like. Examples of the cognitive impairment include mental retardation (dementia) as a cerebral disease, memory impairment, learning disability, consciousness disorder, cognitive disorder (agnosia), aphasia, apraxia, sleep disorder, headaches, movement disorder, sensory disorder, convulsive attack, anxiety neurosis as a mental disorder, hysteria, depression, hallucination, delusion and the like. It is believed that intake of the agents of the invention promotes the formation of a ketone body in the body and thus improves brain function and can treat the cognitive impairment.

[0016]

Also, because the agents of the invention are free of side effect and safe, for example, a healthy aged person can also take the agents of the invention to improve brain function and to prevent cognitive impairment. The aged person in the invention means a person at the age of 60 or older unless otherwise specifically noted. The healthy aged person in the invention means an aged person who does not have the cognitive impairment.

Summary

[0016a]

In one aspect, there is provided an agent for improving brain function, comprising: 5 to 50 parts by weight of a protein; 5 to 80 parts by weight of a medium-chain fatty acid triglyceride as a lipid; and 1 to 50 parts by weight of a carbohydrate, per 100 parts by weight.

In another aspect, there is provided a composition for improving brain function, comprising the agent for improving brain function described herein.

In another aspect, there is provided a use of the agent for improving brain function described herein for the improvement of brain function.

In another aspect, there is provided a method for improving brain function, comprising applying an effective amount of the agent for improving brain function described herein to a subject.

In another aspect, there is provided a use of the agent for improving brain function described herein for the manufacture of a composition for improving brain function.

In another aspect, there is provided an agent for preventing or treating cognitive impairment, comprising: 5 to 50 parts by weight of a protein; 5 to 80 parts by weight of a medium-chain fatty acid triglyceride as a lipid; and 1 to 50 parts by weight of a carbohydrate, per 100 parts by weight.

In another aspect, there is provided a composition for preventing or treating cognitive impairment, comprising the agent for preventing or treating cognitive impairment described herein.

In another aspect, there is provided a use of the agent for preventing or treating cognitive impairment described herein for the manufacture of a composition for preventing or treating cognitive impairment.

[0017]

That is, the invention is as follows.

[1] An agent for improving brain function, comprising: 5 to 50 parts by weight of a protein; 5 to 80 parts by weight of a medium-chain fatty acid triglyceride as a lipid; and 1 to 50 parts by weight of a carbohydrate, per 100 parts by weight.

[2] The agent for improving brain function according to the [1] above, wherein the protein is at least one kind of protein selected from the group consisting of casein, a milk protein concentrate (MPC), a whey protein concentrate (WPC), a whey protein isolate (WPI), α-lactalbumin, β-lactoglobulin and lactoferrin.

[3] The agent for improving brain function according to the [1] or [2] above which does not cause at least one of diarrhea and nausea.

[4] The agent for improving brain function according to any one of the [1] to [3] above which is for an aged person.

[5] The agent for improving brain function according to the [4] above, wherein the aged person is a healthy aged person.

[6] The agent for improving brain function according to the [4] above, wherein the aged person is an aged person having cognitive impairment.

[7] The agent for improving brain function according to any one of the [1] to [6] above which is applied in an amount of 10 g or more a day.

[8] A composition for improving brain function, comprising the agent for improving brain

A composition for preventing or treating cognitive impairment, comprising the agent for preventing or treating cognitive impairment according to any one of claims 13 to 19.

[Claim 21]

The composition according to claim 20 which is modified milk powder, liquid food, food for the sick, a supplement or enriched food.

[Claim 22]

Use of the agent for preventing or treating cognitive impairment according to any one of claims 13 to 19 for the manufacture of a composition for preventing or treating cognitive impairment.