

Ready to start planning your care? Call us at [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225) to make an appointment.

×



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

[Make an Appointment](#)
[Back](#)

[Find a Doctor](#)
[Learn About Cancer & Treatment](#)

ABOUT US

[Our mission, vision & core values](#)

[Leadership](#)

[History](#)

[Inclusion & belonging](#)

[Annual report](#)

[Give to MSK](#)

FOR THE MEDIA

MGN-3 has not been shown to prevent cancer, HIV or any other medical condition.

MGN-3 is a complex sugar derived from rice bran treated with extracts from three mushrooms: [Shiitake](#) , [Coriolus versicolor](#) , and Suehirotake. The manufacturer claims that it stimulates several aspects of the immune system, causing overall immune stimulation. Lab studies suggest that MGN-3 can cause cell death in some cancer cells and increase their susceptibility to chemotherapy drugs.

Only a few short-term studies have been conducted in humans. Preliminary data suggest it may improve response and reduce side effects of standard therapies in liver cancer patients, but larger studies are needed to confirm these observations.

What are the potential uses and benefits?

- To treat cancer

A small study suggests MGN-3 may improve response to standard therapies in liver cancer patients.

However, there is no evidence that it can be used as a treatment alone, and larger studies are needed.

- To prevent and treat chemotherapy side effects

MGN-3 reduced the side effects of standard therapies in liver cancer patients, but additional studies confirming such effects are needed.

- To stimulate the immune system

MGN-3 stimulated immune cells in lab studies and small studies of cancer patients, but additional studies are needed.

- To treat chronic fatigue syndrome

A clinical study did not find MGN-3 effective in treating chronic fatigue syndrome.

What are the side effects?

- No side effects have been reported.

If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

MGN-3 - Last updated on January 5, 2022

© 2026 Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center