Swiss Mesothelioma Patients Respond to Novel Ovarian Cancer Drug, According to Surviving Mesothelioma

Scientists say the proposed new second-line treatment is based on a drug derived from sea creatures.

Raleigh, NC (PRWEB) July 26, 2016 -- Researchers testing an analog of a marine-derived drug say two cases of progressive pleural mesothelioma have responded well to it. Surviving Mesothelioma has more on the newly published case studies. Click here to read about them now.

The new drug, called lurbinectedin, is chemically similar to trabectedin, a drug derived from the Caribbean sea squirt and approved for ovarian cancer in Europe and Japan. When researchers at Kantonsspital Graubunden in Chur, Switzerland gave the drug to two patients with pleural mesothelioma, their tumors shrunk.

“The combination showed promising activity in both cases with manageable toxicity,” writes lead researcher Yannis Metaxas of the Department of Oncology.

According to the report in Lung Cancer, both patients had failed standard chemotherapy. The most effective mesothelioma treatment combination included both lurbinectedin and the platinum drug cisplatin.

“This study should be of interest to mesothelioma patients and families because we know that, unfortunately, many of them will eventually be looking for a second-line mesothelioma treatment,” says Alex Strauss, Managing Editor of Surviving Mesothelioma.

Standard chemotherapy with pemetrexed (Alimta) and cisplatin is only marginally effective. To read more about lurbinectedin and the new study, see Novel Mesothelioma Treatment is Based on Marine-Derived Compound, now available on the Surviving Mesothelioma website.


For nearly ten years, Surviving Mesothelioma has brought readers the most important and ground-breaking news on the causes, diagnosis and treatment of mesothelioma. All Surviving Mesothelioma news is gathered and reported directly from the peer-reviewed medical literature. Written for patients and their loved ones, Surviving Mesothelioma news helps families make more informed decisions.
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