

How Avemar Helps Fight Cancer

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This fermented wheat germ extract exhibits positive effects against cancer

Avemar is a naturally fermented wheat germ extract that has been subjected to a great deal of research scrutiny, particularly in the area of cancer treatment. What makes Avemar stand out among other known therapies is the fact that its effectiveness isn't limited to any one specific type of cancer. So far it has exhibited positive effects against all forms of cancer cell lines tested.



Cancer Cells Are Gluttons for Glucose

Before I can discuss how Avemar works, however, I should provide some basic explanations about how cancer develops and spreads. Tumor cells assume their unique characteristics according to their diverse genetic aberrations.

Whether they proceed to replicate, grow, and eventually spread throughout the body is determined by enzymatic activity and their accessibility to various nutrients—which is where nutritional habits, environmental factors, and hormones have a direct influence.

Each of these has the potential to interfere, block, or promote enzyme activity and metabolic pathways that tumor cells depend on for their survival.

For years, pharmaceutical companies have also focused their efforts in this arena in an attempt to find cures for various forms of cancer. One of their top priorities (and one area with the greatest potential) has always been to uncover compounds that inhibit glucose metabolism in tumor cells.

Every form of cancer cell utilizes glucose at rates 10 to 50 times higher than that of normal healthy cells (a well-known phenomenon referred to as "the Warburg effect"). Unlike normal, healthy cells that utilize glucose primarily for energy, tumor cells use glucose to increase the production of nucleic acids (necessary for the formation of additional RNA) and various proteins (needed for the cancer to continue to grow).

In simple terms, cancer cells have only one function: proliferation. To achieve this function, cancer cells need large amounts of glucose that they can convert into building materials for new cells. As the tumor grows, more and more glucose is consumed. Two things occur as a person's glucose is diverted to the cancer. First, fatigue sets in. Second, since less glucose is converted to necessary fats and protein, the body begins to waste away (a process known as cachexia).

Not Throwing the Baby Out With the Bath Water

One of the main problems with conventional cancer therapies such as chemotherapy and radiation is that they are non-specific, so they destroy normal, healthy cells along with disease-ridden ones. Thus, the attempt to kill the cancer cells often kills the patient as well—which, as the old saying goes, is like throwing the baby out with the bath water.

To say Avemar works a little differently would be a gross understatement. Research indicates that Avemar works through several different mechanisms. One of its most unique benefits, however, is its ability to inhibit glucose metabolism in cancer cells.

Research at UCLA has demonstrated that Avemar reduces glucose flow into cancer cells—which inhibits their ability to produce additional nucleic acids and subsequently reduces their proliferation or growth. In the presence of Avemar compounds, cancer cells begin to utilize the available glucose to produce substances that actually inhibit cell division and stimulate programmed cell death (apoptosis) within the tumor.

As one report explains, decreased glucose consumption of the tumors results in a harmonizing of the patient's metabolism—as well as weight gain, even in people with advanced cancers. As a result, patients treated with Avemar also have improved tolerance for surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy. Further, Avemar achieves these results without creating any toxicity or damage to normal, healthy cells. (*Ann N Y Acad Sci. 07;1110:348-61*)

This particular feature of Avemar explains why cancer patients using the product routinely experience an improved quality of life. They have less fatigue, pain, and depression, and experience an increase in appetite that can help them regain lost weight. (*Medicus Anonymus/Pulmono 03;11 (Suppl 1):13-14*) (24th Congress of the Hungarian Cancer Society, Budapest, Hungary 2001)

A Foreign Cell Informer

Avemar also assists the immune system's ability to identify and destroy cancer cells. The cells responsible for this constant "seek and destroy" mission to rid your body of any foreign or abnormal cells are a specialized type of white blood cells called natural killer (NK) cells. However, cancer cells can evade NK cells by masking their outer membrane with a special substance that the NK cells recognize as "normal." Avemar suppresses the release of this masking substance—allowing NK cells to better target and kill the cancer cells.

Avemar's immune-stimulating ability appears to be so powerful that it can be useful in helping in the restoration of even the most severely compromised immune systems. In one study, animals were given skin transplants that the scientists knew would be rejected if the animals' immune systems were functioning properly. The thymus gland was removed in half the animals to weaken their immune systems.

The thymus is where T cells develop, which are important in cell-mediated immunity. Normally, without the thymus, any animal receiving the skin transplants should have a better chance of accepting the new skin cells rather than rejecting them.

The animals that had their thymus glands removed were then given Avemar. The other half were allowed to keep their thymus gland. The researchers discovered that animals taking the Avemar rejected the skin grafts almost as quickly as the animals that still had their thymus glands—clearly demonstrating the very strong immune-restorative effects of Avemar. And again, Avemar did so without any toxicity or damage to normal cells. (*Immunopharmacology 99;41:183-186*)

Avemar's safety has been studied extensively in cell lines, animals, and humans, and no adverse effects have been identified. When the data were reviewed by a panel of doctors and toxicologists, it was their opinion that *Avemar has a toxicological profile similar to that of bread*. (Though the product is made from only the germ part of wheat, the manufacturer has included a caution for people who are sensitive to gluten.)

A White Blood-Cell Enhancer

Not only is the use of Avemar free of toxic and adverse effects, it has the added benefit of being able to protect cells against such effects caused by conventional therapies. For instance, following radiation and chemotherapy, it has been demonstrated that Avemar was successful in restoring the bone marrow's ability to produce red blood cells—which should be a godsend to anyone receiving cancer treatment. (*1st Congress of the Hungarian Society of Clinical Oncology. Budapest, Hungary, 2000*)

One of the life-threatening complications of radiation and chemotherapy is a condition called febrile neutropenia. It occurs when the therapy significantly reduces the number of white blood cells (neutropenia). White blood cells are needed to fight pathogens, and patients are extremely vulnerable to infections (and resulting death) during this period when cell counts are at their lowest. An indicator of the seriousness of the infection is the presence of a fever (the *febrile* part).

A clinical investigation into the condition involved 22 children in Budapest with various solid-tumor cancers. Half of those children were given Avemar before and during their chemotherapy, and the other half were not. In the Avemar group, there were a total of 121 cycles of chemotherapy and 30 episodes of febrile neutropenia (24.8 percent). In the control group—those not taking the Avemar—there was a total of 106 cycles of chemotherapy and 46 episodes of febrile neutropenia (43.3 percent). Being able to almost halve the incidence of febrile neutropenia alone should justify the use of Avemar in all patients on chemotherapy. The number of lives saved would be astronomical. (*J Pediatr Hematol Oncol 04;26:631-635*)

In all of the studies where Avemar was used in conjunction with conventional therapies, not only were those therapies significantly more effective, but the patients experienced considerably less therapy-related side effects. Both the frequency and severity of common side effects like nausea, fatigue, weight loss, and depression were reduced. Additionally, their immune systems recovered more rapidly. (*Pharmindex Handbook of Oncology 2004/2005. CMP Budapest, 2004. p. 611-617*) (*Cancer Biother Radiopharm 04;19:343-349*) (*Cancer Biother Radiopharm 99;12:277-289*) (*Cancer Biother Radiopharm 04;19:746-753*)

Why Wait?

Given the existing scientific research, there's absolutely no reason that Avemar shouldn't be used with every single cancer patient—particularly in those with severely impaired immune systems and those who are undergoing conventional therapies. I encourage you to share this information with anyone you know battling cancer. It could save a life.