

Can Jellyfish Keep You Healthy?

A few fun facts...

- Aequorin is a completely natural protein that comes from **jellyfish** found in our oceans
- Aequorin was discovered over 40 years ago and has long been used as a scientific tool in research labs
- Aequorin is a natural **calcium binding protein** – sopping up excess calcium in the cells of our brains – much like a sponge
- Calcium is essential for healthy brain function, but too much calcium can destroy brain cells
- Excess calcium in our brain is associated with many neurodegenerative diseases and conditions including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and stroke
- One innovative individual – Mark Underwood – realized the potential in harnessing the neuroprotective effects of aequorin and using it to slow down aging of our brain cells
- From that realization, a biopharmaceutical company called Quincy Biosciences was founded in Madison, Wisconsin
- Aequorin is the first jellyfish protein ever to be used for therapeutic purposes
- In experiments using lab rats subjected to traumatic conditions equivalent to a stroke, aequorin proved to prolong brain cells and enhance their survival
- It once took two tons (4000 pounds!) of jellyfish to produce a mere 125 milligrams of aequorin
- Now aequorin is made by recombinant protein expression so no jellyfish are sacrificed
- Prevagen – the dietary supplement form of aequorin – protects brain cells and may prolong their life
- **Remember, jellyfish for your health!**