

KEROSENE - a Universal Healer
by Walter Last

Turpentine and petroleum distillates similar to kerosene have been used medicinally since ancient times and are still being used as folk remedies up to the present. They were used in ancient Babylon to treat stomach problems, inflammations and ulcers. The process of distilling crude oil/petroleum into hydrocarbon fractions was first described in the ninth century in Persia.

The use of these petroleum products is most widespread in poorer countries, including Russia, Eastern Europe and Africa. A recent study in Nigeria found that about 70 per cent of the population used petroleum products medicinally [1]. The most common applications are for infections and infectious diseases, autoimmune diseases, cancer, arthritis and rheumatic diseases in general. Even the Rockefellers supposedly started their fortune by selling kerosene as a cancer cure before they found that chemotherapy was more lucrative.

From the available literature, I conclude that kerosene therapy may be one of the best ways to eliminate pathogenic microbes and parasites from the blood and bowel. My article on pleomorphic microbes [2] shows that in all of the above-mentioned diseases there is an overgrowth of fungal and cell-wall deficient (CWD) pathogenic microbes in the blood. It appears that the success of kerosene is due to its detrimental effect on these fungi and CWD microbes, which then allows the immune system to eliminate remaining pockets of other pathogens and abnormal cells in tumours and affected organs.

A comparison of several disinfectants found that kerosene, while not controlling the tested bacteria, had the strongest effect on suppressing *Candida*—stronger than even a sodium hypochlorite bleach [3]. This may actually be the secret of the healing success of kerosene: it suppresses *Candida*, viruses and CWD microbes while not harming normal gut bacteria.

On a German forum I read about a case of intestinal *Candida* overgrowth that had been verified by microbial stool analysis. This had not been normalised after previous *Candida* treatment, but after the use of kerosene all the *Candida*-related problems disappeared, as did the allergic reactions to several foods. A follow-up stool analysis showed that the intestinal flora was in excellent condition.

In 1914 Charles Oscar Frye authored a booklet with the title: "Consumption of the Lungs and Kindred Diseases, Treated and Cured by Kerosene" and with the subtitle: "Its Value as a Remedy, when to Use It, how to Use It, a Cure for the Sick, a Protection for Those in Health." He used spray inhalation to successfully treat lung tuberculosis, 1 or 2 sprays twice a day for 1 to 4 months. For internal problems half a teaspoon was recommended twice a day, see <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/chi.087013173>.

Kerosene is a mineral oil distillate commonly used as a fuel or solvent. It is a thin, clear, liquid consisting of a mixture of saturated hydrocarbons that boil between 145–150°C and 275–300°C. While kerosene can be extracted from coal, oil shale and wood, it is primarily derived from refining crude petroleum. Turpentine distilled from different varieties of California pines is almost pure heptane, as in light petrol. Other varieties of pine produce mainly chemicals called terpenes, as present in fragrant oils.

The word "kerosene" is used in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. Kerosene is called "paraffin" in the United Kingdom, Southeast Asia and South Africa, while in Germany and other parts of Central Europe it is called "light petroleum" and, medicinally, "petrolatum". The word *Kerosin* is German for "aircraft fuel".

The Cancer Cure of Paula Ganner

The modern wave of using kerosene as a cancer cure started in the early 1950s. At the age of 31, an Austrian woman, Paula Ganner, with cancer metastases and colon paralysis after surgery, had been given two days to live by her doctors. She remembered that in Eastern Europe kerosene was used as a cure-all, and she started taking a tablespoonful each day. After three days, she could leave the bed, and 11 months later she gave birth to a healthy boy. At age three, this boy contracted polio which she cured with one teaspoon of kerosene daily for eight days. Ganner started spreading the information about the amazing results of using kerosene for all kinds of health problems, and over the years she received 20,000 thank-you letters with success stories.

However, most information on using kerosene as a cancer cure is in German, with very little translated into English [4]. Here are some extracts from testimonials reported in the German illustrated weekly "7 TAGE" between September 1969 and February 1970 [5]:

- A dog had a growth the size of a child's fist on his neck and was given kerosene on sugar cubes. After two weeks, the growth disappeared.
- After breast cancer surgery, a woman (48) developed tumours in the uterus. After taking a daily teaspoon of kerosene she could stop using morphine, and after six weeks she aborted three tumours.
- Another woman took a teaspoonful of kerosene three times daily for two weeks, and repeated this after a two-week interruption. This not only cured her stomach ulcer, but also, to her surprise, her diabetes.

- A man cured a severe prostate problem (it is not mentioned if it was cancer) by taking one teaspoonful of kerosene each morning and evening for four weeks. Later, he overcame a stomach ulcer in the same way. His son successfully used kerosene to cure a chronic bladder problem, and he cured his dog of leukaemia after a seven-week kerosene cure.
- After a woman (60) had her right breast removed, cancer started in her left breast. She periodically took a teaspoonful of kerosene three times daily for two weeks and then paused for 10 days. She had no more cancer problems and no more fear of cancer.
- A young woman (35) was sent home to die with an inoperable large tumour in the pancreas that extended to the adrenal glands. On the fourth day home, she briefly awoke from a coma and was given a spoonful of kerosene. Hours later she showed the first signs of improvement, and after four days she wanted to get out of bed. The kerosene cure was continued for another 10 days before she was investigated at the hospital in Graz and later discharged as being healthy.
- After six days of using kerosene, a woman discharged dead tissue which was confirmed to consist of dead tumour cells (the type of cancer is not mentioned). After 14 days, the typical smell of terminal cancer disappeared. She took kerosene for 32, 25 and 14 days, with nine days of rest between each. As a pleasant side-effect, she was also cured of her rheumatic problems.
- A woman (68) had high blood pressure, heart and circulation problems and rheumatism. She could hardly walk. After four weeks on kerosene, she was asked by a friend what she was doing to look suddenly so much younger. People think she is in her 40s. Her husband, who used to have a bent back, now runs like a youth. When she sometimes gets some pain in cold weather, she rubs her body with a sponge dipped in kerosene and lets it dry; this quickly removes any pain.
- A woman with colon cancer was scheduled for colostomy (to remove her colon and have a bag fitted). Instead, she started taking teaspoons of kerosene. Not much was happening, so she took about 50 ml in one go, together with a lot of honey in milk. This was followed by four hours of diarrhoea with pus and blood and the abortion of her tumour.

Other testimonials mention overcoming bone cancer or myeloma, osteoporosis of the spinal column, severe digestive and gastro-intestinal problems, constant vomiting, rheumatism and sciatic problems. Paula Ganner apparently used and recommended in addition to or instead of kerosene purified petrol (Naphthabenzin or Siedegrenzbenzin Merck Nr. 1770, with a special boiling range from 100°C to 140°C - SBP 100/140), as utilised for wound cleaning and as a solvent in laboratories. (The boiling range is the temperature range of a laboratory distillation of an oil from the start until evaporation of all the fractions is complete.)

Turpentine: Another Cure-all Therapy

In addition to kerosene, turpentine was previously used as a cure-all. Natural turpentine, commonly sold as "pure gum turpentine", was commonly used in lower doses and less frequently than kerosene. It was especially treasured for its antiseptic and diuretic properties and as a treatment for intestinal parasites. According to Wikipedia: "Turpentine was a common medicine among seamen during the Age of Discovery, and one of several products carried aboard Ferdinand Magellan's fleet in his first circumnavigation of the globe."

To expel tapeworms, a powerful dose of one to two tablespoons of turpentine was given, usually mixed with the same amount of castor oil and taken floating on milk. This was repeated every second or third day until the fragments of the worm ceased to appear in the stool. For children, the prescription was less drastic: one teaspoonful of sugar, three to four drops of turpentine and one teaspoonful of castor oil.

Jennifer Daniels, MD, discovered that American slaves had a secret remedy that kept them free of diseases: a teaspoon of turpentine mixed with a teaspoon of white sugar, taken for short periods several times each year. She adopted this as a successful *Candida* therapy: Slowly pour a teaspoon of turpentine over sugar cubes or a rounded teaspoon of white sugar to soak it all up. Then chew the cubes or soaked sugar and wash the mixture down with water. Dr Daniels generally recommends doing this twice a week for several weeks, but initially daily with long-term *Candida*. Continue until the problem is fixed - which can happen surprisingly quickly. On Internet forums, I found some testimonials showing that this therapy indeed worked for these people.

Dr Daniels states that before starting turpentine therapy it is essential to prepare by drinking lots of water, adopting a suitable anti-*Candida* diet and cleaning the bowel. At this stage, it is necessary to have three daily bowel movements, otherwise the pathogens may get into the blood. She also believes that the use of sugar in this case is beneficial in stopping the sugar craving so common with *Candida* and in attracting the *Candida* to the "poison". I tried this out with Diggers Pure Gum Turpentine, which is available in Australia. When taking a teaspoon of it on a cube of sugar, I was surprised how pleasant it tasted, just like a pine-flavoured lolly. However, I now believe that instead of using sugar, it is better to take gum turpentine mixed with an equal amount or more of either paraffin oil

or olive oil. Gum turpentine has a much stronger effect than kerosene, and some individuals experienced temporary balance problems. I would limit the maximum dose to 1 teaspoon per day for an adult.

In her report, Dr Daniels also wrote that the first edition of *The Merck Manual* of appropriate and accepted treatments for recognised diseases, published in 1899, states that turpentine therapy is effective for a wide range of conditions including gonorrhoea, meningitis, arthritis, abdominal difficulties and lung disease. However, the 1999 *Merck Manual* just mentions the dire effects of turpentine poisoning with destruction of the kidneys and lungs [6].

Understanding The Cure-all Effect

The secret of the apparent cure-all effect of kerosene and turpentine may be understood as the reversal of the disease-causing effect of modern medicine. There is evidence that most of our modern diseases were rare in former centuries. Only relatively few people had cancer, which only occasionally happened in old age, and asthma, allergies and autoimmune diseases were rare or absent as well. All this changed after World War II with the widespread use of antibiotics. While they targeted bacteria, they encouraged the rise and spread of fungi and mycoplasmas which are at the root of most of our modern diseases.

Look at the forest or bushland trees. Some of their greatest enemies are fungi and parasites. As a defence, they developed various chemical strategies to kill or repel these attackers. We know and use these biochemicals as eucalyptus oil, neem oil, tea tree oil, *pau d'arco* extract, olive leaf extract, turpentine and other essential oils. Most of these oils are composed of hydrocarbons, just like kerosene. The main chemical in turpentine, alpha-pinene, is also present in the oils of rosemary and eucalyptus.

These volatile essential oils seem to have a stronger antifungal effect than kerosene, but frequent intake in high amounts can also cause some kidney damage. However, it needs to be understood that an antimicrobial program can only stop an autoimmune attack as a first and essential step in a healing process. It does not automatically repair the damage that has already been done. For instance, in diabetes type 1 and Parkinson's disease, a healthy lifestyle is still needed to regenerate insulin-producing or dopamine-producing cells that have been destroyed; the same goes for joints that have been badly damaged with arthritis. Also, the debris of large internal tumours may require further detoxification and cleansing for safe removal.

Damaging Fungal Metabolites

William Shaw, PhD, of The Great Plains Laboratory in Kansas, USA, discovered important chemical reasons for the devastating health effect of antibiotic-induced fungal overgrowth [7]. Here is a typical example of how *Candida* tends to emerge.

A boy had been developing normally up to 18 months of age, but then he had several courses of antibiotics for ear infections. From these antibiotics, he acquired thrush of the mouth and tongue. His behaviour deteriorated quickly. He lost his ability to speak, became extremely hyperactive, kept waking up all through the night, lost eye contact with his parents and was diagnosed with autism. After treatment with the antifungal drug nystatin, he gradually recovered.

Dr Shaw writes: "I have now detected this same phenomenon in hundreds of other cases. Even after six months of antifungal treatment, there is often a biochemical 'rebound' and loss of improvements after discontinuing antifungal therapy."

William G. Crook, MD, in *The Yeast Connection* [8] and other books, demonstrated that *Candida* is the underlying cause of hyperactivity. So, ADD or ADHD and autism are just different degrees of the same brain dysfunction caused by *Candida*. There is evidence that a main aggravating factor leading to autism is the combination of *Candida* and various vaccines, possibly due to mercury and other toxic additives.

Dr Shaw found that tartaric acid, as in wine and baking powder, is one of the problematic *Candida* metabolites. It is not normally produced in the body but results from excessive yeast fermentation, either in the intestines or other sites of *Candida* infestation. A main consequence of tartaric acid in the blood is muscle weakness, as in fibromyalgia.

Tartaric acid is closely related to malic acid, which is a key component of the citric acid cycle that produces energy in the cells. Tartaric acid blocks the metabolism of malic acid. With this, the body cannot produce energy aerobically by oxidising glucose, but instead it produces energy anaerobically by converting glucose into lactic acid. This generates only 20 per cent of the energy that could have been produced by proper oxidation of glucose, and explains the chronic fatigue, overacidity and mineral deficiency so common with *Candida* infection.

Furthermore, our brain needs a high amount of energy to function normally. Therefore, tartaric acid and acetaldehyde, another disruptive yeast chemical, combine to cause mental problems such as brain fog, depression, hyperactivity, autism and schizophrenia.

Another abnormal chemical is the five-carbon sugar arabinose, which cross-links the functional groups of various proteins, especially enzymes, and in effect causes deficiencies of vitamin B6, biotin and lipoic acid. Cross-linking also accelerates ageing, causing cataracts and increasing rigidity of muscles, tendons and connective tissue, showing

up as wrinkles and ageing skin. With *Candida*, we age more quickly. Arabinose also leads to increased accumulations of abnormal metabolic protein residues inside cells, such as in cancer and autoimmune diseases. Children with autism have the same type of arabinose-containing fibre tangles in the brain as are present in Alzheimer's disease, indicating that both are related to *Candida*, although co-factors such as mercury and other pollutants also play a role in these two conditions.

The yeast metabolites tartaric acid and arabinose are also found in many other diseases. There is much additional evidence of this same sequence of careless antibiotic use leading to *Candida* overgrowth and then to specific diseases. This may involve: the immune system, as in cases of autoimmune diseases and cancer; the brain and nervous system, leading to hyperactivity, Asperger's syndrome, autism, obsessive-compulsive disorder, depression, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, and other mental and movement disorders; muscle weakness, as in fibromyalgia; and generalised weakness, as in chronic fatigue syndrome. Commonly there are aggravating co-factors, such as mercury, fluoride as well as mycoplasmas and parasites.

All of this gives us an understanding of the biochemical reasons for the devastating effects of antibiotic caused fungal overgrowth in our society and the cure-all success of effective antifungal therapy.

Which Products To Use

The most suitable microbicidal hydrocarbons seem to be those with boiling points between 100°C and 200°C. The lighter and more volatile hydrocarbons, while very effective for cleaning the blood, have a stronger odour and are more difficult to "stomach", while those boiling over 200°C tend to remain in the intestinal tract and act mainly as laxatives rather than being absorbed for a microbicidal effect in the blood.

The range of 100°C to 200°C includes the saturated hydrocarbon chains with seven to 11 carbon atoms. It is interesting to note that the medium-chain fatty acids in coconut oil with the strongest microbicidal effects (lauric acid, capric acid and caprylic acid) have eight to 12 carbon atoms.

As well as having a suitable boiling range, good kerosene should be low in aromatics. This is basically what "low odour" means. To see if products from other companies or in other countries are suitable, go to the website of the manufacturer and look up the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). Note that kerosene may be sold under other names such as "naphtha petroleum", "hydrocarbon solvent" and "mineral turpentine".

It is not advisable to use products without knowing their boiling range and chemical composition. The products should contain petrochemical-based aliphatic hydrocarbons, and not half-synthetic isoparaffins or special solvent mixtures that are available from art suppliers as aromatics-free mineral turpentine.

Shell Chemicals has two suitable products free of aromatics: Shell-Sol D40, with a boiling range of 145°C to 210°C, and the lower boiling range SBP 100/140. BP White Spirit, low in aromatics, boils from 142°C to 200°C. The Total Group offers Spirdane D40, free of aromatics and with a boiling range from 156°C to 198°C, while Solane 100-155 and Solane 100-140 have lower boiling ranges. The stated boiling ranges are typical, not necessarily actual, values, and the MSDSs for these products may be somewhat different. With products of narrow boiling ranges, it is best to combine high and low boiling fractions for a broader boiling range. Special Boiling Point Solvent SBP 100/140 is basically what Paula Ganner recommended.

A suitable variety of kerosene available in Australia is Diggers Low Odour Kerosene [9], more commonly sold in hardware stores than in supermarkets. Also, Diggers White Spirits and Diggers Mineral Turpentine are available as low-odour products with the same chemical composition as Diggers Low Odour Kerosene. The boiling range is from 149°C to 194°C. The manufacturer, Recochem Inc., also supplies odourless kerosene, which is even easier to take; however, its boiling range of 190°C to 230°C is rather high and is not effective for purifying the blood, although it may work for cleaning the large intestine.

A suitable low-odour product in the US is Klean-Strip 1 Kerosene, see

<http://www.wmbarr.com/product.aspx?catid=35&prodid=7>; you can get it at Wal-Mart and various hardware stores.

In Europe you can get Shell-Sol D40, SBP (Siedegrenzbenzin) 100/140 and Gum Turpentine (Balsam Terpentinoel) from <http://kremer-pigmente.de/en> (click on "Shop" and search for these products).

Generally these products may be available in building materials and paint supply stores and larger hardware stores. Nevertheless, if a low-aromatics or de-aromatised product is not available, then even normal kerosene with a higher content of aromatics may be used. It is not more toxic but only has a stronger odour. The really toxic product in crude petroleum and most motor fuels is benzene, but this has a rather low boiling point of 80°C and therefore is not a problem in fractions with a boiling point over 100°C.

In contrast to mineral turpentine, which is similar to kerosene, natural turpentine is commonly sold as "pure gum turpentine" or "100% gum turpentine". It is used as a solvent or thinner for artist's paint and as a general solvent. It has an initial boiling point of over 150°C.

How To Use Kerosene and Turpentine

How kerosene is taken and for how long is rather flexible. Some take it as needed, while others have a full course every year just as a precaution. A good way is to start with a few drops or half a teaspoonful, then continue with one teaspoon for a week or two; if not much seems to happen, then gradually increase up to one tablespoon for a while until ending with one teaspoonful, for a total duration of about six weeks or until your problem has sufficiently improved. It may be advisable to have a shorter or longer follow-up course two months later.

Commonly, kerosene is taken once a day either before breakfast or at bedtime. One woman supposedly cured her terminal cancer, with metastases all over the body, by drinking a glassful of kerosene followed by fruit juice. She wrote that it caused extreme diarrhoea and vomiting for three days. However, this is a dangerous way of doing the treatment, as vomiting can easily cause kerosene to get into the lungs; this is the main reason why people can die from drinking kerosene.

High doses of microbicides may cause too much fungal die-off too suddenly, resulting in a "reaction" with nausea and fatigue. While this is generally good and part of the healing process, it is better to increase the dose only gradually to avoid or minimise strong, unpleasant reactions, although diarrhoea is very common at some stage. During a reaction, temporarily reduce or skip the remedy until recovered.

Kerosene is best taken on an empty or nearly empty stomach, as it floats on anything that is in the stomach and then may continue repeating for a longer time. I prefer it the traditional way with molasses: lick some molasses to coat your tongue, then take a spoonful of kerosene and wash it down with a small amount of drink and food. For children, kerosene has been used by placing several drops on sugar before ingestion.

For arthritis, one part of kerosene may be diluted with one or two parts of olive oil and used as a rub or in a pack placed on painful areas. For throat infections, the pack may also be wrapped around the neck. If used undiluted, the kerosene may start burning after 10 to 60 minutes depending on the sensitivity of the skin and the kerosene's boiling range and purity. If one keeps it on for long enough, the skin becomes red and will blister.

This is very effective in drawing out inflammatory pain from arthritic joints and promoting their healing. Cover the reddened skin with vitamin E oil until healed. Also, tumours may be covered with diluted or undiluted kerosene packs. For toe and nail fungus as well as fungal infections of the skin, the affected parts may be soaked in concentrated or diluted kerosene or turpentine. *Candida* infections or thrush in the mouth or vagina may be treated by coating or rinsing with diluted kerosene or turpentine.

In a personal communication I was given the following information: "My grandmother used to regularly paint our sore throats with kerosene, using a wing or tail feather taken from a chook. I remember my throat being painted as a matter of course as a young boy, as were [the throats of] the rest of the family - and it worked." I also received similar comments from others, and it was usually the grandmother who initiated this therapy.

The very light product which Paula Ganner apparently recommended is best for cleaning the blood, as it is quickly absorbed in the stomach. This also works well with teaspoon-doses of the low-odour kerosene. However, for cleaning the bowel of cancer, *Candida* or parasites, it may be necessary to take up to a tablespoonful at a time. If only a teaspoonful is taken, most of the lighter hydrocarbons will already be absorbed in the stomach and not enough will reach the large intestines. Odourless kerosene with a higher boiling range may also be tried for this purpose, but it is not known if it is as effective as lighter varieties. One may try a spoonful daily for several weeks, but cut back if this causes diarrhoea.

Liquid paraffin or paraffin oil, with a boiling point over 300°C, is available from pharmacies and may be used as a laxative or for skin protection. It is not useful for killing microbes but, like odourless kerosene, it may be used during a cleansing period to bind fat-soluble toxins released from the liver. This supposedly makes cleansing more effective by preventing re-absorption of such waste products. Up to a tablespoonful may be tried daily, or until diarrhoea occurs. Also products with a lower boiling range stimulate the liver to release toxins, provided that sufficient is taken to pass through the bowel.

Toxicity Issues

The MSDS for Diggers Low Odour Kerosene includes the following information: "Expected to be of low toxicity... Aspiration into lungs when swallowed or vomited may cause chemical pneumonitis which can be fatal" [10]. The MSDS for normal kerosene of another company states: "If more than several mouthfuls are swallowed, abdominal discomfort, nausea, and diarrhea may occur" [11]. The MSDS for blue kerosene gives the same toxicity data as for clear kerosene. This means that the added blue colouring does not increase toxicity.

As people do not normally swallow more than several mouthfuls of kerosene, it is obvious that taking a spoonful for a limited period is not a toxicity problem. Therefore, the real danger of kerosene does not come from any inherent toxicity *per se*, but, rather, from getting vomit into the lungs after a large amount has been swallowed accidentally or in a suicide attempt, and this can indeed cause death. However, even getting just water into the lungs can be very bad as well.

The acute oral toxicity of kerosene for rats is given as "LD50 > 5000 mg/kg". LD50 is the dose at which 50 per cent of the rats will die; in this case, more than 5 g/kg are required. In comparison, the LD50 of gum turpentine for rats is given as 5760 mg/kg. The MSDS for Diggers Pure Gum Turpentine states: "Ingestion can cause nausea, vomiting and bladder irritation. Aspiration into lungs when swallowed or vomited may cause chemical pneumonitis which can be fatal" [12].

The main danger with petrol/gasoline is from sniffing or inhaling the vapours, which can have strong effects on the brain and central nervous system. Yet ingesting this more-problematic product is not necessarily all bad. A man in China drank (and still drinks) a glass of gasoline/petrol every day, or about four litres a month, for 42 years, and at over 70 years of age he looks younger than most non-petrol drinkers in their 50s or 60s. He started out drinking kerosene for pain relief, but later switched over to petrol. It has been estimated that, in all, he drank about 1.5 tons of it [13].

The System Fights Back

Soon after the German magazine "7 TAGE" published some of the 20,000 testimonials that Paula Ganner had received, the editor of that magazine lost his job and the entry for petroleum products as a cleaning remedy for wounds was removed from the German pharmacopoeia. Kerosene was declared to be a dangerous poison that caused severe kidney damage, although no specific data or instances were provided.

In 1979, a woman who had distributed health information about kerosene was taken to court in Hersbruck, Germany. The public prosecutor was unable to show that a law had been violated or that anyone had been harmed using kerosene in the recommended ways. Also, the forensic expert was unable to point to any harm. He expressed the view that with cancer one should use everything that might be useful, and that clinical trials should be conducted. Consequently, the prosecution had to drop the case [14].

In the early 1980s, kerosene in Australian supermarkets was colourless. But then reports of people using it to cure their cancer started circulating, and suddenly all kerosene in supermarkets was blue. Also, strong warnings about the deadly effects of ingesting kerosene started to appear. Today, the Wikipedia page on kerosene states clearly and simply: "Ingestion of kerosene is harmful or fatal." Increasingly the most recent MSDSs no longer provide toxicity data so that people cannot see how relatively non-toxic kerosene is. Instead, only the warning remains that it can be fatal if it gets into the lungs.

All of this is obviously in conflict with its use for hundreds of years as a trusted remedy, and is in conflict with the scientific toxicity information. In France, kerosene still appears in the official pharmacopoeia as *huile de Galian* and is prescribed as a remedy for bronchitis, asthma and cystitis. Even the medical literature contains clinical studies by reputable researchers showing that kerosene is effective against cancer [15].

Nevertheless, science is no obstacle for those in pursuit of profit or special interests. To reduce my chances of having to go to court in this matter, I want to make it clear that this article is for information only, and that I do not recommend using kerosene or turpentine to treat cancer or any other condition. People need to do their own research and evaluation of available information before deciding whether any potential benefits from using kerosene are worth risking the dangers mentioned by our health authorities. ∞

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