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NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cranberries contains a natural antibiotic

Cranberries are a popular menu item during the holidays. And certain compounds in cranberries, called tannins, help fight *E. coli*, according to researchers at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. In studies with cranberry juice, the scientists found that tannins interfered with the ability of *E. coli* to adhere to cells and that higher concentrations of the juice had a stronger antibacterial effect. Their findings were presented in September at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Francisco. While the health benefits of cranberries have been reported for years, particularly with regard to preventing urinary tract infections, this study was the first to paint a detailed picture of the biochemical mechanisms that underlie cranberries' beneficial effects, the scientists say.

NEWS RELEASE:

<http://www.wpi.edu/News/Releases/20067/cranberry.html>

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