A Cancer Drug May Help Treat Alzheimer's And Other Forms Of Dementia

A new treatment for Alzheimer's disease may be on the horizon, as researchers have discovered that a drug originally developed for cancer treatment could also be effective in treating the disease. The drug, known as ABBV-899, was tested in mice and showed promising results.

The drug works by inhibiting the activity of the tau protein, which is implicated in the formation of amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles in the brain of Alzheimer's patients. The team of researchers, led by Dr. David Selkoe at Harvard Medical School, found that ABBV-899 was able to reduce the size of these plaques and tangles in mice with Alzheimer's.

The researchers also tested the drug in a small study of patients with Alzheimer's disease and found that it was well tolerated and showed some promise in reducing the progression of the disease. However, further clinical trials will be needed to determine the effectiveness and safety of the drug in humans.

The discovery of ABBV-899 is significant because it represents a new approach to treating Alzheimer's disease, which is currently without cure. The drug could potentially provide a valuable new tool for treating the disease, and if further studies prove its effectiveness, it could be a game-changer in the fight against Alzheimer's.

Source: Harvard Medical School