

#### PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

# Stillingia

This information describes the common uses of Stillingia, how it works, and its possible side effects.

Tell your healthcare providers about any dietary supplements you're taking, such as herbs, vitamins, minerals, and natural or home remedies. This will help them manage your care and keep you safe.

#### What is it?

There is no evidence to support use of stillingia to treat cancer, infections, or other medical conditions.

Stillingia is a root extract. It is known to contain chemicals called diterpene esters, toxic irritants that can cause swelling and inflammation. One lab experiment suggested that diterpene esters can halt the growth of cancer cells, but stillingia has not been studied.

Stillingia root is one of the ingredients in Hoxsey Herbal Therapy, which is promoted as an alternative cancer treatment.

## What are the potential uses and benefits?

Evidence is lacking to support claims that stillingia might be able to treat:

- Bronchitis
- Chest congestion
- Cancer as part of Hoxsey Herbal Therapy

Stillingia 1/2

- Constipation
- Hemorrhoids
- Laryngitis
- Skin abscesses
- Muscle spasms
- Syphilis

### What are the side effects?

- Dizziness
- Burning sensation on mucous membranes
- Diarrhea
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Muscle aches
- Skin itching/eruptions
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Sweating

If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

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Stillingia 2/2