



## SMITH NATURALS

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PRESS RELEASE

### University Students Present Cancer Research Findings at Nutrition Society International Conference

Public awareness about healthy plant-based diets is increasing, in part due to numerous Government initiatives. With encouraging results from a recent breast cancer study using a standardized herbal extract of *Pueraria mirifica* extract (Puresterol<sup>®</sup>), Smith Naturals—a Bangkok-based nutritional company along with Bio-Botanica Inc., a New York based herbal extraction company—have joined in to help lead the way in educating young people about the importance of plant based phytochemicals. In Scotland, Smith is providing scholarships for medical students at Edinburgh and Aberdeen Universities, some of whom have assisted with the research on Puresterol, the finding of which are scheduled to be presented at the Nutrition Society's International Conference on Health and Nutrition in Edinburgh on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of April, 2009. The results of the research involving Puresterol, an herbal hormone replacement therapy (HRT) alternative, will be announced by Dr Margaret R. Ritchie at the Nutrition Society conference in Edinburgh. Smith Naturals is keen to promote education about plant compounds and their role in disease management as evidenced by the preliminary findings of the *Pueraria mirifica* (PM) study.

#### Finally, an HRT for women that is safe and doesn't advance breast cancer

Dr. Margaret R. Ritchie paper is titled "Phyto-oestrogens: Do they have a role in breast cancer therapy?" She has lectured at the University of St. Andrews and has expertise in plant-derived estrogens. She is currently an Honorary Research Fellowship at Napier University, Edinburgh and she serves on the Scottish Section committee of the Nutrition Society ([www.nutritionociety.org](http://www.nutritionociety.org)), an organization founded in 1941 "to advance the scientific study of nutrition and its application to the maintenance of human and animal health."

Each year 44,335 women living in the UK are diagnosed with breast cancer. PM, an herb which only grows in Thailand, is well known among the local population as an HRT treatment for menopausal women. The aim of the study was to evaluate the possible role of phyto-oestrogens, in particular PM, in the management of breast cancer. The preliminary results are indicative of an anti-cancer action by Puresterol which may be of use in breast cancer, while alleviating menopausal symptoms in women.





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Smith Naturals is a research and development company based in Bangkok, specializing in herbal extracts which emanate from South East Asia. Smith Naturals, together with its extraction partners, Bio-Botanica of Hauppauge, New York have been working with PM for 8 years, and have made it commercially available as an extract of PM called Puresterol, standardized to >20 mg of Miroesterol and > 20 mg of isoflavonoids per 100 g. PM “has been clinically shown in Phase III trials to compare with pharmaceutical HRT's and has none of the side effects shown in studies,” said Dr I. Sandford Schwartz, CEO of Smith Naturals. A patent was filed in 2005.

A few supplement manufactures have already launched products with PM in the United States and UK. ViaKani, a natural-products marketing company based in North America, is currently distributing a female gel utilizing Puresterol in the United States.

The study was conducted by Dr. Ritchie together with researchers S. Ramnarine and J. Maccallum at Napier University, Edinburgh, Scotland.

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