

“ARE ALTERNATIVES ETHICAL”

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One minute synopsis

- **ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE IS NOT ALTERNATIVE**
- **BECAUSE IF IT REALLY WERE, IT WOULD BE CONVENTIONAL**
- **THERE IS NO SUCH A THING AS ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE**



Cancer affects us all...

What does the word **-ALTERNATIVE** mean?

- **AVAILABLE AS ANOTHER POSSIBILITY**



COAL



SOLAR POWER



Cancer affects us all...

What is a **possibility**?

- **Possibility** -Able to be done; within the power or capacity of someone or something



Cancer affects us all...

Alternatives



Cancer affects us all...

Alternatives



Cancer affects us all...

The New England Journal of Medicine

"[t]here really is no such thing as alternative medicine - only medicine that has been proven to work and medicine that has not."



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[N Engl J Med. 1998 Sep 17;339\(12\):839-41.](#)

[Alternative medicine--the risks of untested and unregulated remedies.](#)

[Angell M, Kassirer JP.](#)

- **It is time for the scientific community to stop giving alternative medicine a free ride. There cannot be two kinds of medicine – conventional and alternative. There is only medicine that has been adequately tested and medicine that has not, medicine that works and medicine that may or may not work. Once a treatment has been tested rigorously, it no longer matters whether it was considered alternative at the outset. If it is found to be reasonably safe and effective, it will be accepted. But assertions, speculation, and testimonials do not substitute for evidence. Alternative treatments should be subjected to scientific testing no less rigorous than that required for conventional treatments.**



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2 Examples of Alternative medicine

- **INSULIN POTENTIATION THERAPY (IPT)**
- **MANATECH**



Cancer affects us all...

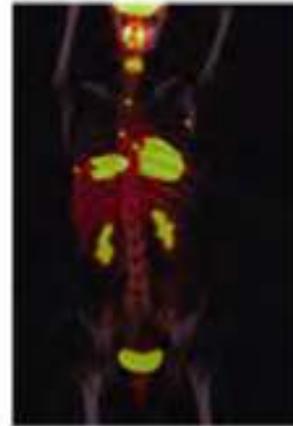
Cancer cells are “hungry” for glucose.



1) PET



2) CT



3) fused PET/CT

These scans were taken in April 2007, before the patient underwent chemotherapy.



4) PET



5) CT



6) fused PET/CT

These scans were taken in July 2007, after chemotherapy.



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Hypothesis

- **STARVE CANCER CELLS IN VIVO OF GLUCOSE AND THEY WILL BECOME EASY TARGETS FOR LOW DOSE CHEMOTHERAPY**



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Insulin Potentiation Therapy (IPT)

Proposed as alternative
for conventional
chemotherapy



Hypothesis: 20% chemo is sufficiently
cytotoxic for hypoglycemic cancer cells.



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What about Stage 4 testes cancer in young male?

- **EP: I would use my IPT**
- **CA: Not conventional therapy?**
- **EP: No.**
- **CA: Do you have any peer-reviewed publications on IPT for Stage 4 testes cancer?**
- **EP: No.**
- **CA: There are 12 000 Pubmed abstracts on testes cancer treatment. Success rate is over 80%. If you use IPT and patient dies, I believe you are guilty of culpable homicide.**
- **EP: Why are you CANSA people so hard on me, I am just trying to save cancer patients.**



Problems with IPT

- **Advertised on RSG radio**
- **Advertised as “Revolutionary, New”.**
- **No proof that chemotherapy at 20% of conventional is being used**
- **Not cheap (R5000 – R10 000 @ treatment)**
- **Insulin dosage potentially dangerous**
- **Not registered**
- **No proof of efficacy**



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MEDIA RELEASE FROM THE CANCER ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Tuesday 14 February 2006

Att: News Editors

For immediate release



Cancer affects us all...

CANSA warns against Insulin Potentiation Therapy (IPT) for cancer patients



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Status of IPT

1. Not recognised by Medical Aids
2. Not recognised by SAOG
3. Only one abstract in Pubmed.
4. Study of IPT and hormone therapy on prostate cancer patients.
5. Only 16 patients
6. No long term remissions



Comment:

This is a classic case of alternative treatment that remains alternative and does not become conventional because it does not work.

There is no thorough proof that the hypothesis is correct, i.e. glucose-starved cancer cells are not super sensitive for chemotherapy.



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Manatech

Mannatech, Incorporated, is a multinational [multi-level marketing](#) firm engaged in research, development, and distribution of "glyconutrients," the company's name for blends of plant-sourced [saccharides](#)



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My involvement with Glyconutrients

AP: Dr Albrecht I would like to come and see you. I am very excited. I have a new cure for cancer.

CA: O.K. but on one condition – you bring me a peer-reviewed publication of the cure.

AP: OK

CA: Have you brought the publication?

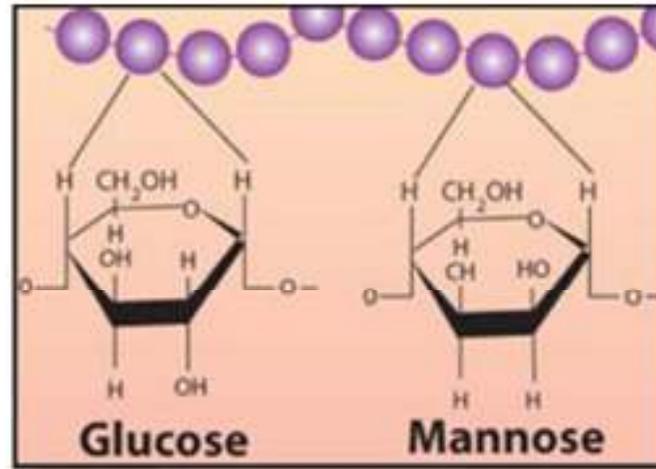
AP: NO

CA: Please go.



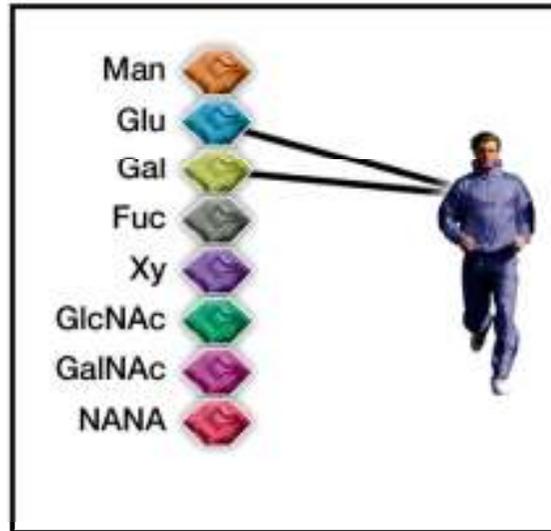
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The Truth

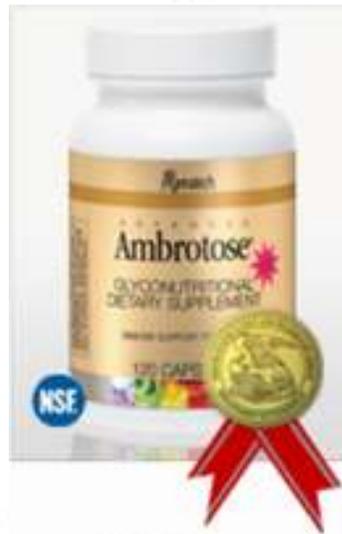


Cancer affects us all...

Lie - For health you need essential sugars



This is not true.



The Eight Essential Biological Sugars

(from table sugar)

- 1 Glucose
- 2 Galactose (from milk products)
- 3 Mannose
- 4 Xylose
- 5 Fucose
- 6 N-Acetyl-glucosamine
- 7 N-Acetyl-galactosamine
- 8 N-Acetyl-nouraminic acid

Typically, only these two are found in our modern diets



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Is Mannatech a Scam?

Yes it is

**There is no such a thing
as an essential sugar**

**Your body can make
them all.**

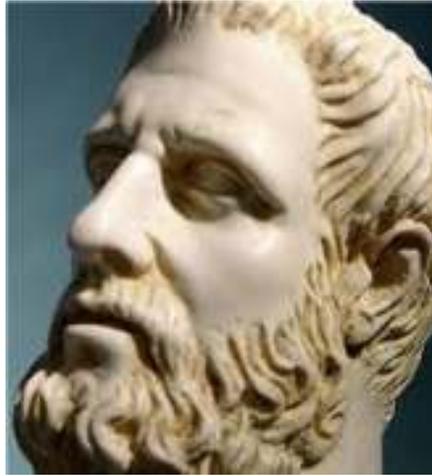


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Cancer affects us all...

Hippocrates



I will prescribe regimens for the good of my patients according to my ability and my judgment and never do harm to anyone.



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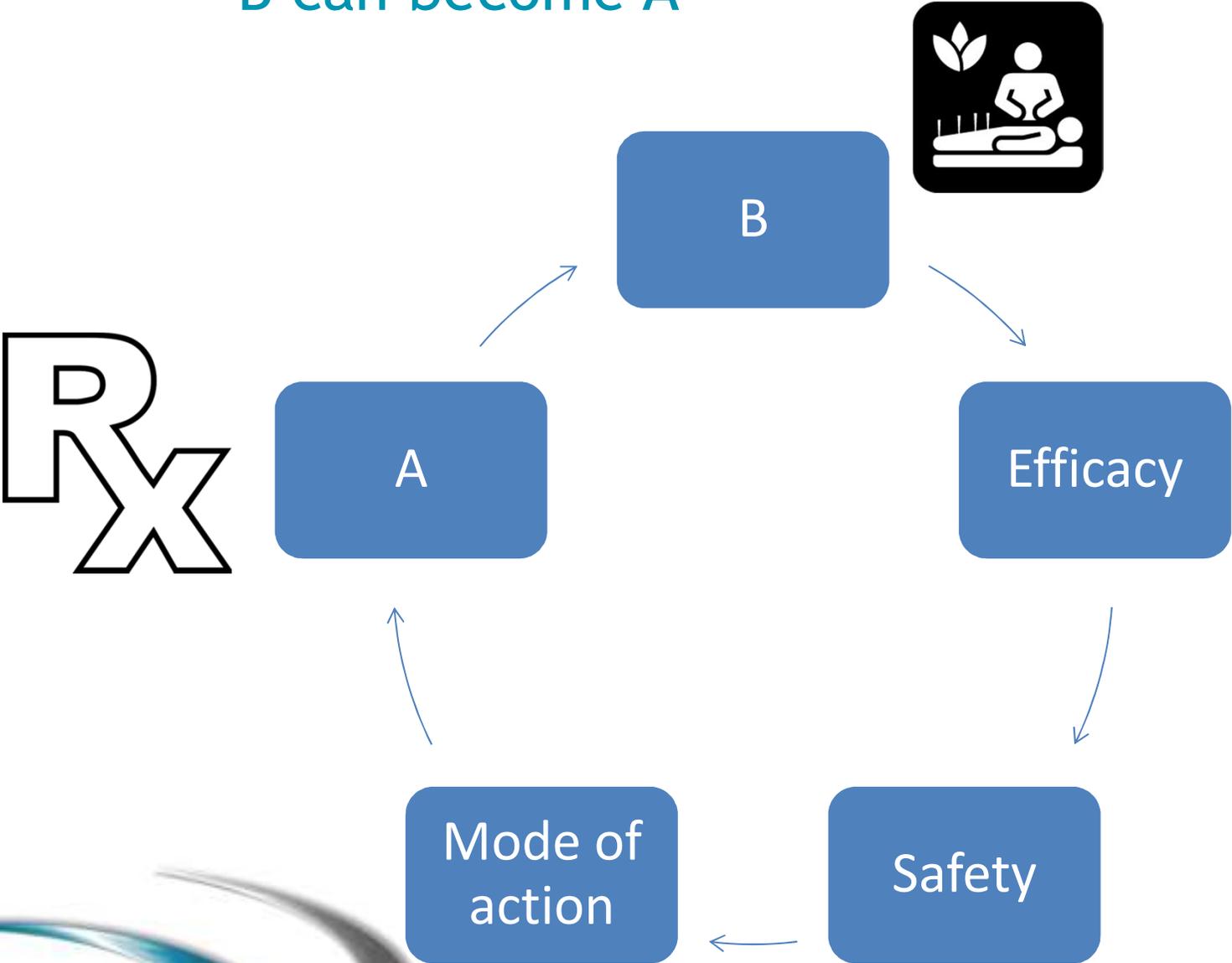
WMA Declaration of Helsinki - Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects

4. The Declaration of Geneva of the WMA binds the physician with the words, "**The health of my patient will be my first consideration,**" and the International Code of Medical Ethics declares that, "A physician shall act in the patient's best interest when providing medical care."



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B can become A



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Can alternatives deliver?



**NOT A POSSIBILITY
RUNNING ON EMPTY**



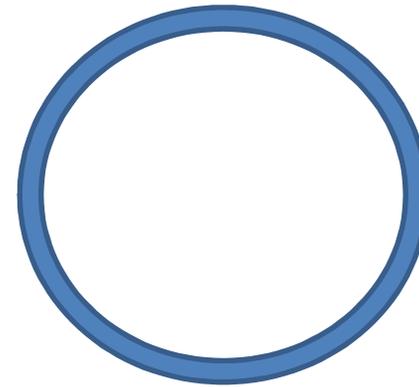
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The emperor has no clothes on



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One minute synopsis of talk



Acclaim Images.com

1.	Evidenced based	Yes			No	
2.	Efficacious	Yes			No	
3.	Safe	Yes			No	
4.	Quality controlled	Yes			No	
5.	Reasonably priced	Some			Some	
6.	Regulated	Highly			None	



Conclusion

- Because alternative medicine is not evidence-based, it cannot be sold/dispensed to a patient because the very act of doing so without knowledge of proven efficacy and safety could harm the patient thus contravening the medical ethics originated by Hippocrates and currently tabulated in the Declaration of Helsinki.
- Alternative is not ethical



Thank You