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## Use of homoeopathy in cancer treatment

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### Abstract

Homoeopathy, a conventional complementary and alternative therapy, is used by many cancerous patients but its mechanism and action has not been explored yet also these medicine are effective in low doses. Anti-cancerous role of Homoeopathic medicine is under search. These medicine are supposed to be anti-cancerous as they cause malignant cell death or size deduction by inhibition of proliferative cells, apoptotic signally, enhancing mitochondrial membrane permeability and lowering cancer marker enzymes. Ruta, Thuja 200c and Hydrastis, Lycopodium 1M inhibit nitrosodiethylamine and used in brain cell glial growth. Conium inhibit substage G of cell cycle and also AKT and NF-KB leading toward apoptosis pathway and it is anti- tumorous against breast cancer. Sabal serrulata activates NF-KB apoptotic pathway and inhibit 5-alpha reductase and treat BPH. Medicines like Ruta, Thuja, Carcinosis modulate immunity and protective against cancer. Chelidonium lowers the cancer marker enzymes and cause Necrosis treating hepatocellular carcinoma. Viscum Album increased the survival rate in pancreatic cancerous patient. Cadmium Chloride in low potency reduced the size of brain stem tumor in boy. Lycopodium in male patient in 30c increased the life span and relieved the pain of inguinal hernia and adenocarcinoma. Podophyllum possess anti-prostate cancer potential. Natrum sulph 200c reduced cytological and genetical aberration induced by carcinogens. Condurango is used against stomach cancer. Gelsemium with silver nanoparticles precipitate showed anti-proliferative of skin melanoma. Psorinum is effective against human lung cancer. Sulphur is effective against non-small cell lung carcinoma.

**Keywords:** Cancer treatment, conventional complementary

### Introduction

Due to the adverse effect of allopathic system of treatment, the cancerous patients are reluctant to use these medicines and prefer complementary medicines including Homoeopathy. But it is a controversial because its mode of action is has not been discovered yet <sup>[1]</sup>. Research shows that classical Homoeopathy presents a positive response towards treatment of cancer. Homoeopathy is being used commonly in Europe for the treatment of cancer <sup>[2]</sup>.

### Homoeopathy and cancer

Neoplasia means "new growth". It is an abnormal mass of growth which persist after removing of stimuli. Cancer cell are transformed cell. There are two types of cancer, benign cancer and malignant cancer. Benign cancer is well differentiated and they may be dangerous if their extension consists of surrounding tissues e.g., papilloma, adenoma, leiomyoma, hamartoma. But malignant cancer have ability of invasion and spread to surrounding structures e.g basal cell carcinoma of skin and leiomyosarcoma (smooth muscles). Benign cancer is different from malignant cancer. Benign tumors are localized but malignant tumors are unlocalized. Benign tumors are well differentiated but malignant tumors are undifferentiated (anaplasia) benign tumors show no pleomorphism but malignant tumors show pleomorphism (different in size and shape) benign tumors have normal nuclei stain but malignant tumors have hyperchromasia. Nuclear-cytoplasm ratio is normal in benign cancer and abnormal in malignant cancer. Benign tumors grow slowly and malignant tumors grow rapidly benign tumor do not metastasize and metastasis a keynote of malignant tumor. tumor may metastasize to adjacent tissue by local spread, Invasion of lymphatics, perineural spread, Venous invasion, Arterial invasion, small vessels invasion, serous cavities Embolic spread, Blood spread via portal pulmonary and vertebral veins. some factors that included in spread are decreased adhesiveness, increased mobility, increased production of hyaluronidase and transplantability. Pituitary cancer cause hypoparathyroidism, Bile duct carcinoma cause obstructive jaundice and yellowishness of skin, tumor of renal artery cause severe high blood pressure, carcinoma of beta- cell of pancreas cause hyperinsulinism,

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cancer of gastrointestinal tract cause ulcer and bleeding, reduced fat cells, loss of appetite, due to inhibition of appetite center and low level of hemoglobin due to cancer, and also cause nerves and muscles symptoms means Myasthenia Gravis [3].

Homoeopathy, a complementary system of treatment is gaining popularity in treating cancer such as Thuja, Hydrastis, Lycopodium, Conium, Phytolacca, Sabal in the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma prostate cancer, Breast cancer, skin and pancreatic cancer. These medicines inhibit cell multiplication, genetic changes and induce apoptotic pathway reactive oxygen species. calcium accumulation in cell by open pores of mitochondria, however the exact mechanism is yet not known. Researches are being done to understand the mechanism and to know the anti-carcinogenesis of medicines. Apart treating cancer. these medicine like belladonna and Traumeel. S are used in adjuvant therapy to minimize or sooth the side effect of chemotherapy like skin inflammation, rashes and stomatitis etc.

The aim of this article is to show that Homoeopathy have effective role in cancer. Homoeopathic medicine in cancer have been found in animal proving by inhibition of tumor growth. However, a research program should need to setup to determine the effective role of Homoeopathic medicine against cancer on some medicine the work is proven clinically and experimentally but there is a wide range of medicine on which data has not proven [4]. A few medicines are given below which when proved on human beings while proving materia medica gave the sign and symptoms related to Cancer. These medicine should be considered anti-cancerous and a wide research program should be establish to know in which potency they are effective against cancer spread or to inhibit the growth Calc. flour for breast cancer with hard and stony lumps.

Lapis albus for Scirrhus and uterus malignancies with burning where oozing of fluid is black and putrid. Silicea can be used as addjuvent to reduce cancer pain and also sarcoma with yellow and offensive discharge. Hecla lava is a bone cancerous remedy. Bryta Carb for scattered lipomas. Bryta Iodium can cure ovarian cancer and mammae cancer with tuberculosis tinge.

Plumbum Iodium in mastitis and induration of breast.

Bromine is a remedy for mammae cancer.

Phosphorus is used for cancer with bleeding tendency.

Iodine can be used for Uterus Cancers.

Cicuta virosa for epithelial cancer.

Kali Sulph for Facial epithelial cancer.

Cedron can be used to reduce the lancinating pains of cancer There are also many more remedies which are anti-cancerous or have anti-cancerous potential e.g Carboic acid, Carbo animalis, Carbo veg, and Cuprum aceticum, Arsenicum, Phytolacca, Condurango and Conium etc.

In university of Vienna, Homoeopathy was used additionally in treatment of cancer which to investigate the survival time in cancerous patient also with disease prognosis. The survival time was extended but prognosis was life-threatening. This experiment was done on limited sample.

Homoeopathic medicines in low doses (high potency) are effective against carcinogenesis [2].

### Homoeopathic Medicines in Treatment of cancer

Thuja, Lycopodium, Hydrastis, Ruta, Chelidonium, Sabal

serrulata, Conium, Phytolacca decandra, Kali carb, Ferrum phos, Condurango, Traumeel. S, Cadmium chloride, Viscum album

Homoeopathic medicines in high dilutions (ultra-low dose) are effective in treatment of cancer.

### Researched Homoeopathic Anti-Cancerous Medicines

(1) Ruta 200c, Hydrastis 200c, Lycopodium 1M, Thuja 1M  
The anticancerous effect of these medicines was proved in a mice in which cancer was induced by injecting MAT-LyLu prostate cancer cells

The result showed that, Ruta 200c and Thuja 1M inhibited the nitro sodiethylamine (NDEA) a hepatocarcinogenesis in Ehrlich Ascites Carcinoma (EAC). Hydrastis 200c and Lycopodium 1M also inhibited NDEA in Dalton's lymphoma Ascites (DLA). In Brain cancer Ruta 6 inhibited glioma growth.

According to anti-cancerous activity of these drugs there was an increase in the life span of tumor bearing mice.

Ruta 200 and Hydrastis 200c increased the lifespan in EAC and DLA approximately about 49.7% and 69.4% respectively.

Ruta 200 and Hydrastis 200c reduced the size of Tumor bearing mice by 95.6% and 95.8% respectively.

There was decrease in cancer proliferation marker gamma-GT in serum [5].

### Anti-cancerous effects of Homoeopathic-Remedies in induced carcinogenesis.

Ruta, hydrastis, Thuja, Lycopodium in high potencies lowered the cancer marker enzymes such as gamma-GT, Gamma-PT, gamma-OAT and alkaline phosphatase in serum which were increased by NDEA causing hepatocellular carcinoma and 3-Methycholanthrene causing sarcoma in mice. And this research revealed that Homoeopathic medicines in high potencies or in low dosage can inhibit cancers induced by carcinogens [6].

(3) Is Ruta graveolens is anti-cancerous or Genotoxic (similum concept)

Ruta is used in various diseases like GIT troubles, hysteria, menstrual ailments, toothaches, remove worms, eyeache after fine work injuries and also possess anticancerous activity

Rutin and quercetin are clastogenic and genotoxic. In high dilution Ruta 6 with calcium phosphate inducess signals of apoptosis in transplanted DLA cell and useful in glial cell lymphoma OR intracranial cancer [7].

Triterpenoid isolated from ethanolic phytolacca decandrial extract to study its anti-carcinogenic activity against human non- small cell lung carcinoma A549 and it was studied that phytolacca decandra performed mitrochondrial dysfunction mediated apoptosis it brought apoptotic changes like in the measurement of intra-cellular calcium content, decreased in the level of adenotriphosphate which induce mitrochondrial dependent apoptosis pathway in the human lung adenocarcinoma A549 [8].

Conium maculate in Homoeopathy is being used traditionally for cervix carcinoma and breast cancer. its anti-cancer effect was studied *in vitro* in Hela cell. Conium caused accumulation of mucous membrane potential and reactive oxygen species and reduced colony formation and cell proliferation inhibiting sub-stage G of cell cycle. Phosphitydyl serin cytochrome C and caspase 3 activation and inhibition of AKT and NFKB lead toward apoptosis and

cell proliferation. Inhibition showing its anti-cancerous activity.

Anti-cancer patient often undergo chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Stomatitis is common consequence of chemotherapy of which there is little limiting treatment. Homoeopathic medicine has found efficacy against stomatitis. Comparative study was done for the efficacy of Traumeel S between two groups. One taking placebo and taking Traumeel S after chemotherapy and transplantation of bone marrow. Drug was given for minimum 14 days. The drug continued to be administered for minimum 14 days or after 2 days after the vanishing of sign of stomatitis. Out of 15 patient taking Traumeel S 5 patient did not developed the signs of stomatitis. Stomatitis aggravated in 7 patient only in taking Traumeel S, while in other group out of 15 patient taking placebo stomatitis was not developed in only 1 patient and it was worsen in 14 patient. So, Traumeel S not having any anti-cancerous potential but being used in the management of stomatitis produced by chemotherapy [9].

The second leading cancer in male is prostate cancer. Homoeopathic medicine Sabal Serrulata is gaining popularity for prostate cancer. Permixion a lipidosterolic extract of sabal is being used to treat symptoms of Benign Prostate Hyperplasia. It treats BPH by activating the permeability of transition pore of mitochondria, NF-KB apoptotic pathway and inhibition of 5-Alpha Reductase inflammatory related genes. Insufficient research hinders to prove that sabal serrulata is right medicine for prostate cancer. Thuja along with Conium and sabal in combination can assure more effective treatment against BPH [10].

Homoeopathic medicines modulate the immunity making them resistance against cancer. The medicine studies for immune stimulation are Thuja occidentalis, Carcinosinum, Ruta graveolens. These medicines enhance immunity by increasing white blood cell count by haemopoetic activation. Thuja 1M, 200c, Carcinosinum 1M, Ruta at 1M potencies Showed maximal WBC'S count but the 30C potency did not increased the count. These medicines also enhance antibody level, modulate antibody producing cells, and increase the weight of lymphoid organ by proliferation of lymphoid cells. All these changes Stimulate and modulate immunity making immunity stronger and protecting against cancer [11].

Chelidonium majus in 30c and 200c potency is effective against hepatocellular carcinoma. The anti-cancerous activity against hepatocellular carcinoma was studied by inducing hepatocellular toxicity either P-diethylazobenzene (P-DAB) or Phenobarbital (PB) or by both

.By hepatocellular toxicity the levels of alanine aminotransferase (ALT), Aspartate amino transferase (AST), gamma glutamyl Transpeptidase (GGT), Lactate Dehydrogenase (LDH) were increased and G6-PD and HDL were lowered. The release of AST induced hepatocellular injury or necrosis and ALT from cytosol was secondary cause of injury. By administration of chelidonium 200c and 30c the level of these was reversed. AST, ALT, GGT, LDH were decreased. G6-PD and HDL were increased. It suggested that chelidonium is used in liver ailment treatment and also in liver cancer or as adjuvant therapy [12].

In a research 220 patient of metastatic pancreatic cancer were administered by viscum album extract sub-cutaneous 3 time weekly. Those who took this therapy needed no more anti-cancerous therapy. In those patient brain metastasis was not observed. The patient in which viscum album was taken

as anti-cancerous remedy. The survival rate was increased by 4.8 month and patient who took no treatment the survival rate was 2.7 month [13].

Homoeopathic medicine in low potency are effective against cancerous cell while, to high potency cancerous cell are unresponsive. In toxic cells cadmium chloride high potency was used to treat the primary Lymphocytes and the study was also done with low potency. The treatment was more significant with low doses than high doses [14].

64 male patient age of 64 complaints about bloody stool aggravated at night after eating and drinking. Distended abdomen with flatulence aggravated after eating and drinking and ameliorated after passing stool. Edema of lower extremities since 2 years aggravated by sitting and standing. He has also history of inguinal hernia. Patient was hot desire sweet and aversion from spicy food. Hurriedness was marked X-rays showed a neoplasm of 10cm at anal margin diagnosed moderate differentiated adenocarcinoma was diagnosed metastasis was seen to liver and lymph node. Lycopodium 30c three time daily was prescribed for 4 days Ruta-MT 5 drops for rectal bleeding. rectal bleeding was better by flatulence, oedema, and tenderness of iliac fossa. Stoppage of stool during 4to 6 days was seen during follow up. Lycopodium 30c was continued with un-medicated lactose three times a days about one month later patient come with these symptoms recurrent rectal bleeding, oedema, flatulence. Lycopodium 30c 2times a day for 2 weeks was prescribed. The patient state remain stable for about one and half month. Lycopodium was continued after every 3rd day. About 7 month later came with complaints of loose stool pain in abdomen, left inguinal fossa with tenderness. Lycopodium in LM was prescribed. The case was followed up with Thuja and Lycopodium in 1M potency. The patient came 5 month later with these symptoms rectal bleeding, no appetite, edema, 1thirst for warm water. Arsenic 30c was prescribed. patient in 24-1-99 with severe weakness, loose bloody stool, died at night [15].

Podophyllum constituent DPPT (deoxypodophyllotoxin) possess anti- cancerous potential. On human *in vitro* its efficacy is against prostate cancer. It induces anti-cancerous activity by apoptosis. DPPT decrease cell multiplication and activate caspase-3 which induces cell death also reduce. phosphorylated AKt and p53/3 cell, x protein, Bax, pathway of apoptosis mediated by caspase. To determine the anti-tumor effect of prostate cancer DU-145 cells were toxified with DPPT and cell multiplication was noticed. The same cell proliferation was inhibited by DPPT [16].

P-DAB was induced in mice to determine the anti-carcinogenicity of Natrum-sulph which induce cytological changes such as chromosomal aberration mitotic activity and also chemical changes and reduced AST, LPO, GSH carcinogenic changes. These changes were reduced by Natrum Sulphuricum. Natrum sulph 200 showed effective potential to reduce cancer as compared to natrum sulph 30 [17].

Condurango also have been find effective in reducing size. Condurango Extract cause apoptosis and cytotoxicity by reactive oxygen species and tumor necrosis factor receptor and also reduced activated B- cells NF-KB and render weak B-cells lymphoma and activated caspase activity by opening pores of membrane of mitochondria [18].

The silver nanoparticles precipitated extract of Gelsemium possess anti-proliferative activity against skin melanoma and anti-bacterial activity against E. coli G2/M in A375 cell [19].

Psorinum 6x, a Homeopathy medicine has found role in cancer in 6x potency. This medicine was selected against several cancer cell lines A549, HepG2, MCF7. psoranium showed anti-cancerous potential against these cell lines but the highest anti-cancerous effect was against A549 cell. Psorinum showed in an experiment to treat cancer by cell death apoptosis reactive oxygen species pathway mitochondrial membrane potential. By activating several protein expression A53 BAX cytochrome C and caspase-3 activation and found effective against human lung cancer [20] Sulphur is found to treat non-small cell lung carcinoma. Different potencies of Sulphur 6c, 30c, 200c was experimented on normal peripheral blood mono-nuclear cell but the 30c potency was found to have effective role. Sulphur in A549 caused apoptosis by disturbing translocation of P65NFkB and triggering mitochondrial apoptotic pathway in a non-small cell lung carcinoma [21].

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