

A new drug to treat cancer to be made from a Puerto Rican patent ^[1]

Submitted on 8 September 2021 - 11:47am

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El Nuevo Día ^[2]

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El hongo *Ganoderma lucidum*. This image was originally posted to iNaturalist by bjoerns at <https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/48805944>.

After 14 years of studying the anticancer effects of the medicinal mushroom *Ganoderma lucidum*, Dr. Michelle Martínez Montemayor achieved “the dream of every researcher”: to contribute with new technologies to the health of human beings, in her case, through the development of a drug.

Last month, the Canadian company Revive Therapeutics bought exclusively the license for Dr. Martínez Montemayor's patent related to the fungus, with the goal of creating a drug in 10 years. Dr. Martínez Montemayor is an associate professor of the Department of Biochemistry of the Central University of the Caribbean (UCC).

This drug - which, for now, it is unknown whether it would be in capsule, injectable or another route - would benefit patients with two of the most aggressive types of breast cancer: inflammatory and triple-negative.

In an interview with *El Nuevo Día*, Martínez Montemayor reported that his research, which is shared with Dr. Fátima Rivas, from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, revealed that one of the compounds in *Ganoderma lucidum*, known as ergosterol peroxide (EP, in English), “has a well-defined effect” on inflammatory and triple-negative breast cancer cells.

You can read the full story in the Spanish version of this article.

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