

## **Children and adults have pronounced Vitamin K2 deficiency and may benefit from MK-7 supplementation**

NattoPharma announces today the publication of a new study performed in collaboration with VitaK BV, the research Institute in Maastricht, Nederland. The study is now published in *Food & Function*, 2014,xx, 1-6.

In the paper it is described that 896 blood samples have been collected from 110 healthy volunteers, 42 children and 68 adults. The samples have been used for measurements of biomarkers reflecting the vitamin K2 status in healthy volunteers by measuring the both circulating dp-ucMGP and ucOC.

From the age of 40 years the dp-uc MGP levels at baseline – before any intake of vitamin K2 - gradually increased, pointing to an increased need for vitamin K2 supplement with increasing age. Children had the highest levels of ucOC, also pointing to a vitamin K2 deficiency.

The children and adults with the most pronounced vitamin K 2 deficiency gave the highest response s to supplementation with MenaQ7.

*“Children and adults above the age of 40 years showed the largest vitamin K2 deficiency, and accordingly may benefit from MK-7 supplementation to improve their vitamin K2 status”,* says Elke Theuwissen from VitaK, the principal investigator in the study.

*“This study demonstrates a general vitamin K2 deficiency in the whole population”,* says Hogne Vik, CEO in NattoPharma. *“Supplementation with vitamin K2 (MenaQ7) improves the status of the biomarkers correlating with a normal vitamin K2 level in the body that is especially important for bone development in children and for delaying development of osteoporosis and vascular calcification in adults from the age of 40 years”.*

The study is available at:

<http://pubs.rsc.org/en/content/articlelanding/2013/fo/c3fo60464k#!divAbstract>

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### **About NattoPharma**

NattoPharma ASA, Norway is an international biotechnology company and exclusive supplier of MenaQ7®, the natural vitamin K2. NattoPharma has since 2007 been in an exclusive research and development collaboration with VitaK, University in Maastricht, The Netherlands, working to substantiate the health benefits of natural vitamin K2.

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