

# **Overview of BCAA Injection**

# **Ingredients of BCAA Injection:**

L-Isoleucine / L-Leucine / L-Valine

## **General Information:**

There are nine essential amino acids which are not made by the body and therefore must be obtained via the diet. 3 of the 9 essential amino acids are:

Isoleucine, Leucine, Valine

These are called branched-chain amino acids (BCAA) because their molecular structure is *branched*. While all other amino acids are broken down in the liver; BCAA are metabolized primarily in lean body mass tissue. Because of this, they could help improve exercise performance and reduce the rate of lean body mass break down.

BCAA supplementation may promote lean body mass protein synthesis and also increase lean body mass in individuals who consume a low protein diet. In one study, leucine and valine were found to cause a significant suppression in body weight loss in mice with *cachexia* (body-wasting). Both of these BCAA caused a significant increase in muscle tissue, through an increase in protein synthesis and a decrease in degradation.

BCAA supplementation may also be effective in preventing fatigue in athletes and physically active people by halting a decline in serum BCAA levels which can occur during physical exertion. A decline in serum BCAA levels typically causes the influx of tryptophan into the brain, which is followed by increased serotonin production - which may result in fatigue.

The amino acid leucine plays a critical role in the synthesis of muscle protein. Isoleucine plays a vital role by inducing cells to store more glycogen. Valine functions synergistically with the other two BCAA, to encourage normal growth, repair bodily tissues, regulate blood sugar levels, and supply the body with energy. Valine also stimulates the central nervous system and is required for healthy mental function.

**Isoleucine:** Isoleucine is the BCAA best known for its role in increasing endurance, helping to repair lean tissue, and encouraging blood clotting at the site of injury. This BCAA has been shown to provide potential benefit for athletes because its primary role in the body is to increase energy and help recovery from strenuous physical activity.

An isoleucine deficiency can produce symptoms like those of *hypoglycemia* (low blood sugar), and can include: Headaches, Dizziness, Fatigue, Depression, Confusion, Irritability



**Leucine:** Leucine works with the BCAA isoleucine and valine to help repair lean mass, regulate blood sugar, and maintain the body's energy levels. L-leucine has also shown to temporarily increase the production of growth hormone.

Leucine is also an effective BCAA for preventing lean body mass loss because it is metabolized to glucose more quickly than either isoleucine or valine. Increased available glucose inhibits the body having to break down lean body mass for energy during intense exertion. Leucine is also involved in healing processes in bones, skin, and lean body mass tissue after traumatic injury. Because of this leucine is often administered in nutritional support for people recovering from surgery.

**Valine:** Valine may help in removing excess nitrogen from the liver and in transporting nitrogen to other tissues in the body as required. Valine has also been studied as an adjunctive nutritional support in people with liver and gallbladder disease caused by alcoholism or drug abuse. Valine has also been studied for reversing alcohol-related brain damage.

### What are the Precautions When Taking This Medicine?

According to the most recent research studies, daily intake of BCAA substantially in excess of the BCAA contained in dietary sources appears to be safe in humans. Excessive oral consumption can cause gastrointestinal discomfort.

### Who Shouldn't Take This Medicine?

People who suffer from Maple Sugar Urine Disease (a rare but potentially fatal metabolic disorder) lack an essential enzyme to break down BCAA and should not use BCAA injection. Consuming BCAA has been linked to lung failure and increased death rates when used in people with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). If you have ALS, you should not use branched-chain amino acids.

#### **Storage:**

Store this medication at 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C) and away from heat, moisture and light. Keep all medicine out of the reach of children. Throw away any unused medicine after the beyond use date. Do not flush unused medications or pour down a sink or drain.