

## Studies on Blackcurrants and Influenza A and B

**Title:** Prevention of infection of influenza virus Blackcurrant Extract

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**Study:** Influenza virus has the ability to absorb to chicken blood erythrocytes, resulting in hemagglutination. The hemagglutinin of influenza virus is a surface protein binding with sialic acid of the host cell during the early stages of infection. We investigated whether BCX (blackcurrant extract) could interfere with viral absorption to chicken blood erythrocytes resulting in hemagglutination inhibition test.

**Results:** BCX and BBX (bilberry extract) were significantly inhibited hemagglutination. Furthermore, the anti-viral effect of BCX was greater than BBX.

**Conclusion:** WE found that BCS inhibited the influenza virus infection. These results indicate that BCX can become the specific medicine in prevention of the influenza infection.