

MailOnline

Silver bullet for cancer: Metal can kill some tumours better than chemotherapy with fewer side effects

By [Anthony Bond](#)

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Silver can kill some cancers as effectively as chemotherapy and with potentially fewer side effects, new research claims.

Scientists say that old wives tales about the precious metal being a 'silver bullet' to beat the Big C could be true.

The metal already has a wide range of medicinal uses and is a common antiseptic, antibiotic and means of purifying water in the third world.



Good news: Silver can kill some cancers as effectively as chemotherapy and with potentially fewer side effects, new research has claimed

And British researchers now say that silver compounds are as effective at killing certain cancer cells as a leading chemotherapy drug, but with potentially far fewer side-effects.

They compared it to Cisplatin, currently used to treat a wide variety of cancers, but known to have harsh side effects including nausea, vomiting and even kidney damage.

Silver is used already in everyday products such as deodorant with no known side-effects, and could make for a potentially cheaper alternative to platinum-based Cisplatin.

Researchers from the University of Leeds conducted lab tests which exposed breast and colon cancer cells to various silver-based chemicals over a six day period.

Results, published in journal Dalton Transactions, showed that these silver-compounds were 'as effective as Cisplatin' at killing cancer with potentially fewer side effects.

While the team are still unsure about how exactly silver battles cancer, they think its effectiveness may be caused by the structure surrounding silver atoms, known as its ligand.



Way forward: Researchers from the University of Leeds found that silver could be used to help defeat breast cancer

They think this may help release the silver ion into cells when it enters the body, killing any cancer.

Study author Dr Charlotte Willans plans to spend the next year looking closely at what effect silver has on both cancerous and healthy cells, and whether it could be a safe and effective new anti-cancer drug.

She said: 'It's certainly an exciting discovery, although I think we have a lot of work to do in the future. It opens the doors in terms of what we can do and investigate.

'Getting these results also gives us the opportunity we need to apply for funding to take the research further.

'This could lead to a cheaper, less toxic alternative to current treatments for cancer.'

Explaining the research in greater detail, Dr Willans added: 'As many are unfortunately aware, chemotherapy can be a very gruelling experience for the patient.

'Finding effective, yet non-toxic drugs is an ongoing problem, but these preliminary results are an important step in solving it.

'Our research has looked at the structure which surrounds a central silver atom. This "shrubbery" is what determines how reactive it is and what it will interact with.

'Our research has used different types of these ligands to see which is the most effective against cancer cells.'

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When I mentioned Colloidal Silver in response to an article a few weeks ago, somebody responded that I was nuts. I make CS and I do indeed know how good it is. My husband has had grade 3 breast cancer, surgery, chemo, radiotherapy and drugs, CS, other supplements, such as chyawanprash, organic diet and alkaline water. 7 years on and doing well. When you have a major BIG C problem you can't afford to put all your eggs in one basket. As for turning blue or grey - that person certainly didn't make Colloidal Silver the way it should be made!!!! CS can't be patented and that's why pharmaceuticals try to suppress it. Thank goodness these trials are being run and let the truth be outed.

- BEA, Worcestershire, 03/2/2012 20:20

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Silver as a cure? Interesting at least. I read about something similar a few years ago about very pure gold be used in much the same way. It supposedly was ground and ground into a white powder like substance and administered. It was reported that what looked somewhat like a temple ruin was located high up in the Jordanian mountains where 2000 yrs odd ago it was made. Seems it is mentioned in more than a few ancient writings. But things being much the same then as now it was the rich and powerful and Royalties who could afford it!! Still maybe as in the silver article it maybe worth investigation, but who by I haven't a clue. Heres hoping??

- Rick, LONDON ENGLAND, 03/2/2012 19:42

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Silver has a long history as an anti-bacterial agent.. Placing a silver dollar in copper water vessels in the Wild West to keep the water drinkable for long periods, and combating the problem of corrosion in Spitfires in WWII. It seems logical that it could be very useful as an anti-cancer treatment.

- John, Taunton, UK, 03/2/2012 19:23

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Ten years ago or so, American researchers using silver sol (collidal silver) claimed having achieved a 98% reduction of leukaemia cells in vivo, within a 24 hour period. Cancer cells are either destroyed or simply return to normal cells in the presence of silver ions.

- Dave, London, 03/2/2012 18:49

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you know what that means? we'll never hear of this again and things will stay the same.

- Aaron, Washington, US, 03/2/2012 18:13

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Lots of people will read this article and be undecided as to what's best for their Health and Well-being. That's understandable in this world of lies, deceit, and obfuscation. To them, I say, most of the comments are written by ordinary people who have previously sought, and benefited by this kind of knowledge. They are providing you with lots of useful information. On the other hand, you will see 'remarks' by the detractors who provide nothing other than sarcasm, cynicism, and often downright lies. You never get anything constructive, positive or verifiable from them, therefore it makes you wonder 'What is their motive, and how does it benefit them?' It reminds me of the Oncologists who spend their lives Burning, Cutting and Poisoning patients yet would never allow either themselves or their love-ones to be subjected to this kind of 'quackery'. It's barbaric. The beautiful thing about the Internet is that TRUTH can't be totally suppressed - well, not for the time being at least!

- The Cambridge Don, Cambridge, Cambs., 03/2/2012 17:52

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Why don't they tell whether they are talking about Colloidal Silver? Years ago I bought a bottle, it wasn't inexpensive.... After reading some articles online I threw it away (I wish I hadn't....). All the talk about turning blue..... Angela, Texas, I am very sorry to hear about your mother! The same with my mother almost 14 years ago. People hardly ever die from the cancer, they die from the treatment, operations, caxechia. There are many very interest book on Amazon if you are interested... Always good to be informed, we never know when it is our turn! Too bad one can't exchange e-mail addresses here or else I would give you a few titles! Very uplifting books too! One is the Cancer Industry, another one was written by David Servant Schreiber. I intend to read more because it is a fascinating subject, not at all morbid. Research also Linus Pauling! The truth will eventually come out but till then a lot of people will die needlessly!

- Francisca, Switzerland, 03/2/2012 16:07

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While maintaining a healthy diet is at all times in your life a good idea, I urge readers of the comments on this page to not pay attention to the posters who are trying to convince you that a healthy diet or consumption of cannabis is going to cure you of cancer. These things will NOT work. The advice these people are posting is dangerous and amounts to rank ignorance. As it currently stands, chemotherapy and radiotherapy are the only available treatments that are scientifically established to be effective. If you think getting enough vitamin B down your gullet or THC in your bloodstream is going to do the job, you are sadly (and possibly fatally) mistaken.

- Dave, Bristol, UK, 03/2/2012 15:59

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Practically anything kills cancer better than chemo doesn't it? Even doctors admit chemo is no cure.

- Carol, Adelaide, South Australia, 03/2/2012 15:26

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So many foods are helpful in preventing or treating cancer....look up broccoli and cauliflower (especially with tomato), cooked tomatoes, pineapple cores and bromelain extract, turmeric, green tea, bicarbonate of soda, spirulina and chlorella, saffron, aloe vera, selenium, hemp seeds/oil, cayenne pepper, vit B17 (google for list of foods), acai berry and in fact all berry fruits, sunshine (Vit D3), exercise inducing sweating (releases toxins), pomegranate seeds, graviola, cat's claw, sprouted grains, stress reduction, oxygenating your body, dark chocolate.....I could carry on but you can do your own googling. There is no need to follow the Great God of Medicine (your doctor) and his offer of chemotherapy with its roughly 3% success rate. There are scholarly articles on the web on pretty much all these foods/herbs and their usefulness in cancer treatment and it's criminal that the old, toxic treatments are still being offered to patients.

- food power,, rules OK, 03/2/2012 15:20

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