing the efficiency and function of these metabolic pathways, with the goal of combating aging, promoting longevity, and maintaining cellular health.

Mitochondria are the powerhouses of the cell, responsible for producing energy in the form of adenosine triphosphate (ATP). However, as we age, mitochondrial function tends to decline, resulting in reduced energy production and an increase in oxidative stress. This can lead to cellular damage, which accelerates aging and contributes to age-related diseases.

One of the key strategies in metabolic optimization is enhancing mitochondrial function. By improving the efficiency of mitochondrial energy production, cells can sustain their activity for longer periods, helping to preserve tissue and organ health. Various interventions, such as exercise, caloric restriction, and certain supplements like NAD⁺ precursors and Coenzyme Q10,

have been shown to improve mitochondrial function and support energy production, ultimately promoting longevity.

Another aspect of metabolic optimization is the removal of cellular waste. As cells age, they accumulate dysfunctional proteins, lipids, and other waste materials that can impair cellular function. These damaged molecules can lead to inflammation, oxidative stress, and the onset of diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.

One promising approach to clearing cellular waste is the use of autophagy, a natural process in which cells break down and remove damaged components. Autophagy is critical for maintaining cellular homeostasis and preventing the buildup of toxic waste. By enhancing autophagy, either through caloric restriction, intermittent fasting, or the use of autophagy-boosting supplements, the body can better manage waste accumulation, improving overall health and slowing the aging process.

Additionally, the use of senolytic drugs—which target and remove senescent cells (cells that are old and non-functional)—has shown promise in clearing out dysfunctional cells and rejuvenating tissues. Removing these cells from the body may reduce inflammation and improve the regenerative capacity of tissues.

Metabolic optimization also involves the regulation of various hormones and nutrient pathways that influence aging and overall health. Hormones like insulin, growth hormone, and sex hormones play a central role in metabolism, and their balance is essential for maintaining cellular function.

One example is insulin sensitivity, which decreases with age, leading to metabolic disorders like type 2 diabetes. Improving insulin sensitivity through lifestyle changes, such as a healthy diet and regular exercise, can help prevent these issues and optimize metabolism.

Furthermore, certain nutrients and supplements can enhance metabolic pathways associated with longevity. For example, resveratrol and curcumin are compounds found in plants that have been shown to activate sirtuins, proteins that regulate cellular repair, inflammation, and longevity. These nutrients help maintain metabolic health by supporting the body's natural defenses against aging.

Metabolic optimization is a key strategy for slowing aging, improving cellular function, and enhancing longevity. By improving mitochondrial function, clearing cellular waste,

and optimizing hormonal and nutrient pathways, it is possible to boost metabolism and support the body's ability to repair and regenerate tissues. As research in this area progresses, metabolic optimization could become a powerful tool in the fight against aging, enabling people to live healthier, longer lives.

Precision Medicine and AI

In the pursuit of extending human longevity and enhancing the quality of life, precision medicine and artificial intelligence (AI) have emerged as powerful tools. These two fields are revolutionizing the way we approach healthcare, moving away from the traditional "one-size-fits-all" model toward more personalized and targeted treatments. Together, they promise to improve outcomes, prevent disease, and slow down aging, offering exciting possibilities for enhancing both lifespan and healthspan (the period of life spent in good health).

Precision medicine is an innovative approach to medical treatment that takes into account individual differences in people's genes, environments, and lifestyles. Unlike the conventional method of using standard treatments for all patients with the same condition, precision medicine customizes treatment plans tailored to each patient's unique genetic profile and other personal factors.

For example, precision medicine can be used to identify genetic mutations that might predispose individuals to certain diseases, such as cancer, diabetes, or Alzheimer's. By understanding the genetic underpinnings of disease, doctors can prescribe treatments that target specific mutations or pathways, rather than relying on generalized therapies. This can lead to more effective treatments with fewer side effects, as the therapy is tailored to the specific biology of the patient.

In the context of aging and longevity, precision medicine aims to slow or even reverse the aging process by targeting the biological mechanisms that underlie age-related diseases. These mechanisms can include cellular damage, inflammation, and genetic mutations that accumulate over time, contributing to the physical decline associated with aging.

Artificial intelligence plays a central role in the advancement of precision medicine by enabling the analysis of vast amounts of complex data. AI can quickly process and identify patterns in genetic, clinical, and lifestyle data that would be impossible for humans to detect on their own. These insights allow healthcare

professionals to make more informed decisions, predict health outcomes, and tailor treatment plans that are uniquely suited to the individual.

One of the primary applications of AI in precision medicine is in the analysis of genetic data. The human genome contains billions of data points, and understanding how genetic variations contribute to diseases and aging requires sophisticated computational tools. AI algorithms can analyze this genetic information, identifying mutations or variations that are linked to specific diseases, drug responses, or aging processes.

For instance, AI can be used to predict the likelihood of a person developing conditions like cancer, cardiovascular disease, or neurodegenerative disorders based on their genetic makeup. This allows for earlier diagnosis and more targeted prevention strategies. Moreover, AI can help identify gene-editing targets, facilitating the development of therapies that modify genes to prevent or reverse disease.

In addition to genetic data, AI is instrumental in analyzing other forms of health data, such as medical imaging, electronic health records (EHRs), wearable devices, and lab results. These sources of data provide a comprehensive view of an individual's health, from their daily activity levels to their physiological responses to various treatments.

By integrating and analyzing this big data, AI can uncover patterns in how lifestyle choices, environmental exposures, and genetic factors interact to influence aging and disease development. This can lead to predictive models that forecast an individual's risk of developing age-related diseases, enabling early intervention and personalized prevention plans.

For example, AI algorithms can process information from wearables like fitness trackers and continuous glucose monitors, helping doctors monitor patients' real-time health data and detect early signs of metabolic dysfunction or cognitive decline. By catching these conditions early, it may be possible to prevent or slow down their progression, enhancing both lifespan and healthspan.

AI is also playing a pivotal role in the development of new drugs and therapies. Traditionally, drug discovery is a lengthy and expensive process, with high failure rates. However, AI has the potential to accelerate this process by

predicting how different compounds will interact with the body's biological systems.

In precision medicine, AI is used to design targeted therapies that can treat diseases at the molecular level. By analyzing genetic data and understanding the molecular basis of diseases, AI can suggest new drug candidates that specifically target disease-causing genes or proteins. This allows for more efficient drug development, and the potential to create treatments that are more effective and have fewer side effects.

AI also aids in clinical trials, by analyzing patient data and identifying the most suitable candidates for specific trials. This can improve the likelihood of trial success and reduce the time needed to bring new therapies to market.

AI is not just transforming how we treat diseases—it's also enabling breakthroughs in longevity research. By analyzing data related to aging and longevity, AI can identify biological markers of aging and predict how individuals age. These insights can inform interventions aimed at slowing or even reversing the aging process.

Biomarkers are measurable indicators of biological processes that reflect the underlying aging process. AI can analyze various types of data, including genetic, epigenetic, proteomic, and metabolomic data, to identify biomarkers of aging that correlate with disease risk, cellular function, and overall health. This information can help scientists develop better anti-aging therapies and lifestyle recommendations that promote healthier aging. For example, AI has been used to discover biomarkers related to telomere length, mitochondrial function, and cellular senescence (when cells stop dividing and become dysfunctional), all of which are associated with aging and age-related diseases.

AI is also facilitating research into senolytics, a class of drugs that target and remove senescent cells—cells that no longer function properly but resist being cleared by the body's natural mechanisms. These senescent cells accumulate with age and contribute to inflammation, tissue degeneration, and the development of age-related diseases.

AI can help identify potential senolytic compounds by analyzing biological data and predicting how certain drugs or molecules will interact with senescent cells. By eliminating these cells, researchers believe that it may be possible to rejuvenate tissues, reduce inflammation, and slow the aging process.

As AI continues to analyze vast datasets, it has the potential to create highly personalized interventions for aging. By integrating genetic information, lifestyle data, and biological markers of aging, AI could provide customized health plans tailored to the unique needs of each individual.

For example, AI could recommend specific diets, exercise regimens, supplements, or therapies designed to slow down the aging process and extend healthspan. This personalized approach could help individuals age in a healthier way, preventing or mitigating the effects of age-related diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and dementia.

Ethical Considerations in Precision Medicine and AI

While the potential of precision medicine and AI in healthcare is vast, there are important ethical considerations that need to be addressed. The use of personal genetic and health data raises concerns about privacy and data security. There is also the risk of creating genetic inequalities, where access to personalized treatments is limited to certain populations or individuals with the resources to afford them.

Moreover, the potential for genetic modification—such as gene editing to enhance human traits or prevent aging—raises profound ethical questions about the limits of human intervention in the natural aging process. As these technologies continue to evolve, it is essential to establish clear guidelines and ethical frameworks to ensure that they are used responsibly and equitably.

The integration of precision medicine and AI represents a transformative shift in healthcare, offering personalized treatments, early disease detection, and the potential for extending both lifespan and healthspan. By harnessing the power of genetic data, big data analytics, and AI-driven insights, healthcare can be tailored to the individual, improving outcomes and minimizing side effects. As these technologies continue to evolve, they could pave the way for a future where aging is no longer an inevitable decline, but a manageable process that can be slowed, reversed, or even prevented.

As we age, our bodies undergo numerous physiological changes that impact our overall health, vitality, and longevity. Among the most important factors influencing

these changes are hormonal and molecular balance, which play a crucial role in regulating various bodily functions such as metabolism, immune response, tissue repair, and cellular health. Maintaining an optimal hormonal and molecular environment can help mitigate the effects of aging, delay the onset of age-related diseases, and promote a longer, healthier life. In this article, we explore the significance of hormonal and molecular balance, the mechanisms involved, and how interventions can help maintain youthfulness and vitality.

Hormones are chemical messengers that regulate many vital processes in the body, including growth, metabolism, sexual function, and mood. As we age, the production and regulation of certain hormones begin to decline, leading to a cascade of changes that contribute to aging and the onset of age-related diseases. For example, the decline in growth hormone (GH), estrogen, testosterone, and insulin with age is associated with reduced muscle mass, decreased bone density, slower metabolism, cognitive decline, and other aging-related issues.

Growth hormone is produced by the pituitary gland and plays a critical role in growth, tissue repair, and cellular regeneration. GH stimulates the production of insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1), which is essential for muscle and bone health. As we age, the secretion of GH and IGF-1 diminishes, leading to decreased muscle mass, weaker bones, and slower recovery from injury. Restoring growth hormone levels through hormone replacement therapy (HRT) or lifestyle interventions such as exercise, proper sleep, and dietary optimization has shown potential in improving muscle mass, bone density, and overall vitality in older individuals.

Sex hormones like estrogen and testosterone are also crucial for maintaining health and longevity. Estrogen, primarily present in women, is essential for regulating the menstrual cycle, bone density, and cardiovascular health. Testosterone, found in higher levels in men, contributes to muscle strength, bone health, libido, and cognitive function.

As we age, the production of both estrogen and testosterone declines, leading to symptoms such as hot flashes, reduced libido, muscle weakness, and osteoporosis. In women, menopause marks a significant drop in estrogen levels, while men experience a gradual decrease in testosterone levels, sometimes referred to as andropause. Hormone replacement therapy (HRT), which involves restoring optimal levels of sex hormones, has

been shown to alleviate many of these symptoms and improve overall well-being in both men and women.

Insulin is a hormone produced by the pancreas that regulates blood sugar levels and plays a key role in metabolism. As we age, insulin sensitivity tends to decline, which can lead to insulin resistance and an increased risk of type 2 diabetes, obesity, and metabolic syndrome. Insulin resistance occurs when the body's cells become less responsive to insulin, requiring the pancreas to produce more of it to regulate blood sugar.

Improving insulin sensitivity through dietary interventions such as low-carbohydrate or intermittent fasting diets, regular physical activity, and weight management can help delay or prevent metabolic diseases and reduce the risk of aging-related complications.

Molecular Pathways and Aging

In addition to hormones, various molecular pathways regulate the aging process and are involved in cellular repair, stress response, and longevity. These molecular mechanisms influence how our cells age and how well they can repair damage caused by stressors such as oxidative damage, inflammation, and DNA mutations. By maintaining an optimal molecular environment, we can potentially slow the aging process and promote healthier, longer lives.

Sirtuins are a family of proteins that regulate various cellular processes, including DNA repair, inflammation, metabolism, and longevity. They are activated by NAD⁺, a molecule that plays a critical role in energy production and maintaining cellular function. As we age, NAD⁺ levels decrease, which can impair the function of sirtuins and contribute to cellular aging.

By increasing NAD⁺ levels, either through dietary interventions (such as nicotinamide riboside (NR) or nicotinamide mononucleotide (NMN) supplements) or exercise, we can activate sirtuins and enhance cellular repair processes. This can help reduce oxidative damage, improve mitochondrial function, and protect against age-related diseases such as Alzheimer's, cardiovascular disease, and cancer.

Autophagy is a process through which cells break down and remove damaged or dysfunctional components, such as proteins and organelles. This natural "cellular housekeeping" mechanism is essential for maintaining

cellular homeostasis and preventing the accumulation of harmful materials that can lead to age-related diseases.

As we age, autophagy tends to decline, leading to the buildup of damaged proteins and organelles. This accumulation can cause cellular dysfunction and contribute to the development of diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and other neurodegenerative disorders.

Interventions that promote autophagy, such as caloric restriction, intermittent fasting, and certain compounds like resveratrol and rapamycin, have been shown to stimulate this process and improve cellular health. By enhancing autophagy, we can help the body maintain healthy cells, reduce inflammation, and support the regenerative capacity of tissues.

Telomeres are repetitive sequences of DNA at the ends of chromosomes that protect genetic material during cell division. As cells divide, telomeres shorten, and once they reach a critical length, cells enter a state of senescence (where they stop dividing) or undergo programmed cell death. Telomere shortening is associated with aging and age-related diseases.

Telomerase is an enzyme that can extend telomeres by adding DNA repeats to their ends, effectively preventing their shortening. Although telomerase is active in certain cells, such as stem cells and germ cells, its activity decreases with age. Restoring or enhancing telomerase activity could potentially delay cellular aging and extend the lifespan of cells.

While the use of telomerase activators is still under investigation, some studies have shown promising results in reversing telomere shortening and rejuvenating cells. By maintaining telomere integrity, we can potentially delay the onset of age-related diseases and enhance longevity.

Interventions to Restore Hormonal and Molecular Balance

Given the significant impact of hormonal and molecular balance on aging, several interventions are available to help restore this equilibrium and promote longevity. These include:

1. **Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT):** Replenishing declining hormones like estrogen, testosterone, and growth hormone can alleviate symptoms of aging and improve overall health. However, HRT should be carefully monitored by

healthcare providers due to potential risks and side effects.

2. **Nutritional Interventions:** Diet plays a key role in maintaining hormonal and molecular balance. A balanced diet rich in antioxidants, healthy fats, and essential vitamins can support hormonal health and enhance molecular pathways like autophagy and sirtuin activity.
3. **Exercise:** Regular physical activity, particularly resistance training and aerobic exercises, can improve insulin sensitivity, stimulate growth hormone production, and activate autophagy. Exercise also boosts mitochondrial function and promotes the release of endorphins, which improve mood and reduce stress.
4. **Supplements:** Certain supplements, such as nicotinamide riboside (NR), resveratrol, curcumin, and Coenzyme Q10, have been shown to support molecular pathways that regulate aging and enhance longevity. These compounds may help maintain telomere length, activate sirtuins, and improve mitochondrial function.
5. **Lifestyle Changes:** Incorporating stress management techniques such as mindfulness, meditation, and adequate sleep can help regulate hormones like cortisol, which tends to increase with age and contribute to inflammation and oxidative stress.

Maintaining hormonal and molecular balance is crucial for optimizing health, delaying aging, and extending longevity. By addressing the decline in key hormones such as growth hormone, estrogen, testosterone, and insulin, and by supporting molecular pathways like sirtuins, autophagy, and telomere maintenance, we can significantly improve our healthspan and slow the effects of aging. Through targeted interventions such as hormone replacement therapy, nutritional optimization, exercise, and supplements, individuals can restore balance and promote a longer, healthier life. However, it is essential to approach these interventions with caution, ensuring that they are tailored to the individual's needs and guided by healthcare professionals.

Ethical and Philosophical Dimensions of Longevity and Eternal Youth

The pursuit of eternal youth and extended longevity through scientific advancements such as gene editing, stem cell therapies, hormonal optimization, and AI presents a range of ethical and philosophical dilemmas. While these technologies hold the potential to

dramatically improve human health, extend lifespan, and enhance the quality of life, they also raise significant questions about what it means to be human, the implications of manipulating the biological processes of aging, and the societal consequences of such advancements.

This article explores the ethical and philosophical dimensions of longevity research, focusing on issues such as access and equity, the definition of human identity, the impact on societal structures, and the potential risks of these transformative technologies.

One of the most immediate ethical concerns surrounding the pursuit of eternal youth is access to these technologies. The advancements in longevity science and regenerative medicine, while promising, are often expensive and may remain out of reach for large segments of the population. If these technologies become available only to the wealthy, they could exacerbate existing social inequalities, creating a situation where those with financial means can access life-extending treatments while others are left behind.

The disparity in healthcare access already exists in many parts of the world, where wealthier populations enjoy better healthcare services and outcomes. The introduction of life-extending therapies could create a new tier of social stratification, where a small elite lives significantly longer and healthier lives, while others continue to suffer from age-related diseases and conditions. This could intensify class divides and lead to a more divided society.

The question of who controls the technology also becomes critical. If only a few corporations or governments control access to life-extending treatments, they could wield enormous power over global populations, leading to the monopolization of human health and the potential exploitation of vulnerable populations.

Ethicists argue that universal access to life-extending technologies should be a key consideration as these innovations develop. Ensuring that everyone has an equal opportunity to benefit from the advancements in longevity science, regardless of their socioeconomic status, is vital for creating a more just society. Governments, international organizations, and research bodies need to work together to establish frameworks for the equitable distribution of these technologies.

Furthermore, public health systems will need to be restructured to accommodate these new therapies. Universal healthcare policies that prioritize equitable access to innovations and prevent the exacerbation of inequalities could be one way to address this challenge. The focus should be on creating a global consensus on how to manage these technologies in a way that benefits humanity as a whole.

The Definition of Humanity and the Human Experience

One of the most profound philosophical questions raised by the pursuit of eternal youth is the impact of these technologies on the definition of what it means to be human. Historically, aging and mortality have been fundamental aspects of the human experience. The process of growing older, with its inevitable decline and death, is deeply woven into cultural, religious, and philosophical conceptions of life. If we are able to significantly slow aging or extend life indefinitely, what does that mean for our understanding of human nature?

Aging is often seen as a process that imparts wisdom, maturity, and experience. As people age, they accumulate knowledge, engage in reflection, and build relationships that define their identities. If eternal youth becomes achievable, there is a concern that the social and psychological dynamics that come with aging might be undermined. How would our societies change if everyone remained physically youthful but remained emotionally and psychologically the same? Would the value we place on relationships, experiences, and personal growth change?

Moreover, the fear of immortality arises in philosophical circles. Does living forever or even for an extended period of time negate the purpose of life itself? Many philosophers have argued that mortality gives life meaning; the limited nature of time creates urgency, motivating individuals to make meaningful choices and achieve their potential. If humans were no longer constrained by time, would this lead to a loss of the drive to achieve, create, or innovate? Would people become complacent, or would society stagnate in a world where personal and collective goals became less pressing?

While these concerns are valid, others argue that the capacity to extend life does not necessarily undermine the essence of the human experience. Instead, it could allow humans to explore and expand their potential in ways never before possible. If aging were no longer a limiting

factor, individuals could pursue lifelong learning, continuous personal growth, and perhaps experience multiple careers or lifetimes of achievement.

It is also important to consider that individuals define their own sense of purpose. The idea that we should define human identity by the finite nature of life may not hold universally. Some people may choose to focus on their contributions to society, others on personal enrichment, and still others on fostering relationships. The idea of eternal youth could expand human opportunity, creating new ways to live, engage, and interact, rather than diminishing life's meaning.

The Societal Impact of Longer Lifespans

If the pursuit of eternal youth becomes a reality, society itself will undergo significant transformations. The prospect of individuals living for centuries raises fundamental questions about how human societies, economies, and political structures will adapt. A radically longer lifespan could have profound effects on demographic trends, resource distribution, and intergenerational relationships.

One of the most pressing concerns associated with extended lifespans is the potential for overpopulation. If people live significantly longer lives and continue to reproduce at current rates, the planet's population could increase dramatically, leading to strain on resources such as food, water, and energy. Current estimates of population growth indicate that the global population could reach 10 billion by 2050, with the majority of growth occurring in less developed regions.

Extended lifespans would exacerbate these issues, potentially leading to unsustainable consumption and environmental degradation. The aging population would also require more healthcare resources, which could be difficult to meet in regions where healthcare systems are already under strain.

Another societal impact of extended longevity is the potential for intergenerational conflict. If individuals live for several centuries, the current generation may continue to hold political, economic, and social power well into their later years, creating discontent among younger generations. There could be struggles for political and economic control, as the older generations may hold onto power and resources for longer periods, preventing younger people from entering leadership positions.

At the same time, the nature of family structures could change. With many individuals living for hundreds of years, family dynamics may shift, and the notion of inheritance and the distribution of wealth could take on new significance. If the elderly live longer, they may want to continue working, delaying the retirement of older individuals and potentially creating challenges for younger generations in finding work or advancing in their careers.

A significant philosophical and ethical dilemma arises when considering the genetic modification and biological enhancement of humans to promote eternal youth or enhanced longevity. Technologies such as CRISPR gene editing raise questions about the extent to which humans should intervene in their biological makeup. Should we modify genes to prevent aging, extend life, or enhance human abilities?

Proponents of genetic modification argue that such interventions could provide people with healthier lives, free from debilitating diseases, and allow for better adaptation to environmental challenges. However, critics argue that genetic modification crosses ethical boundaries and risks the creation of a genetic underclass, where only the wealthy can afford enhancements, leading to greater social division and the creation of genetic inequality.

Moreover, some argue that human enhancement could lead to unintended consequences, including unforeseen genetic disorders or ethical dilemmas related to defining what it means to be "human." As we manipulate the very essence of our biology, we must grapple with the question of whether this represents a step forward for humanity or an ethical transgression.

Despite the promise of genetic interventions, there is always the possibility of unintended consequences. Even with technologies like CRISPR, editing the human genome may introduce new mutations, or lead to the expression of harmful traits that could cause long-term health problems. We must consider the potential risks and ethical responsibility in manipulating genes for longevity.

The pursuit of eternal youth through scientific and technological advancements is undeniably enticing, promising a future in which aging no longer determines the course of our lives. However, it is essential to approach these technologies with careful ethical and philosophical consideration. While the potential benefits are vast, they also carry significant risks, including exacerbating inequality, redefining human identity, and reshaping societal structures.

As we move forward with these advancements, equity, justice, and responsibility must be at the forefront of the conversation. We must ensure that these technologies are used in ways that benefit humanity as a whole, preserving the dignity, purpose, and meaning of life while mitigating the potential risks. Only through careful ethical deliberation and thoughtful implementation can we navigate the complexities of eternal youth and create a future that is fair, just, and meaningful for all.

Discussion

The study of aging and the quest for rejuvenation have made significant strides in recent years, particularly with advancements in the field of stem cell biology. Among the various approaches being explored, the removal of aged stem cells, the induction of rejuvenation through the reprogramming of one's own stem cells, and the restoration of a balance in stem cell regeneration are three promising technologies that offer potential for combating the aging process and restoring youthful vitality. In this discussion, we will explore each of these approaches in detail, focusing on their technological advancements, underlying mechanisms, challenges, and future possibilities.

Removal of Aged Stem Cells

The idea of removing aged, dysfunctional stem cells from the body to rejuvenate tissue and improve health is based on the observation that stem cells, like all other cells in the body, age over time. Stem cells are responsible for maintaining and regenerating tissues throughout life, but as they age, their ability to proliferate and differentiate diminishes. Aged stem cells not only contribute less to tissue regeneration but can also become senescent, which means they stop dividing and may release harmful molecules that disrupt the healthy functioning of surrounding cells.

Aged stem cells are characterized by several hallmarks of aging, such as:

- **Telomere shortening:** As stem cells divide, their telomeres (protective caps on chromosomes) shorten. Once telomeres reach a critical length, stem cells enter a state of permanent growth arrest or senescence.
- **Accumulation of DNA damage:** With age, stem cells accumulate genetic mutations, which impair their ability to function properly.
- **Mitochondrial dysfunction:** Aging stem cells experience impaired mitochondrial function,

which affects their energy production and overall health.

- **Epigenetic changes:** Over time, stem cells undergo changes in gene expression regulation, leading to alterations in their regenerative potential.

The accumulation of these changes makes aged stem cells less effective at repairing and regenerating tissues, contributing to age-related diseases such as osteoarthritis, cardiovascular disease, and neurodegeneration.

The removal of aged or senescent stem cells is an emerging approach known as senolysis. Senolytic therapies aim to eliminate these dysfunctional cells, thereby restoring tissue homeostasis and enhancing regenerative capacity. Various strategies for senolysis have been developed, including:

- **Drug-based senolytics:** Specific compounds, such as dasatinib and quercetin, have been identified as senolytics that can selectively target and eliminate senescent cells. These compounds induce apoptosis (cell death) in aging stem cells while sparing healthy cells.
- **Gene editing:** Technologies like CRISPR-Cas9 could be used to target and remove damaged stem cells at the genetic level. By editing genes involved in cellular senescence, researchers could promote the elimination of aged cells and restore the regenerative potential of tissues.
- **Immune-mediated senolysis:** The immune system has the ability to recognize and clear senescent cells. By boosting the immune response or enhancing the body's natural ability to clear these cells, senolytic therapies can potentially improve tissue regeneration and slow aging.

The potential of removing aged stem cells lies in its ability to enhance tissue function, reduce inflammation, and prevent the buildup of damaged cells that contribute to age-related diseases. However, this approach is still in the early stages of development. One challenge is the risk of inadvertently damaging healthy stem cells or disrupting the balance of tissue regeneration. Therefore, careful targeting and specificity are required to ensure that only dysfunctional stem cells are removed.

Induction of Rejuvenation Using One's Own Stem Cells

Another promising approach to rejuvenation involves the induction of rejuvenation in adult stem cells using a

person's own cells. The basic idea is to reprogram mature somatic cells back into a youthful, pluripotent state, thereby restoring their regenerative potential. This can be achieved through technologies like induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs), where adult cells are genetically reprogrammed to become more like embryonic stem cells.

The development of iPSCs in 2006 by Shinya Yamanaka revolutionized the field of regenerative medicine. iPSCs are created by introducing a set of genes, called the Yamanaka factors, into adult somatic cells, such as skin or blood cells. These factors reprogram the cells into a pluripotent state, meaning they have the ability to differentiate into any cell type in the body. By reprogramming a person's own cells, researchers can generate iPSCs that are genetically identical to the donor, eliminating the risk of immune rejection.

Once iPSCs are generated, they can be differentiated into various types of tissues and used for tissue repair and regeneration. This approach offers several potential advantages:

- **Autologous cells:** Using a person's own cells eliminates the risk of immune rejection, which is a significant problem with organ and tissue transplantation.
- **Rejuvenation of aged tissues:** By using iPSCs to regenerate tissues, it may be possible to reverse age-related degeneration and rejuvenate organs such as the heart, liver, and brain.
- **Treatment of age-related diseases:** iPSCs can be used to generate replacement tissues or even entire organs for patients suffering from age-related conditions such as heart failure or neurodegenerative diseases.

Despite their promise, there are still significant challenges associated with using iPSCs for rejuvenation:

- **Tumorigenicity:** iPSCs have the potential to form tumors if not properly controlled. This is because they can differentiate into a variety of cell types, some of which could become cancerous.
- **Efficient reprogramming:** Reprogramming adult cells into iPSCs is a complex and inefficient process. Finding ways to improve the reprogramming efficiency and safety is a key area of research.
- **Ethical concerns:** The use of iPSCs raises ethical issues related to cloning and genetic manipulation, especially when considering the potential for germline editing.

Restoration of Stem Cell Balance and Regeneration in the Body

In a healthy, young organism, stem cells maintain a delicate balance between self-renewal and differentiation, allowing tissues to regenerate at an optimal pace. As organisms age, this balance is disrupted, and stem cells become less efficient at dividing and repairing tissues. One of the main goals of regenerative medicine is to restore the balance of stem cell activity, ensuring that stem cells can continue to regenerate tissues at a rate similar to that of a young organism.

As the body ages, the regenerative capacity of stem cells declines due to various factors:

- **Impaired self-renewal:** Aging stem cells lose their ability to self-renew effectively, leading to a depletion of the stem cell pool and reduced regenerative capacity.
- **Increased inflammation:** Chronic low-grade inflammation, also known as inflammaging, can negatively affect stem cell function. Inflammatory cytokines can impair the ability of stem cells to proliferate and differentiate.
- **Changes in the niche:** The stem cell niche, the microenvironment that supports stem cells, also changes with age, making it less supportive of stem cell function. Age-related changes in the niche can lead to reduced stem cell activity and tissue regeneration.

Several strategies are being explored to restore the balance of stem cell activity and promote efficient tissue regeneration:

- **Stem cell transplantation:** Transplanting healthy, young stem cells into an aging body can help restore the regenerative capacity of tissues. This approach can be combined with gene editing to enhance the function of the transplanted cells.
- **Reprogramming and rejuvenation:** As mentioned earlier, induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) or other forms of reprogramming can help rejuvenate stem cells and restore their regenerative potential. This could involve directly reprogramming aged stem cells or rejuvenating them in the lab before transplantation.
- **Molecular interventions:** Certain molecules, such as NAD+ boosters, sirtuin activators, and growth factors, have been identified as potential agents to enhance stem cell function. These interventions can help restore the balance of

Challenges and Future Directions

Restoring stem cell balance is a complex task that requires not only replenishing the stem cell pool but also ensuring that the microenvironment is conducive to stem cell function. Future research will focus on understanding the precise molecular mechanisms that govern stem cell activity and how to intervene in a way that mimics the regenerative capacity of a young organism. Additionally, precision medicine techniques, such as genetic profiling and AI-driven optimization, could be used to personalize stem cell therapies and enhance their effectiveness.

Conclusion

The technologies focused on removing aged stem cells, inducing rejuvenation from one's own cells, and restoring stem cell balance represent some of the most promising frontiers in the fight against aging and age-related diseases. These approaches hold the potential to not only extend human lifespan but also to enhance healthspan, allowing people to live longer, healthier, and more vibrant lives. However, much work remains to be done to overcome the challenges and ethical concerns associated with these technologies. As science continues to evolve, the future of regenerative medicine holds incredible promise for rejuvenating the body and restoring youthfulness at a cellular level.

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