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 a use of an agent agent comprising: 12.5 to 20 parts by weight of a protein; 35 to 45 parts by weight of a medium-chain fatty acid triglyceride as a lipid; and 7 to 12 parts by weight of a carbohydrate, per 100 parts by weight for the preparation of a medicament for improving brain function.

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

In another aspect, there is provided a use of an agent comprising: 12.5 to 20 parts by weight of a protein; 35 to 45 parts by weight of a medium-chain fatty acid triglyceride as a lipid; and 7 to 12 parts by weight of a carbohydrate, per 100 parts by weight for the preparation of a medicament 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

CLAIMS

[Claim 1]

Use of an agent comprising: 12.5 to 20 parts by weight of a protein; 35 to 45 parts by weight of a medium-chain fatty acid triglyceride as a lipid; and 7 to 12 parts by weight of a carbohydrate, per 100 parts by weight for the preparation of a medicament for improving brain function.

[Claim 2]

The use according to claim 1, 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.

[Claim 3]

The use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the agent does not cause at least one of diarrhea and nausea.

[Claim 4]

The use according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the agent to be administered is for an aged person.

[Claim 5]

The use according to claim 4, wherein the aged person is a healthy aged person.

[Claim 6]

The use according to claim 4, wherein the aged person is an aged person having cognitive impairment.

[Claim 7]

The use according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the agent is to be applied in an amount of 10 g or more a day.

[Claim 8]

The use according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the carbohydrate is at least one kind of carbohydrate selected from the group consisting of lactose, palatinose and trehalulose.

[Claim 9]

The use according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the agent is formulated as modified milk powder, liquid food, food for the sick, a supplement or enriched food.

[Claim 10]

Use of the agent as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7 for the improvement of brain function, wherein the agent is to be administered to a healthy subject.

[Claim 11]

A method for improving brain function in a healthy subject, comprising applying an effective amount of the agent as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7 to a subject.

[Claim 12]

Use of an agent comprising: 12.5 to 20 parts by weight of a protein; 35 to 45 parts by weight of a medium-chain fatty acid triglyceride as a lipid; and 7 to 12 parts by weight of a carbohydrate, per 100 parts by weight for the preparation of a medicament for preventing or treating cognitive impairment.

[Claim 13]

The use according to claim 12, 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.

[Claim 14]

The use according to claim 12 or 13, wherein the agent which does not cause at least one of diarrhea and nausea.

[Claim 15]

The use according to any one of claims 12 to 14, wherein the agent is to be administered to an aged person.

[Claim 16]

The use according to claim 15, wherein the aged person is a healthy aged person.

[Claim 17]

The use according to claim 15, wherein the aged person is an aged person having cognitive impairment.

[Claim 18]

The use according to any one of claims 12 to 17, wherein the agent is to be applied in an amount of 10 g or more a day.

[Claim 19]

The use according to any one of claims 12 to 18, wherein the carbohydrate is at least one kind of carbohydrate selected from the group consisting of lactose, palatinose and trehalulose.

[Claim 20]

The use according to any one of claims 12 to 19, wherein the agent is formulated as modified milk powder, liquid food, food for the sick, a supplement or enriched food.