

New Cancer Drug Being Used At UNM Hospital

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ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. -- A unique drug is bringing new hope to cancer patients. The Food and Drug Administration approved a unique drug to treat two types of lymph node cancer. In two separate trials, the drug showed a dramatic effect in patients with Hodgkin's lymphoma. It's also the first ever to fight anaplastic large cell lymphoma. In 70 percent of patients, tumors shrunk after six months of using the drug Adcetris. Adcetris is the combination of a monoclonal antibody that attaches to the cancer cells and chemotherapy that targets the cells to which it attaches. The drug is costly. It costs around \$100,000 for a six-month course of therapy. This targeted therapy is being used at the University of New Mexico Cancer for liver cancers.

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