

Aloe and Cancer

<http://www.cancer-coverup.com/fighters/aloe-cancer.htm>

Dr. Lawrence G. Plaskett, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry among many other academic distinctions, states "The action of substances in Aloe vera does activate and intensify the immune response, and this constitutes one of the fundamental scientifically established actions of Aloe upon the body."

It is in the boosting of the immune system's response to antigens (foreign elements in the body) that Aloe vera has shown the most promise in treating cancer. Although no one is yet proposing that Aloe vera is a cure for cancer, it is clear from research conducted throughout the world over the past thirty years that Aloe vera and, in particular, certain specific substances in the plant - have very dramatic and impressive anti-cancer effects. Aloe vera has been demonstrated to enhance the immune system's response to cancer, promote the growth of new and healthy cells, and reduce the overall viral load within the body thereby revitalizing the body in its fight against the cancer.

When radiation and chemotherapy are necessary, Aloe vera helps to minimize the damage done to the body by these treatments, which destroy healthy cells - particularly immune system cells - crucial to the body's recovery. The use of Aloe vera enables the body to heal itself from cancer and the damage done to it by conventional treatment: the immune system is boosted, tumors shrink, metastases are reduced so the cancer does not spread, and new healthy cells begin to grow.

How can Aloe vera do all this?

An important aspect in the theory as to the cause of cancer is that the onset of the disease is due to a failure of the immune system to respond properly to the development of cancer cells in the body. This has given rise to an area of cancer research called immunotherapy. It is generally accepted that the human body is forced to handle the incidence of cancer on a regular basis, and that the immune system responds to the growth of cancer cells routinely. Cancerous cells develop due to a variety of pathogens which the body encounters and overcomes daily.

Varying theories which attribute the onset of cancer to abnormal radiation exposure, environmental contaminants, pollution, preservatives and chemicals in the food supply, lack of proper nutrition, stress, viruses, genetics or whatever else, may very well all be correct. That is to say, there might be any number of variables that cause cancerous cells to begin to form. According to this understanding of cancer, it is when the immune system is compromised and cannot fight off the growth of abnormal cells that the cancer takes hold, and a tumor begins to form. Further compromise of the immune system to respond to cancer cell growth determines whether the body develops cancer or successfully eliminates the abnormal cells and remains healthy.

A brief explanation of the important parts of the immune system will make the amazing benefits of Aloe vera in the treatment of cancer more clear. White blood cells are the most crucial part of the body's immune system. Certain chemical signals released by tissues in response to an antigen (foreign particles in the body) attract white blood cells, which respond by concentrating in the affected tissue. Neutrophils are the first cells to respond to an infection

and they "eat" the foreign particles. The swelling associated with infections is due in part to enzymes released by neutrophils in this process. Monocytes follow up by "eating" larger particles that could not be handled by the neutrophils as well as the neutrophils that died as a result of having eaten the foreign particles. The monocytes release a number of chemicals which play crucial roles in the fighting of infection, including interferon and interleukin. These chemicals stimulate lymphocytes to continue the response to the antigen. The white blood cells break the antigen down into fragments, which the lymphocytes can chemically recognize and respond to. The most common lymphocytes are B-cells, which kill foreign antigens, and "helper" cells, which regulate the action of T-lymphocytes by intensifying or slowing down the "killer" cell response.

Aloe vera contains a number of chemicals that enhance the activities of all of the immune system functions just described. 23 Polypeptides serve as immune system stimulators, helping to control a broad spectrum of immune system diseases and disorders. 20 Polysaccharides increase the action of white blood cells thus increasing the production of "killer" T-cells and interferon. They also chemically enhance the action of the "killer" T-cells. One of these polysaccharides, acetylated mannose, has been patented as acemannan and is approved in Europe to stimulate the immune systems of AIDS patients. AIDS research has shown that Aloe vera use can double the number of both "killer" and "helper" T-cells within three weeks and at the same time reduce the P-24 core antigen - the overall indicator of viral load in the body. Interferon and interleukin production is stimulated, attacking the cancer and viruses in the body. Lectins and emodins are two anti-tumor chemicals in Aloe vera which, along with an increase in the tumor necrosis factor brought about by Aloe vera, begin to destroy malignant cancer tumors.

Aloe vera has been proven to be effective in cancer in animals. In fact, the U.S. Department of Agriculture approved Aloe vera in 1992 for the treatment of soft tissue cancer in animals as well as feline leukemia.

There is clear scientific evidence that, in vitro, Aloe vera will suppress cancer tumor growth, stimulate immune system response, raise tumor necrosis levels, and promote healthy tissue growth - and countless studies have been published on this subject. For the past thirty years researchers have known that there is significant evidence that Aloe vera is highly effective in fighting cancer. But the FDA, and the major cancer research institutions have not conducted a single test of the efficacy of Aloe vera as a cancer treatment, nor have they even considered it as a complement to conventional therapy. In his assessment of Aloe vera and the treatment of benign and malignant tumors, Dr. Plaskett sums up the frustrations that many Aloe advocates feel: "It is amazing, however, that in view of all of the positive indications which exist for the anti-cancer effects of Aloe vera that no medical studies have been initiated in human cancer."

There is clear evidence that Aloe vera is effective in the treatment of cancer in animals - and it is approved by the USDA for such use. There is clear clinical evidence that Aloe vera is effective in boosting the immune system response in the treatment of AIDS in humans - and it is approved in Europe for such use. There is a large amount of anecdotal evidence that Aloe vera use in humans is effective in boosting the immune system response in the treatment of cancer - both in healing the cancer directly and in enabling the immune system to withstand the onslaughts of radiation and chemotherapy - but providing this information to cancer patients, or supplying them with high quality Aloe vera concentrate is NOT approved by the government. On the contrary, merely providing the information about cancer and the benefits of Aloe vera use can lead to prosecution, as in the case of T-Up, Inc.

The only explanation is that the development of Aloe vera as a treatment, or adjunct to conventional therapy, does not represent a profitable investment for the cancer industry. The pharmaceutical industry cannot patent whole leaf Aloe vera concentrate and without a patent there is no way to reap the immense profits that chemotherapy treatments bring. The National Cancer Institute and the American Cancer Society are so effectively dominated by the cancer industry business interests, that research projects that do not serve these interests never get the funding necessary for clinical trials. Additionally, the FDA has demonstrated a consistent bias against dietary supplements. And, there is not much prestige for a researcher in the discovery of a cancer treatment that has been used for four thousand years.

Perhaps it is not so amazing after all that although this is such a promising possibility in the search for a cure for cancer, no medical studies have been initiated in human cancer...

Quoting form the March 1999 Issue of "Alternative Medicine":

"Stimulates Immune Response Against Cancer"

"Researchers writing in Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy found that a compound (lectin) from aloe, when injected directly into tumors activated the immune system to attack the cancer. Killer T cells, white blood cells that bind to invading cells and destroy them, began to attack tumor cells injected with lectin."

"Aloe turns on the immune system by activating macrophages (white blood cells which "swallow" antigens), causing the release of immune-activating (and anticancer) substances such as interferons, interleukines, and tumor necrosis factor. In addition, aloe promotes the growth of normal (non-cancerous) cells, researchers said."