

## **The influence of B<sub>17</sub> in the natural therapeutic treatment of cancer:**

A holistic protocol is essential for the effective therapeutic treatment of chronic degenerative lifestyle conditions such as cancer. No known single panacea for such conditions can be validated beyond doubt, and most thinking individuals recognise the need to review broad aspects of their somatic condition, lifestyle and life choices. However, there are significantly important nutrients that must be a component of a comprehensive approach to effective cancer therapy. Amygdalin (also known as Vitamin B<sub>17</sub>, Nitriloside or commercially as Laetrile) use in the treatment of human cancer has a recorded history in the western world since at least 1843, although there are notations from around 3,000 years ago outlining the treatment of tumours by traditional Chinese therapists using bitter almonds, a food known for their significant quantities of amygdalin.

### **NATURAL SOURCE**

B<sub>17</sub> (Amygdalin) is not a drug it is a naturally occurring vitamin. Laetrile is simply a prepared concentrate of B<sub>17</sub> derived from the Nitrilosides found in many common foods. Amygdalin (Vitamin B<sub>17</sub>) is especially prevalent in the seeds of those fruits of the Prunus rosacea family including; bitter almond, apricot, blackthorn, cherry, nectarine, peach and plum. It is found in other natural foods containing nitriloside and has been used and studied extensively for well over a century. It can also be sourced from grasses, maize, sorghum, millet, cassava, linseed, apple seeds, alfalfa sprouts, bamboo shoots, barley, beet tops, blackberries, boysenberries, brown rice, buckwheat, cashews, garbanzo beans, gooseberries, huckleberries, lentils, lima beans, loganberries, macadamia nuts, pecans, quince, raspberries, cane syrup, spinach, sprouts, mung beans, strawberries, walnuts, watercress, yams and many other foods that, generally, have been deleted from the menus of our modern civilization. B<sub>17</sub> has a naturally bitter taste whereas the preference of western populations is for flavours other than bitter, leading to a general deficiency in the consumption of foods high in B<sub>17</sub>. Fruit kernels or seeds have abundant other nutrients including protein, unsaturated fatty acids, vitamins, phyto nutrients and various minerals. The most common source of B<sub>17</sub> is the apricot kernel where it is present in concentrations approximating 2 to 3%.

There are 3 interchangeable names - Vitamin B<sub>17</sub>, Amygdalin and Laetrile. Vitamin B<sub>17</sub> was the name given to the purified form of Amygdalin isolated by the Bio Chemist, Ernst T Krebs in 1952. He also called it Laetrile, an abbreviation of laevo-mandelonitrile-beta-glucuronoside, and was officially awarded its vitamin status in 1952 after advice from Dr Dean Burke, the co-founder of the National Cancer Institute. Amygdalin on the other hand was apparently discovered and used by a German chemist known as Liebig as far back as 1830. Laetrile is simply a more soluble and concentrated form of amygdalin,

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which allows for administration in higher concentrations. Essentially all 3 are the same nutrient.

Vitamin B<sub>17</sub> is possibly rated as one of the most controversial medical topics in the last 30 years. You may recall during the period of 1950's to the mid 1970's there was a lot of hype in the medical world regarding a new natural cancer treatment that killed cancer cells. This interest was catalysed by Dr Krebs book entitled "World Without Cancer". Subsequently, after several years of litigation and controversy the American FDA suppressed the publication of the noted benefits of Laetrile while mass media commentary was conscripted reporting it as a fraud and a failure labelling it quackery.

In recent times the hype has returned, largely the result of the highly interactive platform of the Internet, permitting freedom of information transfer from concerned people all over the world. Those with cancer experiences are revealing their personal journey, while the significant number of medical cover-ups regarding cancer treatment and medical protocol in general are gradually being exposed. Fortunately, the vested interests of medical and pharmaceutical organisations are gradually being exposed. In researching deeply and broadly both the historical evolution and the entrenched financial interests behind the medical industry one begins to discover the real motivations of the corporate and association components of the industry (see more - Iatrogenicity). One also reveals the real human experiences with Vitamin B<sub>17</sub> therapy.

### **HOW DOES B<sub>17</sub> INTERACT WITH CANCER?**

If you believe in natural balance the logic of how B<sub>17</sub> intervenes in the spread of cancerous growths is readily understood. Nature has provided our bodies with natural defences against cancer as it has with most other chronic disease. The availability and effectiveness of beneficial phyto nutrients is determined relative to beneficial food intake and food practices or conversely the overuse of substances we have come to accept and believe to be food. It is a perfect balance, sustaining vitality or morbidity according to the way we live and the conscious choices we make meal by meal, day by day. When we alter naturally sustaining life balances according to choices of convenience or poor dietary patterning rather than the way we could optimally be, it is then that chronic disease becomes an invasive issue in our lives. Not that our body is betraying us, it rarely does, rather our body is doing everything it possibly can to protect us from our poor lifestyle choices.

It may be beneficial to alter your understanding of tumours. Rather than perceiving a tumour as something abhorrent, something to wage an unnecessary battle against, we need to adjust the misconception that your body is acting against your best interests. Some tumours may be considered as

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trashcans where your body is actually attempting to safely store toxic materials that the detoxification system (primarily the liver) cannot cope with. Other tumours may be seen as rapidly dividing cells attempting to produce the necessary output of enzymes or other bodily secretions required by the body without sufficient supplies of the necessary nutrients, or against accumulated layers of problematic substances.

If you require science to validate the need for behavioural change then the logic and precision of how B<sub>17</sub> interacts with cancer is easy to accept, because the enzymatic activity and scientific chemistry occurring in the body are very real and undisputed processes. Apparently the American FDA had commissioned a team of cancer specialists and biochemists to conduct tests to see if B<sub>17</sub> could kill cancer cells. The team reportedly found it did kill cancer, though apparently the team was dispersed while the findings were withheld and suppressed.

You may be curious as to how and why B<sub>17</sub> is so effective and why also there is so much controversy. Initially we need to understand that our bodies construct and use thousands of enzymes to perform many and varied tasks. Our body has one particular enzyme called rhodanese that is found in large quantities throughout the body but is lacking wherever there are cancer cells. However, wherever you find cancer cells in the body, you find an abundance of another enzyme called beta-glucosidase. So, we have the enzyme rhodanese found ubiquitously in the body except at the sites of cancer cells, and we have the enzyme beta-glucosidase found in very large quantities specifically at the site of cancer cells but limited elsewhere in the body. If there is no cancer there is very limited quantities of beta-glucosidase.

Now the following information when not understood with absolute clarity generates fear and uncertainty in most people. In fact there are organisations doing their best to promote confusion in order to ensure that fear remains a prominent part of the cancer journey, they having significant financial interest in the maintenance and perpetuation of disease states. Spend some time digesting carefully the following information. It is vital that a clear understanding of the metabolic transformation of B<sub>17</sub> resolves any doubt as to its benefits.

The molecule of vitamin B<sub>17</sub> is made up of 2 parts glucose, 1 part hydrogen cyanide and 1 part benzaldehyde. So in order to comprehend the benefits of laetrile it is imperative that you understand the following. When B<sub>17</sub> is introduced into the body, it is broken down quickly by the enzyme rhodanese.

**Rhodanese metabolises the hydrogen cyanide and benzaldehyde down into 2 by-products; thiocyanate and benzoic acid that are highly beneficial in nourishing healthy cells and forming the**

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**metabolic pool of products for the production of another imperative nutrient, Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>.** Any excess of these by-products is expelled in normal fashion from the body via urine. Vitamin B<sub>17</sub> passes through the body lasting little longer than around 80 minutes as a result of the rhodanese breaking it down. Interestingly, hydrogen cyanide is apparently chemically inert and non-toxic when taken as food or as a refined concentrate such as Laetrile. Sugar conversely, has been shown to be 20 times more toxic on body mechanisms than B<sub>17</sub>.

The benefits of Amygdalin in relation to cancerous cell proliferation occur when the B<sub>17</sub> comes in contact with the cancer cells. Remember there is limited rhodanese available in those areas to break it down and neutralise it. Instead, the presence of the enzyme beta-glucosidase in very large quantities coming into contact with the B<sub>17</sub> generates a different chemical reaction where the hydrogen cyanide and benzaldehyde combine synergistically to produce a highly specific poison that destroys and kills the cancerous cells. The whole process is known as selective toxicity where the high beta-glucosidase containing areas specific to cancer cell proliferation are targeted and destroyed. The medical profession is only just beginning to fathom the value of this type of tissue specific targeting, yet nature has already created the ideal and natural mechanism of selective non-debilitating chemotherapy.

You now have a basic understanding about how vitamin B<sub>17</sub> impacts cancer. Anecdotally, it is reputed to be validated by several of the top specialists in the world and many individuals have apparently had rapid and enduring success using B<sub>17</sub> in conjunction with a more complete holistic treatment protocol and lifestyle enhancement. This includes: **dietary optimisation, exercise, detoxification, alkalisng, enzymatic and nutrient support.** The theory behind the use of B<sub>17</sub> in cancer patients is sound but there is still debate as to whether clinical usage is of benefit. The vested financial interests of the medical profession will continue to proffer doubt, whereas there exists little or no funding to support research of a therapeutic protocol that cannot be patented to auger huge profit from. For the general population however, B<sub>17</sub> is harmless to healthy tissue and that is a major, if not the most important consideration and advantage when dealing with cytotoxic agents.

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