Presentation | 09 Dan Kenner, Ph.D., L.Ac.

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Dr. Dan Kenner graduated in 1979 from the Meiji College of Oriental Medicine in Japan, passed the Japanese National Licensing Examination and then trained in Internships at Osaka Medical University Pain Clinic and Kinki University Medical Teaching Hospital. He is licensed to practice Oriental Medicine both in the U.S. and in Japan. He also has a Ph.D. in Naturopathic Medical Science from the First National University of Naturopathic Medical Sciences. Dr. Kenner is on the Board of Directors of the Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine College in Berkeley, California and the National Health Federation. He is author of "*The Whole-Body Workbook*" for Cancer and other titles. Since 1983, he has endeavored to integrate the Naturopathic Medical Traditions of North America and Europe with the Traditional Medicine of East Asia.

Monitoring changes in blood parameters in cancer patients taking an immune modulator

Patients who undergo cytotoxic chemotherapy for cancer often suffer deleterious effects to immunity, particularly to the bone marrow and its production of cellular elements of the blood. Chemotherapy medicines target rapidly dividing cells such as cancer cells, but also many of the normal rapidly dividing cells in the blood, bone marrow, mouth, intestinal tract and hair. As chemotherapy medicines damage the bone marrow, the marrow is less able to produce enough red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. Typically, the greatest impact is on white blood cells. Clearly the most dangerous side effect of chemotherapy is lowered resistance to infection, which can be life-threatening in some cases. There are various effects of cultured basidiomycetes on physiology and especially, immunity. This presentation is a review of research on the effects of cultured basidiomycetes on blood test values. Results of laboratory blood values from cancer patients whose blood was monitored during treatment with chemotherapy are presented. A complete blood count was ordered to establish baseline levels and study the effects of administration of cultured basidiomycetes and the results were compared with subsequent treatment. Subsequent treatment included the use of rice bran cultured with enzymes from the mycelia of Lentinus edodes (BioBran (RBAC)) during and after cancer chemotherapy. The purpose of the addition of this supplement to the treatment protocol was to address insufficiencies and imbalances in the blood cell counts. Patients' symptoms during treatment were recorded. Details of comparison before and after treatment will be discussed. The results show a general normalizing effect on platelets and leukocytes. Due to the anecdotal nature of the investigation and because of the small sample size only very provisional conclusions can be drawn. The general conclusion is that more extensive clinical studies could elucidate the probability of specific benefits to patients who exhibit blood cell values outside the normal range.