# DavosLife: Vitamin E Tocotrienol Shows Increased Cancer Cell Apoptosis Without Toxicity in Phase 1 Pancreatic Cancer Trial

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SINGAPORE, May 30, 2011 /PRNewswire-Asia/ -- Davos Life Science (DavosLife) has today announced preliminary results of a phase I clinical trial of its Natural e3 delta-tocotrienol (Natural e3) in patients with resectable pancreatic cancer. Tocotrienols are highly potent members of the Vitamin E family that have been found by researchers to inhibit the growth and survival of various types of cancer cells. This clinical trial revealed that Natural e3 was able to increase apoptosis (cell death) in pancreatic cancer tumours, with no toxicity. The study was carried out by researchers at The H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute in Florida, United States, and supported by DavosLife and by the U.S. National Institute of Health. This data was presented by the Moffitt Cancer Center at the recent American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting.

For a period of 2 weeks prior to surgery, 12 subjects received Natural e3, with 3 subjects at each dose level of 200 mg, 400 mg, 600 mg and 800 mg per day. This oral treatment occurred pre-surgery to examine the effect of Natural e3 on the resected pancreatic cancer tumour. To assess for toxicity, blood samples were collected pre-dose on day 1, day 8, on the day of the patients' surgery and 3-6 weeks post-surgery. This trial occurred between October 2009 and August 2010.

The Moffitt Cancer Center researchers, led by Dr Mokenge Malafa, found no adverse drug-related events in the patients and no change in the rate of post-operative complications at doses up to 800 mg per day. They also found that giving patients daily doses of Natural e3 greater than 200 mg increased apoptosis in the pancreatic tumours as well as increased expression of p27, an important kinase inhibitor involved in the regulation of the cell cycle. Reduced levels of p27 have been found in some types of cancers.

"Pancreatic cancer is a highly fatal form of cancer with average 5 year survival rates at less than 10%
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