

Mayo Clinic Minute

Anti-Aging Pill

Video	Audio
Vivien Williams	Could a pill called metformin, that's been used to treat type 2 diabetes for 60 years, also be a key to the fountain of youth?
Nathan LeBrasseur, Ph.D. Aging Research Mayo Clinic	"The idea is whether or not this pill can slow down or reverse some of the damage caused by aging."
	Mayo Clinic anti-aging researchers Dr. Nathan LeBrasseur and Dr. James Kirkland say there's optimism for metformin — not as a pill to make you look 20 years younger, but as a therapy to prevent diseases such as diabetes, cancer and maybe even cognitive impairment.
	The thought is that by preventing age-related changes to your body's cells, metformin could help people stay healthier longer, increasing their health expectancy.
	Drs. LeBrasseur and Kirkland are involved in the TAME study, a clinical trial to test metformin. If it's proven to work, the FDA will consider the drug for use as an intervention for aging.
Nathan LeBrasseur, Ph.D. Aging Research Mayo Clinic	"And this would be a major game changer."
	One that would recognize aging as a treatable condition and allow researchers to develop new ways to prevent the diseases associated with the aging process.
Vivien Williams	I'm Vivien Williams, and for more health news, visit the Mayo Clinic News Network.