

Hepatitis C

NAME/T.K.	AGE/66	SEX/Female	AREA/Japan
History of Past Diseases and Treatments			
<p>In 1990, the patient was diagnosed with hepatitis C, but had no specific symptoms. In July 1995, a health checkup revealed an abnormality in the liver. She had a complete medical checkup at the general hospital, which revealed a 3 cm liver cancer lesion. The treatment regimen involved infusing ethanol into the affected area. The patient was given Rice Bran Arabinoxylan Compound (RBAC) at 3 g daily to reduce the adverse effect of the ethanol therapy and protect the liver. Ethanol therapy was repeated seven times and adverse effects such as fever, nausea and anorexia were mild. The AFP value also decreased from 602.5 to 7.2, so the patient was discharged on the last day of September. Although the AST and ALT values at discharge were 60 and 85, respectively, the examination performed in February 1996 showed that the area treated with ethanol had necrotized, the tumor completely disappeared and liver function normalized.</p>			
Changes caused by ingestion of RBAC			
<p>Within three days after treatment with RBAC was started, the patient began to improve and regained her appetite. She felt she could endure the ethanol therapy with her increased physical strength and wished to recover her health completely.</p>			
Evaluation			
<p>Ethanol therapy is performed to solidify tumors with ethanol to prevent further growth, but it may cause inflammation and pain in surrounding tissues. The immunopotentiating and liver-protective effect of RBAC reduced the adverse effects of ethanol therapy and increased its effectiveness.</p>			