

## Olives Inhibit Cancer Cells Growth And Prevents Their Appearance

A research group of the University of Granada has found out that maslinic acid, a compound present in the leaf and the olive skin wax extracted from alpeorujo (crushed olive pulp), has the capacity of preventing cancer as well as regulating apoptosis in **carcinogenic processes**.

Maslinic acid is a protease inhibitor that, among other features, has the capacity of regulating cell growth. It is useful for cancer treatment, as it allows to control the hyperplasia and hypertrophy processes, typical of this disease. The scientists of the UGR have characterized for the first time maslinic acid action from the molecular point of view when it is applied to the development of tumour cells.

This work has been carried out by Ph D student Fernando Jesús Reyes Zurita, and directed by Professor José Antonio Lupiáñez Cara, of the department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology I. According to them, the advantages of maslinic acid are three: Unlike other anti-carcinogenic products, highly cytotoxic, it is a natural compound and, therefore, less toxic. In addition, it is selective, this is, it only acts on carcinogenic cells, whose pH is more acid than usual. And lastly, it has a preventive nature, as it can inhibit cancer appearance in those cells with a higher predisposition to develop it.

For all types of cancer

Although the research group of Professor Lupiáñez Cara has analysed the effect of maslinic acid in the treatment of colon cancer, it can be used in different types of tumours. For the moment, their research works have been developed in colon carcinoma lines and transgenic mice, but they have not dismissed the possibility of applying them to humans in future.

Maslinic acid is a pentacyclic terpene which, besides being anti-carcinogenic, it has anti-inflammatory and **antioxidant effects** and can be found in high concentrations in olive skin wax. At present, the only production plant of this substance at a semi-industrial level in the whole world is at the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Granada.-Universidad de Granada

### Ads by Google

[Cancer](#)  
[Lung Cancer Cells](#)  
[Stem Cells](#)  
[Hair Growth](#)

### Today's Top Stories

[Equipment Gets Faster Write-Offs Under Economic Stimulus Act Of 2008](#)  
[Lipitor Link To Memory Loss Is Discredited](#)  
[NYC Psychologist Kathryn Faughey Hacked To Death By Patient](#)  
[Hostage Situation In Italian Nursery](#)  
[Google Unveils Google Doodle Contest](#)  
[Yale Test Detects Early Stage Ovarian Cancer With 99 Percent Accuracy](#)

### Similar Stories

[Fruit Flies All Aglow Light Way To Cancer Prevention](#)  
[Anti-malarial Prevents Cancer In Mice](#)  
[Researchers Zero In On Tiniest Members In War On Cancer](#)  
[Immigrant Patients Less To Report Family History Of Cancer](#)  
[New Theory Of How Viruses May Contribute To Cancer](#)

News Categories: [Health](#)

Submitted by *harminka* on Wed, 2008-02-13 17:12.

### Comments

#### Post new comment

Your name:

E-mail:

The content of this field is kept private and will not be shown publicly.

Homepage:

Subject:

Comment: \*

Web
  huliq.com

### Navigation

[Huliq Blog](#)  
[News Archive](#)

Submit your news

BOOKMARK