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# April 2017 (Issue 2) : Power of the Pomegranate

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# **NUTRITION UPDATE**

April

### POWER OF THE POMEGRANATE

2017

Since ancient times, pomegranates have been used for medicinal purposes. Different parts of the fruit have multiple health benefits including help with maintaining an effective and healthy blood circulation, reducing inflammation and help in regaining strength after prolonged illness.

Pomegranates are made up of different things. While the peel has minerals, the aril (seed pod inside the pomegranate) has phenolics, a class of chemical compounds and anthocyanin, natural pigments, which give pomegranates its color and anti-cancer properties.

#### POMEGRANATE AND ITS ANTI-CANCER PROPERTIES

Multiple medical researchers have shown that pomegranates can help the body fight cancer. This is generally attributed to its high content of polyphenols.

For example, in trials done on mice that were injected with prostate cancer causing cells, it was observed that the group which was fed with pomegranate juice had smaller tumours which took longer to develop, as compared to the group which drank water only.

In trials done on humans, the fruit juice given to prostate patients lead to reduction in the levels of prostate specific antigens (PSA), elevated levels of which, may indicate prostate cancer.

#### POMEGRANATE AS A SUPPLEMENT

Pomegranate is a healthy fruit supplement, but should not be considered a substitute for treatment of prostate or any other cancer.

#### SIDE EFFECTS OF POMEGRANATES

Pomegranates generally have no side effects. However, diabetic patients may observe an increase in sugar level with excessive juice consumption.

## NUTRITIONAL CONTENT IN POMEGRANATE Calories:

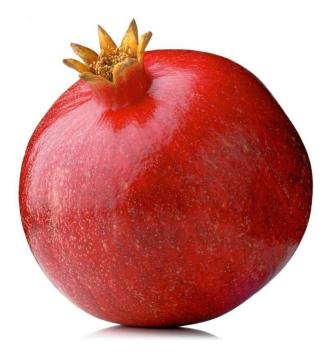
Pomegranate juice 100 ml ~ 54 calories Pomegranate fruit 100 gms ~83 calories

<u>Fiber:</u> ~ 4gms in 100gms fruit Soluble and insoluble fiber is beneficial for the heart

<u>Vitamin C:</u> 10mg in 100gms fruit Boosts immunity

Potassium: ~236mg in 100gms fruit. Strengthens bones and teeth

<u>Vitamin B complex and minerals:</u> (including Pantothenic acid (vitamin B-5), folates, pyridoxine and vitamin-K and minerals like calcium, copper, and manganese) have multiple medicinal benefits.



References:

https://www.cancer.gov/aboutcancer/treatment/cam/patient/prostate-supplementspdg#section/\_79





