

MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS **RESEARCH SUMMARY**

TOPIC: TECARTUS: CURE FOR MANTLE CELL LYMPHOMA?
REPORT: MB #4871

BACKGROUND: Immunotherapy is a type of cancer treatment that can help a person's immune system fight cancer, infections, and other diseases. Immunotherapy uses white blood cells, organs, and tissues from the lymphatic system. Immunotherapy is a type of biological therapy, a treatment that uses material made from living organisms to treat cancer. Immunotherapy drugs have been approved to treat many types of cancer but are not as widely utilized as surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation therapy. Immunotherapy can currently be administered in multiple ways such as through the vein, bladder, a pill, or skin cream. Only a small percentage of people who have used immunotherapy treatments react to the treatment; however researchers are looking for ways to help increase this number as well as have a better understanding of how cancer cells can are able to maneuver around the immune system which could result in the development of new drugs that block those processes.

(Source: <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/immunotherapy#how-does-immunotherapy-work-against-cancer>)

DIAGNOSING: A person may receive immunotherapy in a doctor's office, clinic, or outpatient unit in a hospital. Immunotherapy can cause side effects, such as an immune response not only against the cancer but also against healthy cells and tissues within a person's body. The type of cancer a person has and how advanced it is, and the type of immunotherapy they are receiving, and how a person's body reacts to the treatment can determine how often and how long a person can receive immunotherapy.

(Source: <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/types/immunotherapy#how-does-immunotherapy-work-against-cancer>)

NEW TECHNOLOGY: Immunotherapy treatments have been approved in the United States to treat various types of cancers. The use of immunotherapy treatments comes after years of research and testing designed to show the benefits and achievements of these treatments. Scientists continue to work on ways to determine which patients are likely to respond to these treatments and which are not. As a result, new strategies are being analyzed to expand the number of patients who could benefit from immunotherapy treatments. Immunotherapy is already helping to prolong and save the lives of many cancer patients and in the future, treatments could become more precise, more personalized, and more effective than current cancer treatments.

(Source: <https://www.cancerresearch.org/immunotherapy/what-is-immunotherapy>)

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If this story or any other Ivanhoe story has impacted your life or prompted you or someone you know to seek or change treatments, please let us know by contacting Marjorie Bekaert Thomas at mthomas@ivanhoe.com