



The core elements in the medical manufacturing process of ISCADOR are based on Rudolf Steiner's anthroposophic principles and were formulated for practice by Ita Wegman and Oskar Schmiedel. The Association for Cancer Research (Verein für Krebsforschung) has further developed the process continuously up to the present and in collaboration with the Iscador AG since 2015. The production of ISCADOR is performed at the company's site in Arlesheim, Switzerland.



About Iscador AG

We are a pharmaceutical company who manufactures and scientifically researches preparations for integrative cancer treatment. Thereby the focus is always on the human being – either patient, customer, partner or employee.

Our roots go back to the fundamental work on mistletoe pharmacy initiated at the beginning of the 20th century by the physician Ita Wegman and Rudolf Steiner with regard to anthroposophical cancer therapy. In 2015, we transferred the production unit of Hiscia Institute including the high standards of manufacture and research that had grown since 1949. Our experienced staff guarantees continuity and high quality in manufacturing our products.

Our mistletoe preparations are amongst the most frequently used complementary pharmaceuticals in cancer therapy. Our worldwide distribution, training of medical specialists as well as continuous research and development of new products enable us to support physicians and patients all over the world in the integrative treatment of cancer.

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From Mistletoe to ISCADOR®

An anthroposophic
manufacturing process



Mistletoe harvest



Mistletoe selection



Pressing



Fermentation

Host tree spectrum

In anthroposophic mistletoe therapy, for the differentiated treatment of tumours, mistletoe from different host trees is used. In the beginning, preparations made of the easily available mistletoes from apple, fir, and pine trees were licensed. Later, the range was expanded by preparations made of the rarer oak and elm mistletoes*. The basis to attain are pharmaceutical quality healthy trees and mistletoe populations, grown naturally as well as in cultivated areas.

Gathering the mistletoe

Mistletoe is gathered separately depending on the host tree. In order to achieve a balanced ratio of substances, mistletoe is gathered twice a year: first in June, the summer mistletoe that contains an especially high amount of viscotoxins and then in December when the winter mistletoe achieves its highest concentration of mistletoe lectins. The parts of the plant used in the summer as well as in the winter are up to two years old, i.e. the stems, leaves, flower buds and fruits. A special characteristic of the mistletoe harvest in the winter is that half of it consists of ripe mistletoe berries.



Filling in ampoules

Machine process

Dilution



Extraction

Once the mistletoe has been gathered, the carefully selected parts of the plant are shredded and then mixed with water. The addition of lactic acid-producing bacteria and sugar then initiates a semi-natural fermentation process. This serves to extract the pharmacologically relevant agents. Once fermentation has been completed, the extracts produced from the summer and winter mistletoe go through microbial filtration and are finally stored in a cool and dark place.

Machine process

The key component is the further processing of both mistletoe extracts that goes beyond plain mixing. For this purpose, the mistletoe extracts are led through two spatial polar processes: The summer extract falls down vertically in single drops whereas, in contrast, the winter extract spreads out horizontally very quickly on a rotating titanium plate. The one-metre diameter of the plate and its speed of 10,000 revolutions/minute were defined by Rudolf Steiner. The actual active substance evolves from this summer and winter extract compound. Its additional qualities have been proven in comparison to a hand mixture of both extracts in biological test systems. In the final step, ISCADOR concentrate is diluted using an isotonic solution, then undergoes sterile filtration, is filled in ampoules and ultimately packaged.

Metal additives*

As suggested by Rudolf Steiner, metal additives are also included in the mistletoe preparations that focus the effects of the mistletoe on certain organ areas. Potentised silver, mercury and copper metal salts are used hereby.

* Product range varies per country