Shark Cartilage by Dr. john Fudens HMC DVM PH

The most obvious difference between sharks and other land or water creatures, is that sharks don’t have bones. Their skeleton is entirely cartilage. This accounts for up to 8% of a sharks gross weight. In humans cartilage is found in the harder parts of the ears and nose, around joints, at the ends of bones and between spinal segments. In addition to their unique skeleton, sharks have a strong effective immune system. Whereas the human immune system responds to each antigen (a foreign substance that stimulates antibody production) with various types of antibodies, the shark immune system consists of a single nonspecific antibody that remains continuously alert and active against all foreign invaders. The single antibody circulates through a shark’s blood-stream even when no antigen is present, constantly killing infection.

A shark’s cancer rate is estimated to be one out of 1 million or less. Even when researchers have deliberately exposed sharks to high concentrations of known carcinogens, or cancer-causing substances, they’ve been unable to produce a single tumor in the fish.

For reasons scientists don’t fully understand, shark cartilage causes blood vessels in some mammals to stop fully growing. Since a cancerous tumor must develop new blood vessels to enlarge, if you block blood vessel growth, the cancer will slowly die. This is what happens treating cancers.

Shark cartilage is a natural, nontoxic substance that acts as a therapeutic agent and protective measure against some forms of cancer and other diseases that are dependent on the growth of new blood vessels. This research goes back as far as 1970 and in 1985, Dr. John Prudden, a Harvard-trained surgeon, published a major clinical study of his patients that indicated shark cartilage could inhibit tumor growth.

Shark cartilage is an excellent source of calcium and phosphorus. It also contains amino acids and a family of carbohydrates called mucopolysaccharides. It is this last substance that seems to be the more active ingredient in preventing blood vessel growth. Additionally, shark cartilage has been making great inroads in the treatment of arthritis, bronchitis, and asthma related conditions, as well as psoriasis.

More than 500,000 Americans die from cancer each year so you can see why there is such intense interest in using shark cartilage for humans.

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