

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**CONTACT:**

Judy Erickson
Marketing Manager
SAGE Publications
Tel: (805)410-7720
Email: media.inquiries@sagepub.com

**IS MILK THISTLE EFFECTIVE IN CANCER TREATMENT?
SPECIAL ISSUE OF *INTEGRATIVE CANCER THERAPIES JOURNAL*, PUBLISHED BY SAGE,
PRESENTS SUMMARY OF RESEARCH ON HERBAL SUPPLEMENT**

Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, and Singapore (July 9) – Milk thistle extract, an herbal remedy since the times of the ancient Greeks and Romans, is today one of the most popular herbal supplements, with U.S. retail sales of nearly nine million dollars.

The current issue of *Integrative Cancer Therapies* (ICT) published by SAGE, contains a summary of current research on and clinical application of silymarin, the mixture of chemicals found in milk thistle. The special issue features new research from Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian and Columbia University Medical Center finding liver-protective effects for silymarin in children receiving cancer chemotherapy. Guest edited by Drs. Kara Kelly, Janice Post-White, and Elena Ladas, the issue covers the entire scope of milk thistle use in cancer treatment, as well as in fighting other diseases like hepatitis C, diabetes, and HIV, reporting on such subjects as:

- Recent advances in the use of milk thistle
- Clinical trials evaluating the safety and efficacy of milk thistle
- The molecular makeup of silymarin
- Benefits of silymarin use before and during toxic insults to the liver, including damage from alcohol; cancer chemotherapy and other drugs; solvents; and mushroom poisoning
- Direction for future research on milk thistle for cancer patients

"This special issue presents both preclinical and clinical studies demonstrating the potential role of milk thistle as an anticancer agent. No other medications or supplements are currently available that preserve liver function and provide clinical benefits," write the guest editors in their opening editorial.

"The clinical potential for a liver-protective supplement in cancer care is significant, as I've observed in many years of integrative medical practice," writes Dr. Keith Block, *ICT* editor. "Several chemotherapy drugs, as well as many of the other drugs cancer patients take, have extremely problematic liver toxicities. With this exclusive edition, the scientific community will have a resource to guide and inspire further research on this very interesting herbal medicine."

The special issue of *Integrated Cancer Therapies*, guest edited by Kara Kelly, M.D. and Elena Ladas, both at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital and Columbia University Medical Center, and Janice Post-White, RN, PhD, FAAN, of the University of Minnesota, is accessibly for free for a limited time at <http://ict.sagepub.com/content/vol6/issue2/>.

###

About SAGE

SAGE Publications is a leading international publisher of journals, books, and electronic media for academic, educational, and professional markets. Since 1965, SAGE has helped inform and educate a global community of scholars, practitioners, researchers, and students spanning a wide range of subject areas including business, humanities, social sciences, and science, technology and medicine. A privately owned corporation, SAGE has principal offices in Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, and Singapore. www.sagepublications.com

About *Integrative Cancer Therapies*

Written for everyone involved in comprehensive cancer treatment and care—from health care professionals to informed patients, and edited by Dr. Keith Block, Medical and Scientific Director of the Institute for Integrative Cancer Care — ***Integrative Cancer Therapies*** focuses on the scientific mechanisms of cancer therapies, the physiology of disease conditions, as well as the psychosocial and spiritual needs of the patient.
<http://ict.sagepub.com>