











### Goals of integrative treatments

- Increase tumor kill from any treatment
- Reduce Side effects of any treatment



### **Supporting Chemotherapy**

 Meta-analysis of 21 clinical trials found combining melatonin with chemotherapy decreased 1 yr mortality, and reduces asthenia, leukopenia, nausea, vomiting, thrombocytopenia. RR of 1 yr mortality was 0.63.

### Adding 20 mg melatonin to standard therapy for stage 4 cancer doubled response to tx and doubled survival at 1 yr Eur. J. Ca 1999;35:1688

### **Supporting Chemotherapy**

- VITAMIN D
  - Pretreatment with 1,25 dihydroxy vitamin D led to approx 75% enhancement of action of dox against ca cells. (Ca Res. 1999;59:862)
  - Improving vitamin D levels significantly improved outcomes and survival in lymphoma pts receiving R-CHOP chemotherapy (ASCO 2013 -post 103)
  - Enhances response to taxotere in advanced prostate cancer (ASCO 2002)

### **Supporting Cancer Care**

- At least 5 studies show Ashwaganda to increase benefits of radiation therapy
- A mouthwash made from Yarrow helped chemotherapyinduced mucositis more than the usual formulation



# Safe, basic support during <u>most</u> chemotherapy

- Melatonin
- Vitamin D
- Glutamine
- Fish oil
- Multivitamin
- Green tea
- Vit. C & Immune support

## **Goals of integrative treatments**

- Increase tumor kill from any treatment
- Reduce Side effects of any treatment
- Inhibit metastasis (distant spread)
- ID & correct tumor "drivers"
- Improve immunity
- Improve overall health
- Long term secondary prevention

# Aftercare - (Surviving & Thriving)

- Prevent return of original cancer
- Prevent other types of cancer
- Prevent or tx long term effects of cancer treatment
- Identify individual risk factors
- Overall wellness promotion
- Health, Happiness, Balance



If you need cancer treatment, integrative medicine can improve:

- response to treatment
- quality of life
- survival.





## **Another Way of Thinking**

- Cancer is a defect in regulation
- Cancer cells are mostly normal
- The imbalance is potentially reversible
- Using killing strategies <u>alone</u> may be counterproductive
- Host response is critical
- Cancer growth rates are variable, depending on the regulatory balance

• ref: Schipper et al J. Clinical Oncology 1995;13:801

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# More good news

The environment surrounding a tumor cell can promote or discourage tumor growth independent of tumor genetics (Tumor suppressor or promoter genes)



JNCI 2002:941494

### **Role of chronic inflammation** in cancer development

- Microbial pathogens
- Environmental exposure
- Dietary lifestyle
- **Tumor Development**  Therapy induced **Cell transformation** Primary growth Chronic inflammation **Metastasis**

Chronic inflammation initiates and impacts all major stages of tumor progression, from cell transformation to widespread metastasis.











# **Take Home Tip #2**

- Cancer Biology is extremely complex.
- No simple answers
- Natural therapies can modify multiple steps in cancer growth.
- Bonus tip: To reduce inflammation throughout the body- use curcumin







### **Obesity, insulin & cancer**

- Obesity could account for 14% of all cancer deaths in men and 20% in women (NEJM 2003;348:17)
- High insulin may be the best predictor of whether a woman's breast cancer recurs. (JCO 2002;20:42)
- 60% higher risk of colon cancer with higher levels of insulin. 90% increase with highest waist circumference (JNCI1999;91:1147)



### **Nature Medicine**

• Rather than trying to cure cancer by killing off every last cell, it makes more sense to control the disease by modifying factors which control cancer growth (Lancet 1996;348:1149)

### Take Home Tip #3

Change the environment that supports cancer cell growth, and you change the outcome

# LET FOOD BE THY MEDICINE LET MEDICINE BE THY FOOD

HIPPOCRATES







Reiter et al. 2013, Cancer Investigation

# **Does diet really matter?**

- Mice were injected with an aggressive mammary tumor and then placed on three diets.
- After 70 days:
  - 33% of mice on high sugar diet were alive.
  - 67% of moderate sugar diet mice
  - 95% of low sugar diet mice were alive.



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# **Does diet really matter?**

- Swedish twins study
- Worldwide comparisons of ca rates



### **Alcohol & Cancer** Type # studies % increase per Tobacco drink Cancer synergy Breast 60 10% 45 5% Colon 45 5% Rectal Liver 25 20% Oral >50 30% Yes 30 30% Yes Esophag.

# Take Home Tip #4 Eat Half your plate as vegetables Eat a rainbow of foods Eat locally, organically and in season (when possible) Beans = inexpensive healthy protein

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- Eat Nuts







# Herbs & Immune Support

- Cancer treatments, (even surgery) reduce immune function (Brit.J. Ca 2007;97:105)
- Supporting immunity improves survival in many cancers







# **Mushrooms**

- Mushrooms do not kill tumors directly but act through the immune system (Appl Microbiol Biotechnol 2002;60:258) (Anticancer res 2000;20:4707)
- Reishi suppresses growth of breast cancer cells by reducing inflammation (Nutr Cancer 2004;49:209)
- Coriolus (turkey tail) stimulate NK cells

# Astragalus

- Red blood cell tonic
- Enhances activity of white blood cells.
- Increases NK cell activity
- Corrects T cell dysfunction in blood of cancer pts (J. Clin. Lab Immunol 1988;25:119)



# Take Home Tip #5

- Take vitamin D for health
- Support immunity with mushrooms, echinacea, & astragalus
- Drink green tea





# Putting it all together

• Don't smoke



# **Putting it all together**

• Avoid risky behaviors



# Putting it all together

- Don't smoke
- Avoid risky behaviors
- Healthy Diet
- Alcohol in moderation, (if any)
- Stay Active
- Maintain Healthy weight
- Take time for fun
- Sleep
- Take <u>high quality</u> vitamins







# Putting it all together

- Simple changes like getting enough sleep can make everything work better
- Where you spend your mental and physical focus affects your health
- Take time for fun, laughter, joy, friends & family
- Give back to your community and family
- Live in accordance with your inner values
- Get out into nature



