

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

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Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

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*Scutellaria barbata* has been studied for its anticancer properties, but more research is needed.

*S. barbata* is an herb found in Korea and southern China. It is used with other herbs in traditional Chinese medicine to treat bacterial infections, hepatitis, and tumors. Laboratory studies have shown *S. barbata* can limit the growth of cancer cells. It is also effective against some bacteria. Small studies in humans suggest that *S. barbata* may benefit patients with advanced breast cancer. Further studies are needed.

## What are the potential uses and benefits?

- To treat hepatitis  
Scientific evidence is lacking.
- To treat bacterial infections  
Lab studies suggest benefit but additional studies are needed.
- To treat cancer  
Lab studies suggest that *S. barbata* has anticancer properties. A few small studies in humans report that it may benefit patients with advanced breast cancer, but larger studies are needed.

## What are the side effects?

None reported

## What else do I need to know?

Do Not Take if:

- You are allergic to *S. barbata*.
- You are pregnant.

Special Point:

*Scutellaria barbata* should not be confused with [\*Scutellaria baicalensis\*](#).

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](http://www.mskcc.org/pe) to search our virtual library.

Scutellaria barbata - Last updated on June 19, 2023

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