

Manuka Honey as an Effective Treatment for Chronic Wounds

Combination of medical-grade Manuka honey (Medihoney) with antibiotic rifampicin to treat skin and chronic wound infections.

Manuka honey (a New Zealand native honey) used with antibiotics could be a new weapon in the fight against drug-resistant bacteria such as the superbug MRSA (golden staph).

Researchers at UTS, led by Professor Liz Harry have used a combination of medical-grade Manuka honey (Medihoney) with antibiotic rifampicin to treat skin and chronic wound infections. The combination has been shown to improve the effectiveness of the antibiotic and can prevent the emergence of resistance.

The research showed MRSA did not become resistant to the honey, and using the combination of the honey and the antibiotic can be seen to be more effective in killing MRSA than the antibiotic alone. It also delivers a reduction in the effective dose of rifampicin which reduces possible side effects.

While honey has been seen as somewhat of an 'alternative' medical approach the research provides solid evidence for the use of medical grade manuka honey specifically, as a first option in the treatment of chronic wounds.



MEDICAL-GRADE Manuka Honey



18

ATN UNIVERSITY
UTS

CASE STUDY

Manuka Honey as an Effective Treatment for Chronic Wounds

DISCIPLINE

Wound Treatment

CREDITS

Professor Liz Harry