

# Interaction between cytostatics and nutrients

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## **Abstract:**

Cancer patients have the highest prevalence of malnutrition of any group of hospitalized patients. The presence of the tumor alone may lead to reduced intake of different nutrients and treatment modalities such as surgery, chemotherapy and radiation therapy may further exacerbate nutritional disturbances. Dietary manipulation in experimental systems has shown improvement of tumor response to cancer therapy. Drug pharmacokinetics has been shown to be altered by changes in nutritional delivery. This article reviews the present knowledge, from experimental and clinical standpoints, of the potential role of different nutritional factors on the specific cancer treatment. It is obvious that alteration of at least some dietary factors affect the outcome of different forms of cancer treatment. Indeed, although interest in the clinical significance of optimal dietary intake and supplementation during cancer therapy so far remain marginal, accumulating data indicate that this area deserves further research attention