



NAME OF LABORATORY: Laboratory of Herbal Medicine and Cancer Research

PI: Dr. Shahar Lev-ari MD

Director of Division: Prof. Ido Wolf MD

Research Objectives:

Some of the main anti-cancer drugs are derivatives of herbal remedies, such as Taxol, produced from *Taxus brevifolia* and Vincristine, derived from the Rosy Periwinkle flower. Our aim is to investigate the most promising bio-active compounds used in herbal medicine and develop novel modalities for cancer treatment.

Main Research topics:

- Translational research - to investigate the anti-cancer effects of medicinal herbs in the laboratory and the application of the results in the clinic.
- Sensitize cancer cells to conventional chemo-radiotherapy
- Discover molecular pathways underlying the effect of medicinal herbs in cancer treatment

Methods:

- Cellular Biology
- Models of Chemo-Sensitization
- Models of Radio-Sensitization

Staff: Dr. Shahar Lev-ari, Prof. Ilan Ron, Dr. Gideon Earon, Prof. Akiva Vexler, 2 PhD/MSc students, PhD researcher

Active Grants:

- De Rothschild Foundation
- Chaya and Kadish Shermeister Endowment
- Tel-Aviv University

Collaborations:

- Division of Cancer Research, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology
- Institute of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of Mainz, Germany
- Weizmann Institute, Israel

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