Researchers at the University of South Florida have discovered a method of treating various forms of cancer by utilizing four cancer growth inhibiting peptides.

Prostate and lung cancer remain significant causes of cancer mortality, and more effective treatments for these malignancies must be developed. There is an increased incidence of secondary cancers with certain chemotherapy regimens used to treat small-cell lung cancer, and chemotherapeutic regimens for small-cell lung cancer may induce cardiac myopathy. All presently utilized chemotherapeutic agents for treatment of small-cell lung cancers have side-effects, including myelosuppression. Therefore, there is a need for a method of treating cancer that can both improve survival, lacks the side effects of current therapies, and ultimately decreases morbidity.

USF inventors have developed an effective method that applies natriuretic peptides to inhibit cancer cell growth. Natriuretic peptides circulate naturally in healthy humans, and evidence shows that they may be applied as a therapeutic agent for cancer treatment. These peptide hormones were found to have significant anticancer effects on human breast and pancreatic adenocarcinomas as well as small-cell and squamous cell lung carcinomas. The ability of these peptide hormones to decrease the number of cancer cells has implications for other types of cancer such as breast, colon and prostate cancers. This method represents a potential natural cancer therapeutic that has none of the side effects of current cancer therapeutic agents.

### ADVANTAGES:
- Natural therapeutic agent
- None of the common side effects of chemotherapy
- Potential to treat a variety of cancers

### Method of Utilizing Four Cardiac Peptide Hormones to Inhibit the Growth of Cancer

- **Percentage of Mice Completely Cured of Primary Pancreatic Carcinomas with Four Separate Cardiac Peptides**

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