



## PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

# Camu-camu

This information describes the common uses of Camu-camu, how it works, and its possible side effects.

Tell your healthcare providers about any dietary supplements you're taking, such as herbs, vitamins, minerals, and natural or home remedies. This will help them manage your care and keep you safe.

## What is it?

Camu-camu has not been shown to prevent or treat cancer in humans.

Camu-camu is a small plant that grows in South America. Laboratory studies and a small study in humans have shown that the fruits have antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties. More research is needed.

Because camu-camu has high amounts of [vitamin C](#), it may interfere with certain chemotherapy drugs.

# What are the potential uses and benefits?

- **Cancer**

Camu-camu has not been shown to prevent or treat cancer in humans.

- **Immune support**

There is no scientific evidence to support this use.

- **Atherosclerosis**

There is no scientific evidence to support this use.

- **Arthritis**

This claim is not backed by scientific research.

# What else do I need to know?

## Do Not Take if:

You are taking chemotherapy drugs: Camu-camu has high amounts of **vitamin C**, which may interfere with their activity.

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.

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