

## CWSF 2014 - Windsor, Ontario



### Saharsh Hariharan

#### Increasing The Bioavailability Of Curcumin: A Novel Treatment for Cancer

**Challenge:** Health

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Peel

**City:** Mississauga, ON

**School:** Tomken Road Senior P.S.

**Abstract:** Curcumin is a natural spice which has anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidant and anti-tumour properties. It has been clinically proven to help fight against chronic diseases such as Cancer. The challenge with Curcumin is that it has a very low bioavailability. What this means is that Curcumin cannot be absorbed as a drug. My project addresses this issue and has come up with a novel solution.

#### Biography

Hi, my name is Saharsh Hariharan. I am a Grade.8 student at Tomken Road Middle School. This is my second year at the Canada Wide Science Fair. The inspiration for my project came from my home. Curcumin is a spice that is used in everyday cooking and home remedies. I knew that it had positive effects, however, I wanted to research to find out more. I found out that the challenge with Curcumin was its low bioavailability which motivated me to study more about it and find a way to enhance its use as a potential drug. For the future of my project, I would probably try to enhance my technique of increasing the bioavailability of Curcumin into a commercial drug to help treat Cancer patients. If there was one advice I would give to others interested in Science Fair, would be to pick something you are interested in as that would enable you to be most successful. At school I am actively involved in all of the school's intramural sports leagues and music-related activities. Outside of school I enjoy playing the piano, swimming and ball hockey. When I grow up I would like to be a neurosurgeon.

#### Awards

#### Value

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|---|---------|
| Excellence Award - Junior - Bronze Medal<br>Sponsor: Nuclear Waste Management Organization                      | \$100   |
| Western University Scholarship<br>Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship<br>Sponsor: Western University | \$1 000 |
| Total   | \$1 100 |