

When general yang qi is compromised, the digestive and other Spleen Qi functions are affected. This concept is very important to grasp, as it underpins notions of avoiding cold that are throughout all Asian cultures, old wives tales, and this manual. All assimilation/circulation/fluid metabolism/congestive/ mucous/allergy problems, immune defi ciencies, bleeding and prolapse, varicosities/piles/miscarriage/ early labour/incontinence/ and floppy/flabby tissues lead on from here. So too can mental fogginess/ lethargy/exhaustions of any kind and in extreme cases, epilepsy/manias & schizophrenias.

HOW TO STRENGTHEN YOUR YANG

By paying attention to the type of advice all great grandmothers probably dispensed, is to live the ways that showed results down through the ages.

TO ENHANCE YOUR YANG QI

- Regular, warm, nourishing moderate-sized meals eaten in harmonious, calm and unhurried environment.
- Absence of extremes in any sphere of life.
- Freedom from cold penetration, which directly wastes Yang Qi (Yang Qi's function to keep body warmed).
- Adequate movement to ensure freely flowing circulation.
- Sleeping early in the night, awakening with the sun.

TO WASTE YOUR YANG QI

• Immoderate/irregularity in any form, especially exposure to cold (external or internal) through consumed fluids and foods, especially when very hungry or exhausted.

• Consuming damp-producing foods, which slow the Spleen Yang Qi's ability to transform and distil the raw materials eaten into pure essence - anything sweet, greasy, cold and/or raw foods and/or fluids, including alcohol & cola drinks.

• Allowing damp energy to form, either through living and being in damp conditions, or by immoderate eating choices, which in turn obstruct the clear digestive process.

• Becoming slothful and lethargic (consequence of damp setting in), creating sluggishness.

 Allowing any blockage to lodge on any level, distorting the orderly essence transformation and circulation processes.

