

Biological Trash Causes Cancer Cells to Self-Destruct

Printed from <https://www.cancerquest.org/newsroom/2017/07/biological-trash-causes-cancer-cells-self-destruct> on 02/11/2026



Researchers from California Institute of Technology and UC San Diego have developed a drug that causes cancer cells to self-destruct. The drug works by blocking the cancer cells' ability to clean up their 'garbage,' causing the cells to fill up with waste products. Eventually the cancer cells self-destruct. The research team has tested this on human cancer cells, and next they are going to test the drug in animals.¹

¹ Jing Li, Tanya Yakushi, Francesco Parlati, Andrew L Mackinnon, Christian Perez, Yuyong Ma, Kyle P Carter, Sharon Colayco, Gavin Magnuson, Brock Brown, Kevin Nguyen, Stefan Vasile, Eigo Suyama, Layton H Smith, Eduard Sergienko, Anthony B Pinkerton, Thomas D Y Chung, Amy E Palmer, Ian Pass, Sonja Hess, Seth M Cohen & Raymond J Deshaies. "Capzimin is a potent and specific inhibitor of proteasome isopeptidase Rpn11. (2017) [[NATURE](#)]

Source

<http://observer.com/2017/02/cancer-cure-drug-cells-self-destruct/>

Learn More

[Learn more about the discovery and development of drugs here.](#)