Quinacrine and copper, compounds with anticonceptive and antineoplastic activity

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Changes in the evolution of a malignant transplantable tumor in mice to whom quinacrine, copper and zinc were supplied in drinking water are reported. Male AJ mice were inoculated in the right thigh with 1,000,000 TA3 or TA3 MTXR tumoral cells. Three experiments were designed with different types of tumors and different schedules of quinacrine and cations administered in drinking water. The animals that received quinacrine or quinacrine plus copper in drinking water had significantly smaller tumors, and some groups had a high rate of complete tumor regression (up to 60%). Quinacrine and copper have synergistic antineoplastic activity. Zinc salts do not improve the antitumoral effect of quinacrine. The relevant fact of this experiment lies in the fact that a large number of women using IUDs with copper could occasionally be treated with quinacrine. © 1994.