

Chemotherapy may enable the hardiest tumor cells to grow back stronger after treatment

A new [study](#) in mice has found that chemotherapy can cause some of the healthy cells surrounding a tumour to produce proteins that encourage the hardiest tumour cells to start growing more aggressively after treatment.

When the researchers, based at Taipei Medical University, National Institute of Cancer Research in Taiwan and the University of California, changed the way chemotherapy was given to a longer and lower dose regimen, they didn't see this effect on the healthy cells.

Dr Erik Sahai, an expert in cancer cell biology from the Francis Crick Institute, said: "This adds to the growing evidence that cancer drugs can affect normal cells that are found within and around tumours. And these effects can make treatments less effective in the long run."

Chemotherapy is usually given to cancer patients every few weeks at the "maximum tolerated" dose to kill as many cancer cells as possible.

And while this helps get rid of most of the cancer cells, one of the biggest problems is that a few hardy ones usually survive...

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [Cancer cells hijack healthy cells to regrow after treatment](#)