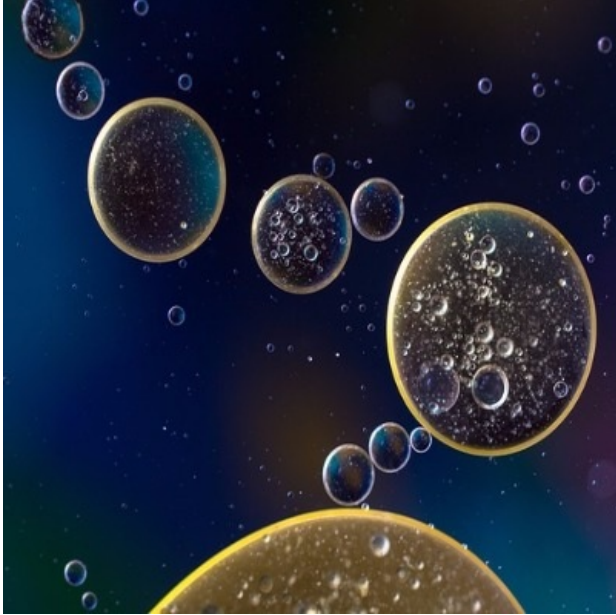


# Dead Cancer Cells Help Living Cancer Cells - But They Can Be Blocked

Printed from <https://www.cancerquest.org/newsroom/2017/12/dead-cancer-cells-help-living-cancer-cells-they-can-be-blocked> on 04/26/2026



Cancer treatments are designed to kill cancer cells. Seems pretty simple, but it isn't. When cancer cells die, they can cause inflammation, and chronic inflammation supports the growth of cancer.

What can be done about this?

Researchers from Harvard and the Institute of Systems Biology have found that the inflammation triggered by dying cancer cells can be blocked by substances called resolvins. Resolvins reduce inflammation and cause the fragments of dead cells to be 'eaten' by other cells, getting them out of the system.

Because resolvins are already being investigated for other medical uses, they could move into cancer patients relatively quickly. Another plus - they appear to be non-toxic.

Source

<http://www.newswise.com/articles/view/685701/?sc=dwhn>

Learn More

[Learn more about what it is like inside a tumor.](#)