

NATURAL PRODUCTS:
Research Reviews

— *Volume 4* —

The Editor



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Dr. Gupta has to his credit more than 150 scientific publications and review articles which have appeared in internationally recognized Indian and foreign journals. Founder fellow, life member and office bearer of many national societies, academies and associations. He has successfully completed a number of research/consultancy projects funded by government, private and multinational agencies. His current areas of interest are histopathology, toxicology, pre-clinical safety pharmacology, reproductive efficacy studies of laboratory animals and biodiversity.

He is the Series Editor of the recently published multi-volume set of books, "**Comprehensive Bioactive Natural Products (Vols. 1-8)**", published by M/S Studium Press, LLC, USA. He is also Editor-in-Chief of the books, "**Utilisation and Management of Medicinal Plants (Vols. 1-3)**", "**Medicinal Plants: Phytochemistry, Pharmacology and Therapeutics (Vols. 1-4)**", "**Traditional and Folk Herbal Medicine (Vols. 1-3)**", "**Natural Products: Research Reviews (Vols. 1-4)**", "**Bioactive Phytochemicals: Perspectives for Modern Medicine (Vols. 1-3)**", "**Perspectives in Animal Ecology and Reproduction (Vols. 1-10)**" and "**Animal Diversity, Natural History & Conservation (Vols. 1-5)**". The Editor-in-chief of the American Biographical Institute, USA, has appointed him as *Consulting Editor of The Contemporary Who's Who*. Dr. Gupta also appointed as Nominee for the *Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA, Govt. of India)*. The *Linnaean Society of London, U.K.* has awarded fellowship to him in November 2009 in recognition of his contribution towards the cultivation of knowledge in Science of Natural History. Recently, Modern Scientific Press, USA has nominated Dr. Gupta as the Editor of the *International Journal of Traditional and Natural Medicine*.

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Editor

V.K. Gupta

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Foreword

Nature is a vast and almost infinite source of new bioactive compounds and has been the source of traditional medicine for thousands of years. Natural products are in the origin of important modern drugs and continue being an essential partner in drug discovery. The search for bioactive natural products in order to discover new drugs has a long tradition and over the last years there has been a renewed interest in natural products research, looking for alternative drugs for key therapeutic areas such as cancer and infectious diseases. More recently bioactive compounds from natural sources have been widely used in cosmetics and as health supplements. Persistent research in natural products is needed to find new lead drugs and to continue to be competitive. This book provides the latest evidences supporting the progress of this research. The book exhibits a total of 22 chapters authored by scientists from across the world and representing different scientific disciplines, bringing different approaches of natural products research and showing the multidisciplinary of this type of research.

Some chapters are devoted to the review of chemical, nutritional and pharmacological of several plants, including *Camellia sinensis*, *Prunus avium*, *Alpinia* spp., *Achilla millefolium*, *Hypericum* spp., *Oroxylum indicum*, *Hemidesmus indicus*, *Codiaeum variegatum*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Digera muricata*, *Smilax chinensis*, as well as of marine derived products. Different plant pharmacological properties, including anticancer, treatment of sexual dysfunctions, management of anxiety disorders, genotoxicity and genoprotection and diabetic wound healing, have been covered in the book. Biotechnological and technological applications of natural products in drug delivery systems, as well as the use of plants to synthesize nanoparticles, were also reviewed in other chapters.

Overall, we hope that this fourth volume of *Natural Products: Research Review* edited by Dr. V.K.Gupta constitutes an elucidative state of the art about some hot topics in the growing areas of Pharmacognosy, Phytotherapy and Drug Development. We expect that the content of this book will be a source of inspiration for future developments in these fields and we hope that readers will find it a useful and functional tool in natural products research.

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Preface

Drug discovery in ancient times was largely by chance and based on clinical practices. As understanding of therapeutic benefits deepens and demands for natural products increase, previously serendipitous discoveries evolved into active searches for new medicines. Natural Products offer a vast, virtually untapped reservoir of chemical compounds with many potential uses, which have been described along with well illustrated structural form elucidation. Despite the enormous potential, only a minor fraction of globe's living species has ever been tested for any bioactivity. For instance, approximately only 10 per cent of all existing plant species has been assayed, and in the case of microbes the value is even lower.

Natural products are organic molecules isolated from animals, plants, or microbes that can be used to treat human disease. Through evolutionary pressure, nature has guided the production of an immense diversity of organic molecules for a variety of biological purposes. In order to search natural sources for new therapeutics, generally crude fractions of biological material are screened for biological activity. Fractions with activity are further purified and retested until the bioactive natural product is identified. Natural product preparations have historically been the major source of pharmaceutical agents. Bioactive natural products have a range of potential applications, including pharmaceuticals, dietary supplements, and controls agents for crop pests and diseases. Extracts and biomolecules with promising activity are unscrupulously screened for efficacy to determine if these products have a potential for commercial development.

There is a revival of interest in the use of natural products in pharmacy, both from the pharmaceutical industry as a source of new lead molecules and from the general public who are using natural extracts in many ways in conventional and complementary therapies. Analysis of FDA new-drug approvals from 1981 to 2002 reveals that natural products continued to play a pivotal role during that time, even if the industry had turned to other discovery strategies. Indeed, more than 90 per cent of current therapeutic classes derive from a natural product prototype and interestingly,

even today, roughly two-thirds to three quarters of the world's population relies upon medicinal plants for its primary pharmaceutical care (World Health Organization, 2002). Those "medicinal plants" are either preparations of or natural product substances from plants that have potential utility as pharmaceutical agents.

It is for their world wide a sustained effort of scientist's that enormous information is being generated and there has been a series of publications on natural products researches. Based on this rational, the present volume "*Natural Products: Research Reviews Vol. 4*" presents information on review communications received from eminent scientists from India and abroad, providing recent and present state of the art data on therapeutic properties, action and uses of bioactive natural products in combating a number of diseases and condition for which there is lesser satisfactory treatment in modern medicine.

V.K. Gupta

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Camellia sinensis (L.) Kuntze: A Review of Chemical and Nutraceutical Properties

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ABSTRACT

The tea plant Camellia sinensis (L.) Kuntze (family Theaceae) is grown in about 30 countries worldwide. Tea, known as the most popular beverage on Earth, arouses great interest among scientists due to its beneficial health effects. There are numerous studies about the composition of *C. sinensis* demonstrating that tea contains purine alkaloids (xanthines), phenolic compounds (catechins, O-glycosylated flavonols, C-glycosylated flavones, proanthocyanidins and phenolic acids and their derivatives), terpenoids, fatty acids, essential oils and amino acids. Tea flavonoid consumption has been linked to lower incidences of chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease and cancer. For this review, the search was carried out using Web of Science, Chemical Abstracts and the data bank NAPRALERT (acronym for NATural PRoducts ALERT), updated from January 2000 to July 2013. The references

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found in the search were then studied in detail. The review refers to 83 compounds isolated from *C. sinensis*, which are classified in appropriate chemical groups. Some aspects of bioactivity of the secondary metabolites produced are discussed. For this purpose, 165 references were consulted.

Keywords: *Camellia sinensis*, Tea, Phytochemistry, Pharmacology, Nutraceutical, Antibacterial, Anti-inflammatory, Antioxidant, Anticancer, Anticarcinogenic, Anti-diabetic, Cytotoxic, Hepatoprotective, Hypocholesterolemic, Neuroprotective.

Introduction

The tea plant *Camellia sinensis* (L.) Kuntze (family Theaceae) is grown in about 30 countries worldwide (Graham, 1992). It grows best in tropical and subtropical areas with adequate rainfall, good drainage and slightly acidic soil (Graham, 1999). There are two varieties of tea. *C. sinensis* var. *sinensis* (China tea) is grown extensively in China, Japan and Taiwan, while *C. sinensis* var. *assamica* (Assam tea) predominates in South and Southeast Asia, including Malaysia (Adiwinata *et al.*, 1989). Figures 2.1A and B shows the leaves of the plant *C. sinensis* commonly used in the production of tea.

Tea is one of the most widely consumed beverages in the world. *C. sinensis* has been used for tea beverage since 3000 B.C. consisting of the leaf and bud of the plant *Camellia sinensis*. Also, it is the oldest non-alcoholic beverage in the world, having been consumed socially and habitually for several years (Mondal *et al.*, 2004). Recent epidemiological studies suggest that green tea has diverse biological activities, including antioxidant, antimutagenic, anticarcinogenic, antibacterial, antiviral and anti-fibrotic activities. In addition, it has been shown to alleviate the symptoms of hypertension, reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, improve oral health, protect against solar ultraviolet radiation, control body weight, improve glucose tolerance and insulin sensitivity, increase bone mineral density, and maintain neuroprotective activity (Cabrera *et al.*, 2006). A recent study has suggested that green tea extract is safe as a dietary supplement and has many properties that are beneficial for human health (Frank *et al.*, 2009).

Tea is the most widely consumed beverage in the world, second only to water. The amount of consumption well exceeds coffee, beer, wine and soft drinks. There are three kinds of teas obtained from *Camellia sinensis* plant: not fermented (green and white tea), partially fermented (red and oolong tea) and completely fermented (black tea), and their compositions are affected by the fermentation process. Figure 2.2 shows the processing steps for some of the different types of tea obtained from *C. sinensis* (Paganini-Costa and Carvalho-da-Silva, 2011). Of the total amount of tea produced and consumed in the world, 78 per cent is black, 20 per cent is green and 2 per cent is oolong tea. In green tea manufacturing, catechin oxidation by polyphenol oxidase is prevented by steaming (Japan) or by panning (China) (Graham, 1999). The leaves retain their green color and almost all of their original polyphenol content. Oolong tea is allowed to ferment to a limited extent and contains a mixture of catechins,



Figure 2.1: *Camellia sinensis* (L.) Kuntze Standing Crop (A) and Close Up of Leaves (B) (Photo courtesy: S. K. Basu, Lethbridge, AB, Canada).

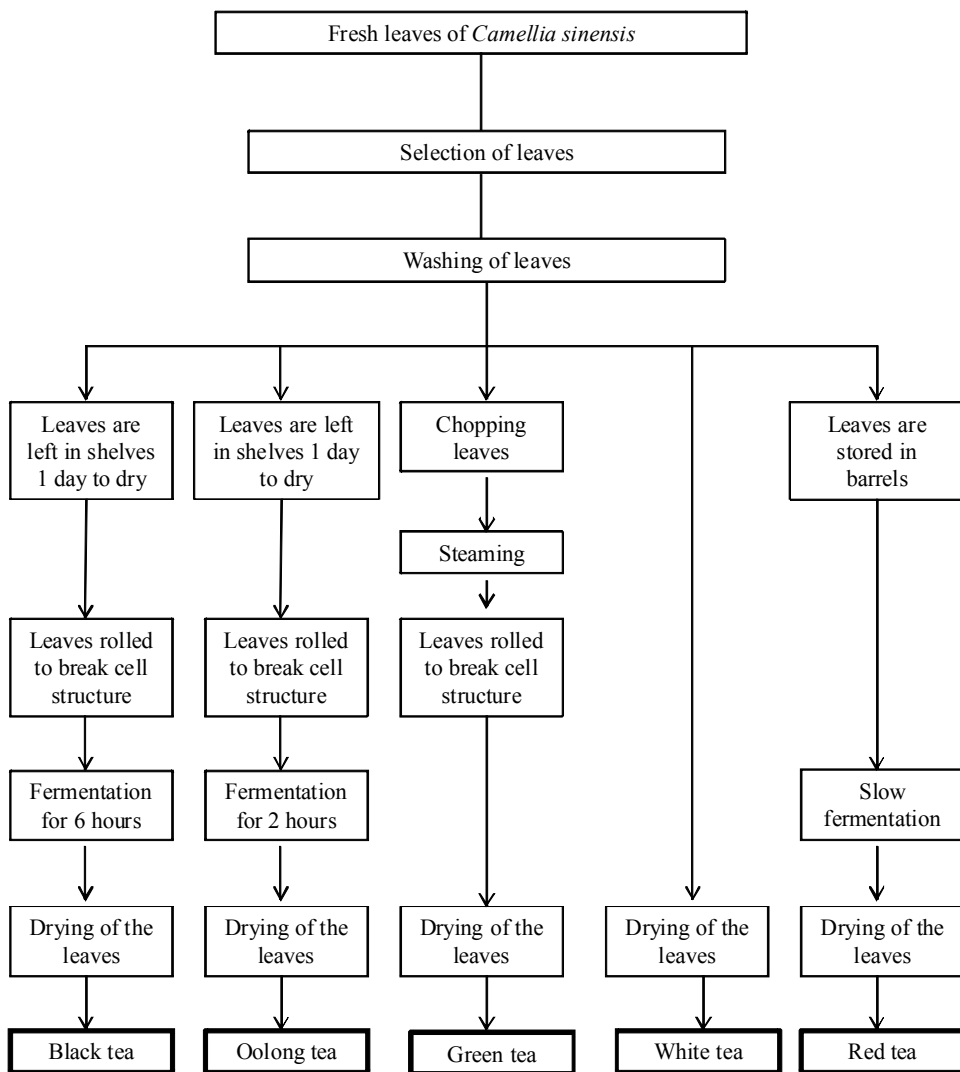


Figure 2.2: Processing Steps for some of the different Types of Tea obtained from *C. sinensis*.

theaflavins and thearubigins. Black tea is produced from fully fermented leaves and has a characteristic color and taste (Chan *et al.*, 2007).

To produce green tea, the young leaves are rolled and steamed to minimize oxidation. In the production of black tea, after the leaves are rolled, which disrupts cellular compartmentation and brings phenolic compounds into contact with polyphenol oxidases, the young *C. sinensis* leaves undergo oxidation (referred to as fermentation) for 6 hours. During this period, catechins are converted to complex condensation products, the theaflavins and their polymers, thearubigins. Oolong tea

is produced with a shorter fermentation period than black tea and has a taste and color somewhere between green and black teas. White tea is prepared from very young tea leaves or buds covered with tiny, silvery hairs, which are harvested only once a year in the early spring. White tea is steamed and dried immediately after picking to prevent oxidation, giving it a light, delicate taste. In spite of numerous data about the phenolic constituents, antioxidant activity and ameliorating effects of green and black tea on human health, little is known in this sense about white tea, which is the rarest and the least processed tea (Rusak *et al.*, 2008).

Even today, the chemical composition of *C. sinensis* has been explored, and novel compounds are continuously discovered. Polyphenols constitute the most interesting group of green tea leaf components, and in consequence, green tea can be considered an important dietary source of polyphenols, particularly flavonoids (Cabrera *et al.*, 2006). Catechins are the major flavonoids present in green tea. The four principal catechins are (-)-epigallocatechin-3-gallate (EGCG), that represents approximately 59 per cent of the total catechins; (-)-epigallocatechin (EGC) (19 per cent approximately); (-)-epicatechin-3-gallate (ECG) (13.6 per cent approximately); and (-)-epicatechin (EC) (6.4 per cent approximately) (Soares *et al.*, 2013).

Phenolic flavan 3-ols in fresh tea leaf are transformed into two principal groups of phenolic pigments (red-orange colored theaflavin and rusty-red colored thearubigin) in black tea by fermentation, which is a natural browning reaction initiated by an oxidative enzyme (polyphenol oxidase) within the plant cell. Semi-fermented oolong tea is generally fermented from 20-60 per cent to avoid green tea's characteristic leafy and grassy notes while obtaining black tea's sweet and bold flavor. Oolong tea was traditionally reported to have anti-obesity and hypolipidemic effects coming from unoxidised tea catechins and oxidized theaflavins and thearubigins present in oolong tea. The data suggested that fermentation diminished antioxidant capacity of tea and could result in lowering potential health benefits from flavonoids. This result should be considered for tea manufacturing and the development of functional foods desiring maximum potential health benefits from antioxidant flavonoids in tea (Kim *et al.*, 2011).

White tea is very similar to green tea, but it is exceptionally prepared only from the buds and young leaves of *C. sinensis* plant, which are plucked only during the early spring before the buds have been fully opened. On the other hand, green tea is prepared from the matured tea leaves of the same plant. Several types of bioactive compounds are found in white tea such as polyphenols, caffeine, theogallin, gallic acid, theaflavin, flavanol glycosides and catechins, particularly epigallocatechins, epigallocatechins gallate, epicatechin gallate and epicatechin gallate. The concentrations of tea polyphenols, catechins and corresponding antioxidant activities are higher in white tea compared to green- or black tea. It was also reported that the concentrations of total polyphenols, total catechins, caffeine and epigallocatechin gallate are significantly higher in the white tea compared to green tea while only epigallocatechin and flavanol glycosides are higher in green tea compared to white tea (Islam, 2011).

The reasons for the worldwide popularity of tea were unique aroma and characteristic flavor, but recently, its popularity has increased due to its potential health benefits against cardiovascular diseases and cancer as well as pharmaceutical activities such as antihypertensive, antiarteriosclerotic, hypocholesterolemic and hypolipidemic properties mostly from activities of antioxidant flavonoids present in tea. Monomeric flavonoids (flavan 3-ols or tea catechins) present in *C. sinensis* leaf are transformed to polymeric theaflavin and thearubigin by oxidation occurring during tea fermentation. The distinctive color, decreased bitterness and astringency and characteristic flavor are derived from the fermentation process giving fermented teas a marked distinction from non-fermented green tea. Even though teas are available in many different fermentation levels from green to black, the difference in phytochemicals and volatile compounds in tea with different degrees of fermentation has not been fully investigated yet within the same tea leaf (Kim *et al.*, 2011).

A number of studies during the last decade have linked tea consumption, especially green tea, to a reduced risk for cancer in humans, leading to increased popularity and credibility of tea as a healthy drink with chemopreventive properties (Blot *et al.*, 1997). It has widely been accepted that drinking green tea is associated with a low incidence of human cancer (Uesato *et al.*, 2001). Since Higginson (1966) first published the epidemiological report on tea and cancer, many extensive studies about the chemopreventive efficacy of green tea against various types of cancer, including esophagus, breast, pancreas, prostate and colon cancer, have been carried out (Wei *et al.*, 2011).

Considering the importance of the species *Camellia sinensis* in the treatment of several diseases, especially diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and cancer, this chapter is a review of chemical and nutraceutical aspects of this species. We do not intend to conduct a comprehensive review of the literature, but rather to present introductory information on the subject. For more details about the properties of tea, the reviews of Pastore and Fratellone (2006), Yang *et al.* (2007) and Sharangi (2009) could be consulted.

Methods

A literature search on the biological activities of extracts and the presence of compounds in *C. sinensis* was carried out. The keywords used for the literature search for this review were *Camellia sinensis*, Theaceae, biological activity, medicinal plants and natural products. The search was carried out using Web of Sciences, Chemical Abstracts and the data bank NAPRALERT (acronym for NATural PRoducts ALERT), updated January 2000 to July 2013. The references found in the search were then studied in detail.

Results and Discussion

In this section we present some considerations about extracts and chemical constituents of *C. sinensis* with biological activity. Consultation of various literature sources resulted in the elaboration of a list of some active extracts and preparations as well as chemical constituents isolated from *C. sinensis* (Tables 2.1 and 2.2). It should be noted that most of the references cited are not first-hand observations, but

Table 2.1: Biological Activities for extracts of *C. sinensis*.

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
Acid phosphatase inhibition	H ₂ O extract	Rat (Ovariectomized)	Active	(Das et al., 2005)
Angiogenesis inhibition	Decoction	Cell culture	Active	(Kojima-Yuasa et al., 2003)
Alcohol dehydrogenase inhibition	Catechins and flavonoids	Yeast	Active	(Manir et al., 2012)
Aldosterone agonist activity	Infusion	Human adult	Inactive	(Duffy et al., 2001)
Analgesic activity	MeOH:H ₂ O (1:1) extract	Mouse	Active	(Chattopadhyay et al., 2004)
Antiatopic dermatitis activity	Hot H ₂ O extract	Human adult	Active	(Uehara et al., 2001)
Angiotensin converting enzyme stimulation	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Inactive	(Melzig and Janka 2003)
Antibacterial activity	Ethyl acetate extract	Cell culture	Active	(Chauhan et al., 2013)
	Ethanol extract	Cell culture	Active	(Chauhan et al., 2013)
	Methanolic extract	Cell culture	Active	(Chauhan et al., 2013)
	H ₂ O:MeOH (60:40) extract	Cell culture	Active	(Chauhan et al., 2013)
	Aqueous extract	Cell culture	Active	(Sharma et al., 2012)
	Polyphenolic fraction	Human adult	Active	(Hirano et al., 2002)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Inactive	(Yildirim et al., 2000)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	Inactive	(Yildirim et al., 2000)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	Inactive	(Yildirim et al., 2000)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Inactive	(Yildirim et al., 2000)
	Infusion	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Active	(Sharquie et al., 2000)
	Infusion	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	Active	(Sharquie et al., 2000)
	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Sharquie et al., 2000)
	Infusion	Agar plate	Active	(Sharquie et al., 2000)
	Infusion	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	Active	(Yee and Koo 2000)

Contd...

Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
Anti-diabetic activity	Aqueous extract	Rat	Active	(Islam 2011)
	Infusion	Rat	Active	(Abeywickrama et al., 2011)
	Polyphenolic fraction	Rat	Active	(Sabu et al., 2002)
Antidiarrheal activity	Decoction	Mouse male	Active	(Besra et al., 2003)
	Decoction	Rat male	Active	(Besra et al., 2003)
Antifibrotic activity	Phenolic fraction	Mice	Active	(Tsai et al., 2013)
Antigastritis activity	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Yu et al., 2001)
Antigen expression enhancement	Phenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Abou et al., 2001)
Antihemolitic activity	Methanolic extract	Cell culture	Active	(Costa et al., 2009)
Antihepatotoxic activity	Infusion	Rat male	Active	(Altiner and Yenice 2000)
	Polyphenolic fraction	Rabbit	Active	(Dou et al., 2000)
	Flavonoid fraction	Mouse	Active	(Rao et al., 2000)
Antihypercholesterolemic activity	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Maron et al., 2003)
	Infusion	Rat male	Active (Liver)	(Yang and Koo 2000)
	Infusion	Rat male	Active (Serum)	(Yang et al., 2000)
Antihyperglycemic activity	H ₂ O extract	Human adult	Active	(Hosoda et al., 2003)
Anti-inflammatory activity	MeOH-H ₂ O (1:1) extract	Rat	Active	(Chattopadhyay et al., 2004)
	Infusion	Rat male	Active	(Das et al., 2002)
	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Krahwinkel and Willershausen 2000)
Anti-ischemic effect	Saponin fraction	Rat	Active	(Chaudhuri et al., 2001)
	EtOH (70 per cent) extract	Gerbil female	Active	(Honh et al., 2001)
	Chromatographic fraction	Rat	Active	(Honh et al., 2000)

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Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
Antimutagenic activity	Aqueous extract	Cell culture	Active	(van der Merwe 2006)
	H ₂ O soluble fraction	Mouse male	Active	(Shukla and Taneja 2001)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Mouse	Weak activity	(Krul <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Mouse male	Active	(Jiang <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	CHCl ₃ extract	–	Active	(Higashimoto <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Mouse female	Active	(Presentin <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Methanolic extract	Mice	Active	(Hamao <i>et al.</i> , 2011)
	Ethyl acetate extract	–	Active	(Chauhan <i>et al.</i> , 2012)
Anti-obesity	Ethanol extract	–	Active	(Chauhan <i>et al.</i> , 2012)
	Methanolic extract	–	Active	(Chauhan <i>et al.</i> , 2012)
	H ₂ O:MeOH (60:40) extract	–	Active	(Chauhan <i>et al.</i> , 2012)
	Polyssacharide fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Chauhan 2012)
	Methanol extract	–	Active	(Xu <i>et al.</i> , 2012)
	Polyphenolic fraction	–	Active	(Chan <i>et al.</i> , 2007)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat male	Active	(Levites <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
	Decoction	Rat male	Active (Liver)	(Fadhel and Amran 2002)
	Decoction	Rat male	Active (Kidney)	(Alessio <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
	Infusion	–	Active	(Alessio <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Antioxidant activity	Hot H ₂ O extract	–	Active	(Nakagawa <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
	EtOH-H ₂ O (50 per cent) extract	–	Weak activity	(Krul <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
		–	Weak activity	(Chung <i>et al.</i> , 2001)

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Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
	EtOH (70 per cent) extract	Gerbil female	Active	(Hong <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Chung <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Chromatographic fraction	Rat	Active	(Hong <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Tannin fraction	Cell culture	Inactive	(Yokozawa <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Antiproliferation activity	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Langley-Evans <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Antiproliferation activity	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Melzig <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
	Catechin fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Chung <i>et al.</i> , 2001a)
	Infusion	Rat male	Active	(Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Antipyretic activity	MeOH-H ₂ O (1:1) extract	Rat	Active	(Chattopadhyay <i>et al.</i> , 2004)
Anti-stroke activity	MeOH-H ₂ O (1:1) extract	Mouse	Active	(Chattopadhyay <i>et al.</i> , 2004)
Antitumor activity	Infusion	Human adult	Inactive	(Peters <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Polysaccharide fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Xu <i>et al.</i> , 2012)
	Decoction	Hamster male	Active	(Li <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
	Infusion	Mouse male	Active	(Das <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
	Decoction	Mouse	Active	(Gupta <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Infusion	Mouse	Active	(Suganuma <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Antilucer activity	Decoction	Gerbil male	Active	(Matsubara <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
Antiyeast activity	EtOH (100 per cent) extract	<i>Candida albicans</i>	Active	(Vaijayanthimala <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	H ₂ O extract	<i>Candida albicans</i>	Inactive	(Vaijayanthimala <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	<i>Candida albicans</i>	Inactive	(Yildirim <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Saponin fraction	<i>Zygosaccharomyces roux</i>	Active	(Tomita <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Aphrodisiac effects	Black tea brew	Rat male	Active	(Ratnasooriya and Fernando 2008)

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Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
Apoptosis induction	Root extract	Cell culture	Active	(Ghosh <i>et al.</i> , 2006)
	Infusion	Mouse	Active	(Bhattacharyya <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
	Decoction	Mouse	Active	(Gupta <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Catechin fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Chung <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Catechin fraction	Cell culture	Weak activity	(Liu <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Apoptosis inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Weak activity	(Hibasami <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	EtOH (70 per cent) extract	Gerbil female	Active	(Hong <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Chromatographic fraction	Rat	Active	(Hong <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Autophosphorylation inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Klein and Fischer 2002)
	Type extract not stated	Mouse	Active	(Mao and Yu 2000)
Blood alcohol level decreased	Catechin fraction	–	Active	(Kang <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Calcium level decrease	Infusion	Mouse female	Active	(Shukla <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Carcinogenesis inhibition	Type extract not stated	Rat male	Active (Liver)	(Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
	Lyophilized extract	Mouse female	Active	(Lu <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Carcinogenesis inhibition	Hot H ₂ O extract	Mouse	Inactive	(Hebert <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Carcinogenesis inhibition	Infusion	Rat male	Active	(Qin <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Infusion	Rat male	Active	(Jia and Han 2000)
Carcinogenesis inhibition	Pigment	Rat male	Active	(Gong <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Polyphenolic fraction	Rat male	Active	(Gong <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Carcinogenesis inhibition	Infusion	Rat male	Active	(Metz <i>et al.</i> , 2000)

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Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
Cardiotonic effect	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Hodgson <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Cardiostetic effect	Infusion	Rat	Active	(Hamilton-Miller <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Not stated	Human child	Active	(Hamilton-Miller <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Infusion	Hamster	Active	(Hamilton-Miller <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Caspase-3 stimulation	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Kennedy <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Cell adhesion inhibition	Not stated	Cell culture	Active	(Xuan <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Cell proliferation inhibition	H ₂ O extract	–	Active	(Dulloo <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Cholesterol absorption inhibition	Infusion	Rat	Active	(Loest <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Cyclooxygenase-1 inhibition	Infusion	Rat male	Inactive	(Metz <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Cyclooxygenase-2 inhibition	Infusion	Rat male	Active	(Metz <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Cytochrome C release stimulation	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Kennedy <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Cytochrome P ₄₅₀ inhibition	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Weak activity	(Greenblatt <i>et al.</i> , 2006)
Cytochrome P ₄₅₀ inhibition	Type extract not stated	Human adult	Inactive	(Donovan <i>et al.</i> , 2008)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat female	Inactive	(Maliakal <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Cytochrome P ₄₅₀ stimulation	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat female	Active	(Maliakal <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Cytotoxic activity	Root extract	Cell culture	Active	(Ghosh <i>et al.</i> , 2006)
	EtOH (60 per cent)	Cell culture	Inactive	(Bedoya <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Sartippour <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Degranulation inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Tachibana <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
DNA adduct formation inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
DNA damage prevention activity	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Thiagarajan <i>et al.</i> , 2001)

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Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
DNA ladder formation stimulation	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
DNA synthesis inhibition	Infusion	Cell culture	Weak activity	(Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
DNA synthesis inhibition	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Melzig <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
Endopeptidase stimulation	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Klein <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Endothelin inhibition	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Melzig <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
Estradiol secretion stimulation	Pigment	Rabbit	Active	(Xuan <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Fibroblast growth factor release inhibition	H ₂ O extract	Rat (Ovariectomized)	Active	(Das <i>et al.</i> , 2005)
Food-drug interaction	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Sartippour <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Free radical formation inhibition	Hot H ₂ O extract	Human adult	Inactive	(Greenblatt <i>et al.</i> , 2006)
Gastric emptying time decreased	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Gastrointestinal disorders	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Glucuronyl transferase stimulation	Saponin fraction	Mouse	Active	(Murakami <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Glucuronyl transferase stimulation	H ₂ O extract	Human adult	Active	(Pisters <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Glutathione formation induction	Decoction	Rat male	Active	(Mamewick <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
Glutathione formation induction	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat female	Inactive	(Maliakal <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Glutathione formation induction	Decoction	Rat male	Active	(Mamewick <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
Glutathione formation induction	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat	Active	(Maity <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Glutathione-S-transferase induction	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Glutathione-S-transferase inhibition	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Inactive	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Hepatoprotective activity	Decoction	Rat male	Active	(Mamewick <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat female	Active	(Maliakal <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Polyssacharide fraction	Female mice	Active	(Xu <i>et al.</i> , 2012)
	EtOH extract	Rat male	Active	(Schmitz <i>et al.</i> , 2009)

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Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
Histamine release inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Tachibana <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Hydrogen peroxide release inhibition	EtOH (80 per cent) extract	Gerbil female	Active	(Hong <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Hydroxyproline inhibition	H ₂ O extract	Rat (Ovariectomized)	Active	(Das <i>et al.</i> , 2005)
Hypocholesterolemic activity	H ₂ O extract	Human adult	Active	(Santana <i>et al.</i> , 2008)
	Powder	Rat male	Active (Liver)	(Hasegawa <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
	Powder	Rat male	Active (Plasma)	(Hasegawa <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
	H ₂ O extract	Human adult	Active	(Dulloo <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Hypothermic activity	MeOH-H ₂ O(1:1) extract	Mouse	Active	(Chattopadhyay <i>et al.</i> , 2004)
I-Kappa-B Kinase inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Rat	Active	(Yang <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Immunomodulatory activity	H ₂ O extract	Human adult	Active	(Levites <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Inositol phosphate formation inhibition	Catechin fraction	–	Active	(Kang <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Insulin potentiating effect	Leaves	–	Weak activity	(Broadhurst <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Intestinal motility stimulation	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat	Active	(Maity <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Iron absorption decreased	Saponin fraction	Mouse	Active	(Murakami <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
LDL oxidation inhibition	Infusion	Human adult	Active	(Samman <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Infusion	–	Active	(Richelle <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Phenol-water extract	–	Active	(Mukoda <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	CHCl ₃ soluble fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Yang <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	EtOAc soluble fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Yang <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	H ₂ O soluble fraction	Cell culture	Inactive	(Yang <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Lipid peroxide formation inhibition	Infusion	Rat male	Active	(Altiner <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Phenol-water extract	–	Active	(Mukoda <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	EtOH (70 per cent) extract	Gerbil female	Active	(Hong <i>et al.</i> , 2001)

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Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
Locomotor activity decrease	EtOH (70 per cent) extract	Gerbil female	Active	(Hong <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Luciferase stimulation	Phenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Abou <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Neuroprotective effect	Polyphenolic fraction	Cells PC-12	Active	(Levites <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
	Polyphenolic fraction	Neuroblastoma human	Active	(Levites <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
NF Kappa-B binding inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	–	Active	(Levites <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Nitric oxide synthase stimulation	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat	Active	(Maity <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Nitric oxide synthesis inhibition	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Sarkar and Bhaduri 2001)
Ornithine decarboxylase inhibition	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Active	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Phosphorylation inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Klein <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Phototoxicity inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Active	Active	(Carini <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Phytoestrogenic effects	Aqueous extract	Female rat	Active	(Das <i>et al.</i> , 2005)
Plaquet formation suppressant	Pigment	Rabbit	Active	(Xuan <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Platelet aggregation inhibition	Catechin fraction	–	Active	(Kang <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Protein expression stimulation	Phenolic fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Abou <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Protein photoaggregation inhibition	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Thiagarajan <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Quinine reductase induction	Polyphenolic fraction	Cell culture	Inactive	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Cell culture	Inactive	(Steel <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Radical scavenging effect	Phenol-water extract	–	Active	(Mukoda <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	EtOH-H ₂ O (50 per cent) extract	–	Active	(Chung <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Radioprotective effect	Tannin fraction	Cell culture	Active	(Yokozawa <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	Polyphenolic fraction	Human adult	Active	(Elmets <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Renal function improvement	Polyphenolic fraction	Rabbit	Active	(Hu <i>et al.</i> , 2000)

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Table 2.1–Contd...

Activity	Extract/Preparation	Organism/Model	Results	Reference
Smooth muscle relaxant activity	H ₂ O extract	Species not stated	Active	(Hung <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Superoxide dismutase stimulation	Infusion	Mouse male	Active	(Das <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Superoxide production inhibition	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Sarkar <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Thiagarajan <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Superoxide radical scavenging	Saponin fraction	–	Active	(Chaudhuri <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Infusion	Cell culture	Active	(Thiagarajan <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Superoxide scavenging activity increase	Phenol-water extract	–	Active	(Mukoda <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Thermogenic activity	H ₂ O extract	–	Active	(Dulloo <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
α -Tocopherol depletion prevention	Infusion	Rat	Active	(Loes <i>et al.</i> , 2002)
Toxic effect (general)	Type extract not stated	Human adult	Inactive	(Maron <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
Tumor necrosing factor inhibition	Polyphenolic fraction	Mouse	Active	(Suganuma <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Tumor promoting effect	Catechin fraction	Rat male	Inactive (Lung)	(Hirose <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Catechin fraction	Rat male	Inactive (Thyroid gland)	(Hirose <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
UDP-Glucuronyl transferase stimulation	Catechin fraction	Rat male	Inactive (Colon)	(Hirose <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
	Hot H ₂ O extract	Rat female	Active	(Maliakal <i>et al.</i> , 2001)
Urease inhibition	MeOH-H ₂ O extract	Gerbil male	Active	(Matsubara <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Weight gain inhibition	H ₂ O extract	Rat	Active	(Dulloo <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
	H ₂ O extract	Rat	Active	(Dulloo <i>et al.</i> , 2000)
Weight loss	EtOH (80 per cent) extract	Human adult	Active	(Chantre and Lairon 2002)

Table 2.2: Presence of Compounds in *C. sinensis*.

Substances	Compound Type	References
Arachidic acid	Lipid	Akhlis <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Ascorbic acid	Vitamin	Hasegawa <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Assamsaponin C	Triterpene	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2013
Assamsaponin G	Triterpene	Murakami <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Assamsaponin I	Triterpene	Murakami <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Assamsaponin J	Triterpene	Murakami <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Astragaln	Flavonol	Luo 2012, Zhou and Peng 2000
Caffeine	Alkaloid	Horie <i>et al.</i> , 2002, Keya <i>et al.</i> , 2003, Koshiishi <i>et al.</i> , 2001, Robb <i>et al.</i> , 2002
Camelliquercetiside A	Flavonoid	Manir <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Camelliquercetiside B	Flavonoid	Manir <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Camelliquercetiside C	Flavonoid	Manir <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Camelliquercetiside D	Flavonoid	Manir <i>et al.</i> , 2012
(-)-Catechin-3-O-gallate	Flavonoid	Baumann <i>et al.</i> , 2001, Degenhardt, and Winterhalter 2000, Kang <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Leung <i>et al.</i> , 2001, Mauri and Pietta 2000
(+)-Catechin	Flavonoid	Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012, Robb <i>et al.</i> , 2002, Zhou and Yang 2000
Chakasaponnin I	Saponin	Hamao <i>et al.</i> , 2011
Chakasaponnin II	Saponin	Hamao <i>et al.</i> , 2011
Chakasaponnin III	Saponin	Hamao <i>et al.</i> , 2011
Chlorogenic acid	Phenylpropanoid	Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2001, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Chrysanthemnin	Flavonoid	Terahara <i>et al.</i> , 2001

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Table 2.2–Contd...

Substances	Compound Type	References
Coniferin	Phenylpropanoid	Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Delphinidin-3-O-β-D-(6- <i>trans-p</i> -coumaroyl)-galactopyranoside	Flavonoid	Terahara <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Delphinidin-3-O-β-D-glucoside	Flavonoid	Terahara <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Delphinidin-3-O-β-D-galactopyranoside	Flavonoid	Terahara <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Desacyl-floratheasaponin B	Saponin	Hamao <i>et al.</i> , 2011
Epiatzelechin-3-O-gallate	Flavonoid	Degenhardt <i>et al.</i> , 2000
(-)-Epiatzelechin-3-O-gallate	Flavonoid	Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
(-)-Epicatechin	Flavonoid	Leung <i>et al.</i> , 2001, Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012, <i>et al.</i> , Kang <i>et al.</i> , 2000, 2000, Robb <i>et al.</i> , 2002, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
(-)-Epigallocatechin	Flavonoid	Leung <i>et al.</i> , 2001, Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012, Kang <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Mauri <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Robb <i>et al.</i> , 2002, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
(-)-Epigallocatechin-3-O-gallate	Flavonoid	(Baumann <i>et al.</i> , 2001, Degenhardt <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Leung <i>et al.</i> , 2001, Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012, Kang <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Mauri <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Robb <i>et al.</i> , 2002, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Umashankar <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Epitheaflavic acid	Flavonoid	Degenhardt <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Gallic acid	Benzenoid	Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
(+)-Galocatechin	Flavonoid	Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012, Robb <i>et al.</i> , 2002
4-Hydroxy-benzoic acid	Benzenoid	Pietta <i>et al.</i> , 2000
4-Hydroxy-3-methoxy-hippuric acid	Proteid	Pietta <i>et al.</i> , 2000
3-(4-Hydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid	Phenylpropanoid	Pietta <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Isoquercetin	Flavonol	Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Isoschaftoside	Flavone	Wada <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Isotheasaponins B1	Saponin	Kobayashi <i>et al.</i> , 2006

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Table 2.2–Contd...

Substances	Compound Type	References
Isotheasaponins B2	Saponin	Kobayashi <i>et al.</i> , 2006
Isotheasaponins B3	Saponin	Kobayashi <i>et al.</i> , 2006
Isovitexin	Flavonoid	Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Kaempferol	Flavonol	Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Kaempferol-3-O-[α -l-rhamnopyranosyl(1-3)- α -l-rhamnopyranosyl(1-6)- β -D-galactopyranoside]	Flavonol	Lakenbrink <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Kaempferol-3-O-[α -l-rhamnopyranosyl(1-3)- α -l-rhamnopyranosyl(1-6)- β -D-glucopyranoside]	Flavonol	Lakenbrink <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Kaempferol-3-O-[α -l-rhamnopyranosyl(1-3)-(4"-O-acetyl)- α -l-rhamnopyranosyl(1-6)- β -D-glucopyranoside]	Flavonol	Lakenbrink <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Kaempferol-3-O-[β -D-glucopyranosyl(1-3)- α -l-rhamnopyranosyl(1-6)- β -D-galactopyranoside]	Flavonol	Wada <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Kaempferol-3-O-[β -D-glucopyranosyl(1-3)- α -l-rhamnopyranosyl(1-6)- β -D-glucopyranoside]	Flavonol	Wada <i>et al.</i> , 2000
α -Linolenic acid	Lipid	Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Linoleic acid	Lipid	Akhlasi <i>et al.</i> , 2000
4-Methyl-catechol	Benzenoid	Pietta <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Myristic acid	Lipid	Akhlasi <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Nicotiflorin	Flavonol	Degenhardt <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Oleic acid	Lipid	Akhlasi <i>et al.</i> , 2000
3 <i>R</i> ,9 <i>R</i> -Oxide-5-megastigmen	Isoprenoid	Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Palmitic acid	Lipid	Akhlasi <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Protocatechuic acid	Benzenoid	Pietta <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Quercetin	Flavonol	Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000

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Table 2.2–Contd...

Substances	Compound Type	References
Quercetin-3-O- $[\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl(1-3)- α -L-rhamopyranosyl(1-6)- β -D-galactopyranosyde]	Flavonol	Wada <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Quercetin-3-O- $[\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl(1-3)- α -L-rhamopyranosyl(1-6)- β -D-glucopyranoside]	Flavonol	Wada <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Rutin	Flavonol	Degenhardt <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Stearic acid	Lipid	Akhlis <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Strictin	Tannin	Luo <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Strictinin	Tannin	Degenhardt <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Theaflavin	Flavonoid	Catterall <i>et al.</i> , 2003
Theaflavin 1	Flavonoid	Leung <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Theaflavin-3'-gallate B	Flavonoid	Leung <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Theaflavin-3-3'-digallate	Flavonoid	Leung <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Theaflavin-3-gallate A	Flavonoid	Leung <i>et al.</i> , 2001
Theanine	Proteid	Xu <i>et al.</i> , 2002, Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2002
Thenaphthoquinone	Flavonoid	Tanaka <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Theobromine	Alkaloid	Robb <i>et al.</i> , 2002
Theogallin	Benzenoid	Zhou <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Theanine	Proteid	He <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Theasaponin A-8	Triterpene	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2013
Theasaponin A-9	Triterpene	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2013
Theasaponin C-1	Triterpene	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2013
Theasaponin E-1	Triterpene	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2013

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Table 2.2–Contd...

Substances	Compound Type	References
Theasaponin E-2	Triterpene	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2013, Murakami <i>et al.</i> , 2000, Tomita <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Theasaponin H-1	Triterpene	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2013
TR-saponin A	Triterpene	Lu <i>et al.</i> , 2000
TR-saponin B	Triterpene	Lu <i>et al.</i> , 2000
TR-saponin C	Triterpene	Lu <i>et al.</i> , 2000
Vanillic acid	Benzenoid	Pietta <i>et al.</i> , 2000

compilations copied from other sources. For details, the original references should be consulted.

Nutraceutical Aspects

Anti-diabetic Activity

The study conducted by Islam *et al.* (2011) investigated the effects of a 0.5 per cent aqueous extract of white tea in a streptozotocin-induced diabetes model of rats. Six-week-old male Sprague-Dawley rats were divided into 3 groups of 6 animals in each group namely: normal control (NC), diabetic control (DBC) and diabetic white tea (DWT). Diabetes was induced by an intraperitoneal injection of streptozotocin (65 mg/kg BW) in DBC and DWT groups except the NC group. After 4 weeks feeding of 0.5 per cent aqueous extracts of WT, the drink intake was significantly ($p < 0.05$) increased in the DWT group compared to the DBC and NC groups. Blood glucose concentrations were significantly decreased and glucose tolerance ability was significantly improved in the DWT group compared to the DBC group. Liver weight and liver glycogen were significantly increased and serum total cholesterol and LDL-cholesterol were significantly decreased in the DWT group compared to the DBC group. The food intake, body weight gain, serum insulin and fructosamine concentrations were not influenced by the consumption of white tea (WT). Data of this study suggest that the 0.5 per cent aqueous extract of WT is effective to reduce most of the diabetes-associated abnormalities in a streptozotocin-induced diabetic model of rats.

In another study, Sabu *et al.* (2002) investigated the effect of crude polyphenolic fraction of green tea in reducing the alloxan-induced oxidative damage and diabetes in rats. An aqueous solution of green tea polyphenols (GTP) was found to inhibit lipid peroxidation (LP), scavenge hydroxyl and superoxide radicals *in vitro*. Concentration needed for 50 per cent inhibition of superoxide, hydroxyl and LP radicals were 10, 52.5 and 136 mg/ml, respectively. Administration of GTP (500 mg/kg b.wt.) to normal rats increased glucose tolerance significantly (PB/0.005) at 60 min. GTP was also found to reduce serum glucose level in alloxan diabetic rats significantly at a dose level of 100 mg/kg b.wt. continued daily administration (15 days) of the extract 50, 100 mg/kg b.wt. exhibiting 29 and 44 per cent reduction in the elevated serum glucose level produced by alloxan administration. Elevated hepatic and renal enzymes produced by alloxan were found to be reduced (PB/0.001) by GTP. The serum LP levels which was increased by alloxan and was reduced significantly (PB/0.001) by the administration of 100 mg/kg b.wt. of GTP. Decreased liver glycogen, after alloxan administration, showed a significant (PB/0.001) increase after GTP treatment. GTP treated group showed increased antioxidant potential as seen from improvements in superoxide dismutase and glutathione levels. However, catalase, LP and glutathione peroxidase levels were unchanged. Those results indicate that alterations in the glucose usage system and oxidation status in rats increased by alloxan were partially reversed by the administration of the glutamate pyruvate transaminase.

Anti-obesity Effects

The methanolic extract from the flower buds of *C. sinensis* cultivated in Fujian Province showed inhibitory effects on body weight gain and the weight of visceral fats in high-fat diet-fed mice and/or Tsumura Suzuki Obese Diabetic (TSOD) mice. A suppressive effect of the extract on food intake was suggested to contribute to the anti-obesity effect. The *n*-butanol (BuOH)-soluble fraction also reduced food intake in normal diet-fed mice. A principal constituent, chakasaponin II, inhibited gastric emptying (GE) as well as food intake. These inhibitory effects were partly reduced by the pre-treatment with a high dose of capsaicin. The *n*-BuOH-soluble fraction and chakasaponin II suppressed mRNA levels of neuropeptide Y (NPY), an important regulator of body weight through its effects on food intake and energy expenditure, in the hypothalamus. Furthermore, chakasaponin II enhanced the release of serotonin (5-HT) from the isolated ilea of mice *in vitro*. These findings suggested that the active saponins suppressed the appetite signals in the hypothalamus through stimulation of the capsaicin-sensitive sensory nerves, probably vagal afferent nerves, or enhancement of 5-HT release from the ilea, leading to reduced food intake and body weight gain (Hamao *et al.*, 2011).

Anti-inflammatory, Analgesic and Antipyretic Activity

Nutraceutical studies were carried out with methanol-water (1:1) extract of dried tea (*C. sinensis*) root extract (TRE). TRE was found to possess anti-inflammatory, analgesic and antipyretic activities at 1/10th of its LD₅₀ dose of 100 mg/kg i.p. It was found that TRE inhibited the arachidonic acid-induced paw edema in rats which indicated that TRE produced the anti-inflammatory activity by inhibiting both the cyclooxygenase and lipoxygenase pathways of arachidonic acid metabolism. TRE also enhanced peritoneal cell count and the number of macrophages in normal mice. It is plausible that the saponins present in TRE may be responsible for these activities of TRE (Chattopadhyay *et al.*, 2004). Earlier studies have reported that tea root extract (TRE) possesses antitumor effect in ascites (Sur, 1994). Preliminary studies have also revealed the anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties of the saponins isolated from TRE (Lu *et al.*, 2000).

Chemopreventive Effects

Based on studies with green and black teas, polyphenolic components have been considered as potential chemopreventive agents. Tea polyphenols are known to modulate the metabolic fate of carcinogens in several ways to render them less active, thus protecting the target tissue against their adverse effects. Several studies in animals showed that black and green teas modulate cancer development *in vivo*. The consumption of tea polyphenols and tea pigments, comprising the oxidized flavanol products, theaflavins and thearubigins, significantly reduced the number as well as the average area of glutathione-S-transferase placental form positive (GSTP⁺) foci in the liver. An aqueous extract of green tea inhibited both cancer initiation and promotion of AFB1- and carbon tetrachloride-induced hepatocarcinogenesis in male Fischer rats (Marnewick *et al.*, 2009).

Cytotoxic and Apoptogenic Effects

The polyphenolic compounds present in green tea showed cancer chemopreventive effect both *in vivo* and *in vitro*. Since it was found that tea root extract (TRE) inhibited Ehrlich ascites carcinoma (EAC) in mice, the methanol-water extract of tea root was investigated, and two of its saponins isolated from the butanolic fraction of the root extract for their anticancer effect on K562, an erythroleukemic cell line and on U937, a human leukemic cell line and also on cells of untreated patients with either chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) or acute lymphoid leukemia (ALL). The anticancer activity of di- and tri-terpenes and other polyphenolic compounds present in tea is already reported. The cytotoxic and apoptogenic effect of tea root extract were evaluated (TRE), and two of its steroidal saponins named as TS1 and TS2, on human cell lines and on cells from leukemic patients. It was found that TRE, TS1 and TS2 significantly decreased cell count and that TRE caused apoptosis, as confirmed morphologically by confocal microscopy and by flow-cytometric analysis using Annexin-V fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC) and propidium iodide (PI). Cell count and MTT assay in normal white blood cells (WBC) of healthy volunteers revealed that TRE produced insignificant reduction in cell count and cytotoxicity (Ghosh *et al.*, 2006).

Hepatoprotective Activity

Schmitz *et al.* (2009) evaluated the hepatic protection effect of the green tea extract (GTE) on lipoperoxidation and necrosis, induced by the carcinogenic diethylnitrosamine (DEN) in rat's liver. Adult male Wistar rats were used and exposed to one only intra peritoneal dose of 200 mg/kg of DEN, and orally 120 mg/kg of GTE in different experimental moments. After 24 h of a DEN treatment, the animals were sacrificed and the following aspects were evaluated: the AST/ALT levels in plasma, lipoperoxidation of TBARS and FOX in the liver. Necrosis and hepatic hemorrhage were observed through a histological examination. The chemoprotector action and the decrease in lipoperoxidation were detected after a decrease of AST/ALT, TBARS, FOX and hepatic necrosis. The evaluation of these results confirmed the importance of the use of the green tea as a chemoprotector agent, particularly as a preventive method.

Toxicity Studies

In study realized by Hsu *et al.* (2011), mice were orally administered (gavage) with green tea extract at doses of 0 (as normal group), 625, 1250 and 2500 mg/kg body weight/day for 28 days. The results showed that oral administration of green tea extract did not cause adverse effects on body weight, organ weights, hematology, serum biochemistry, urinalysis or histopathology. Additionally, administering green tea extract via gavage significantly reduced triglyceride and cholesterol levels. These observed effects could be attributed to the high levels of catechins present in green tea as these compounds have been reported to have beneficial health effects. The non-observed adverse effect level for green tea extract derived from the results of the present study was 2500 mg/kg body weight/day. The results of the present study clearly showed that oral administration of green tea extract at up to 2500 mg/kg body

weight/day for 28 days did not cause either mortality or toxicity mice, regardless of gender.

Additionally, *in vitro* studies reported that administration of rat hepatocytes with high concentrations of EGCG resulted in reduced cell viability (Galati *et al.*, 2006). *In vivo* studies also suggest that administration with a single dose of 1500 mg/kg, i.g. EGCG in mice may result in hepatotoxicity (Lambert *et al.*, 2010). Due to numerous interactions and synergisms, it is difficult to study the effects of natural dietary supplements on human health when administered in complex mixtures as opposed to a purified compound (Vitaglione *et al.*, 2004). Thus, a conscientious and careful safety evaluation of green tea extract is necessary.

Clinical Efficacy

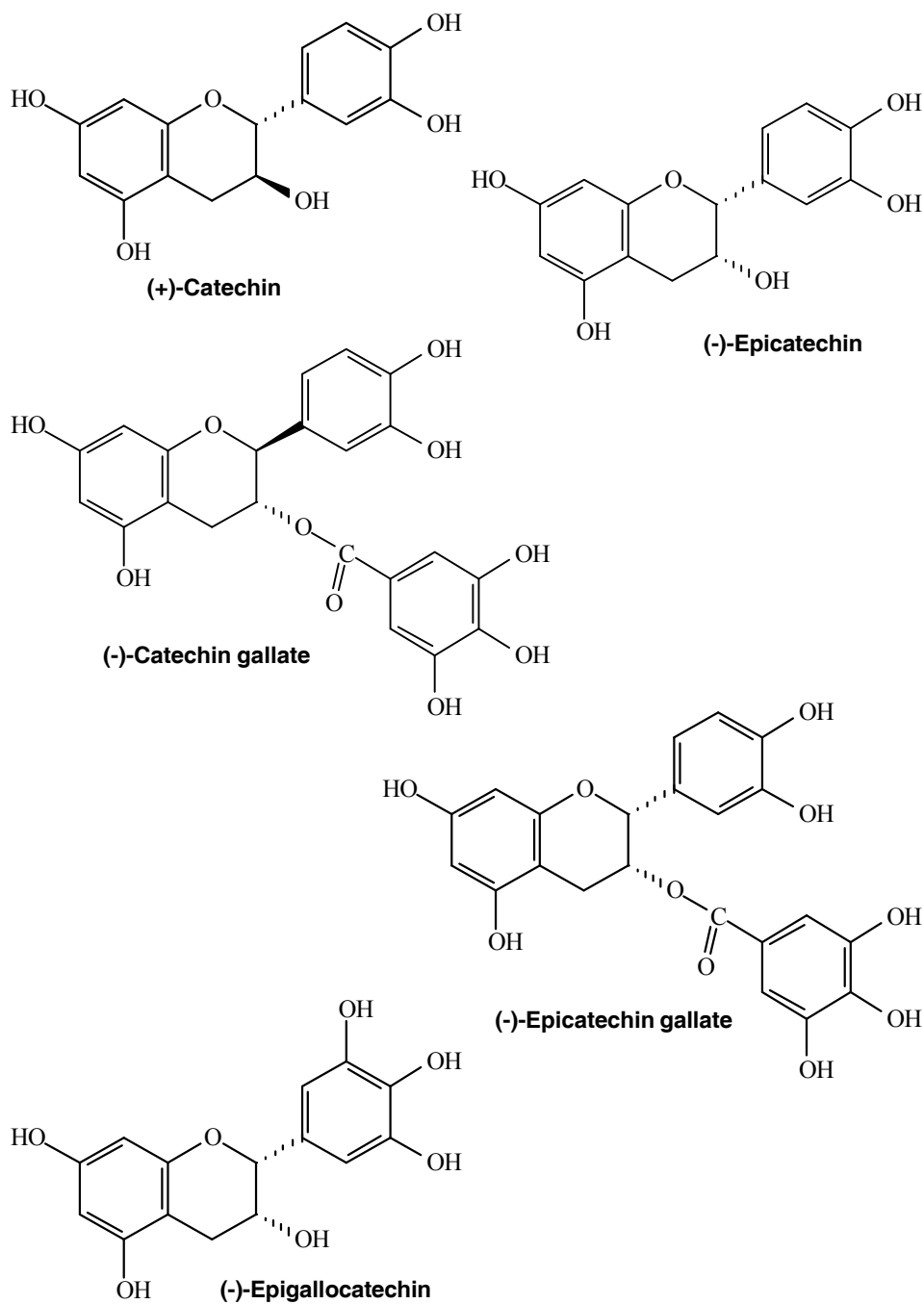
Previous study demonstrated that the association between soy and green tea diminishes hypercholesterolemia and increases total plasma antioxidant potential in dyslipidemic subjects. No significant difference occurred in low density lipoprotein (LDL), high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, and triacylglycerol levels across groups. However, a statistically significant difference in total cholesterol occurred within the soy/green tea group 45 and 90 d after intervention. No statistically significant difference occurred in plasma levels of lipid hydroperoxides or those linked to LDL in any of the groups studied. All the groups that used soy and/or green tea presented increased total plasma antioxidant potential. Soy and green tea, alone or in combination, increased the total antioxidant potential of hypercholesterolemic patients, whereas only the combination decreased total cholesterol levels (Santana *et al.*, 2008).

Chemical Constituents

There are numerous studies about the composition of *C. sinensis* demonstrating that teas contain purine alkaloids (xanthines), phenolic compounds (catechins, *O*-glycosylated flavonols, *C*-glycosylated flavones, proanthocyanidins and phenolic acids and their derivatives), terpenoids, fatty acids, essential oils and amino acids. Oolong and black teas also contain the oxidation products of catechins, theaflavins and polymeric thearubigins (Scoparo *et al.*, 2012). Flavan-3-ols (catechins), which are abundant in young leaves and shoots of the tea plant, account for approximately 70-80 per cent of tea polyphenols.

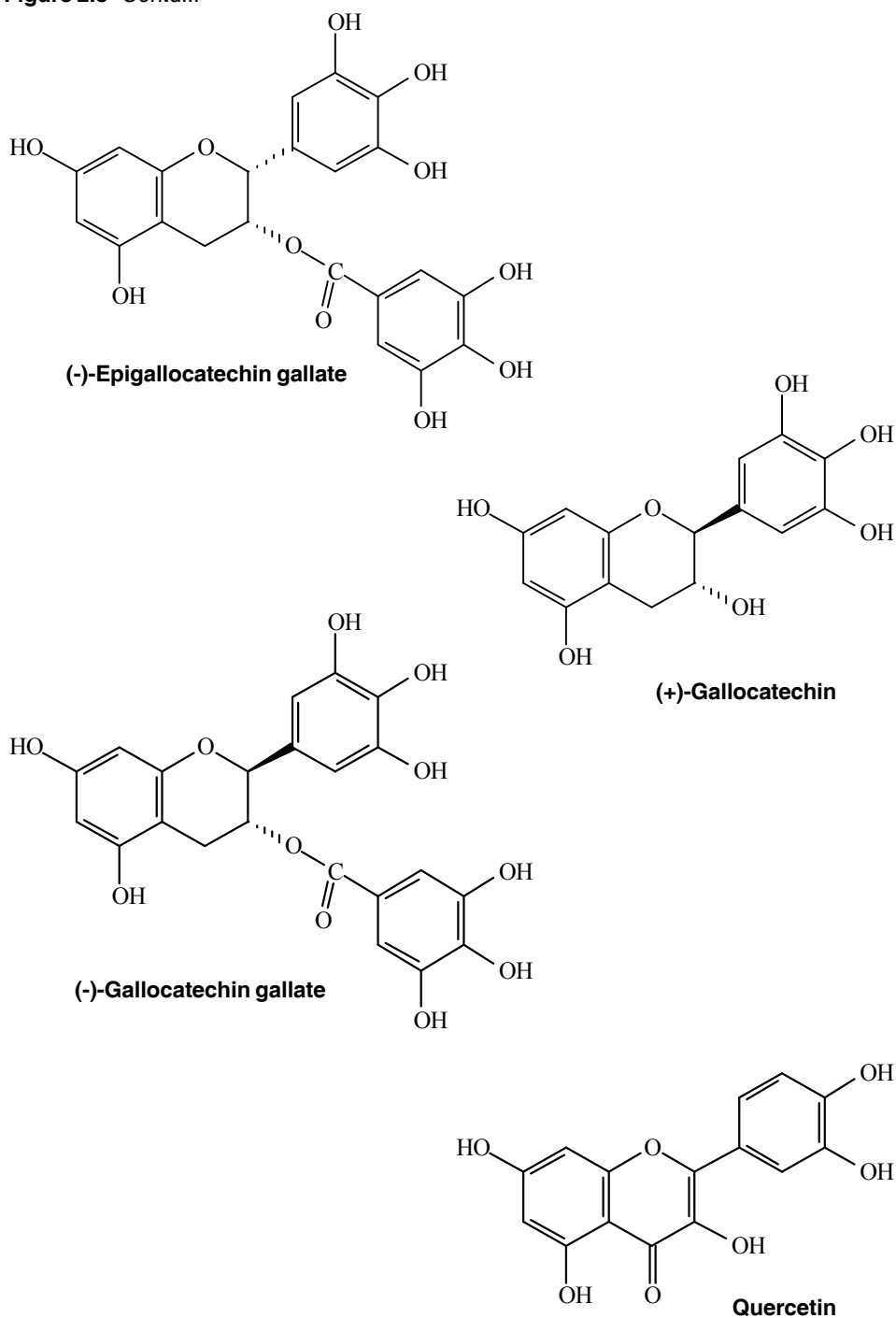
Camellia sinensis contains high levels of polyphenols, including (+)-catechin, (-)-epicatechin, (-)-catechin gallate, (-)-epicatechin gallate, (-)-epigallocatechin, (+) gallocatechin, (-)-epigallocatechin gallate, (-)-gallocatechin gallate (Figure 2.3). Content of catechins varies with climate, season, horticultural practices, leaf age and variety. Polyphenols from *C. sinensis* are efficient free radical and singlet oxygen scavengers (Balentine *et al.*, 1997).

Other important groups of polyphenols in tea are flavonols; water-soluble compounds make up to 3 per cent of dry weight of tea leaves. Main flavonols are myricetin, quercetin and kaempferol. They are present in plants as glycosides and aglycones. Sugar moieties consist of glucose, rhamnose, galactose, arabinose and fructose (Balentine *et al.*, 1997). Tea flavonoid consumption has been linked to lower

Figure 2.3: Chemical Structures of some Chemical Constituents of *C. sinensis*.

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Figure 2.3–Contd...



incidences of chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease and cancer. It has been shown, in different cell lines and animal models, that tea flavonoids inhibit cell proliferation, induce cell cycle arrest and apoptosis, stimulate angiogenesis and affect cell signaling pathways. The health benefits associated with tea consumption have been attributed in part to the antioxidant and free radical-scavenging activity of the most abundant tea flavonols (Rusak *et al.*, 2008).

Bioactivity of Metabolites

Study conducted by Li *et al.* (2013) described the bioactivity-guided fractionation of the crude ethanol extract of seeds of *C. sinensis*, leading to the isolation of seven theasaponins: theasaponin E1, theasaponin E2, theasaponin C1, assamsaponin C, theasaponin H1, theasaponin A9, and theasaponin A8. The fraction of total tea seed saponin showed anti-tumor activity in S180 implanted ICR mice and the isolated theasaponins exhibited different tumor inhibitory effects against human tumor cell lines, respectively. At the same time, the quinone reductase inducing activities were also estimated to reveal the possibility of tea seed for use as a chemopreventive agent of tumor. The tea seed triterpene saponin (TS) from *Camellia sinensis* was found to exhibit better antitumor activity *in vivo* in S180 implanted ICR mice and QR inducing activity for hepa lcl7 cells respectively compared with the total tea seed saponin (TTS), hydrolysate of the TTS and tea seed flavonoid glycosides (TF). By bioassay-guided isolation, the TS fraction was separated and seven major components were purified and identified as theasaponin E1, theasaponin E2, theasaponin C1, assamsaponin C, theasaponin H1, theasaponin A9, and theasaponin A8.

Several epidemiologic studies have proposed an association between green tea consumption and a reduced risk of different kinds of human cancer. For instance, it has been suggested that epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG), a major polyphenolic antioxidant present in green tea, may protect cells against cancer initiation and subsequent progression by its antioxidant activity (Kativar *et al.*, 1997). In particular, EGCG has been the focus of research in recent years due to its relatively high levels in green tea and higher antioxidant activity. Indeed, a considerable body of literature has shown that EGCG arrests the progression of hepatic fibrosis and prevents carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄)-induced liver injury in animal models by inhibiting oxidative damage. EGCG has also been shown to inhibit lipopolysaccharide-induced tumor necrosis factor- α and inducible nitric oxide synthase production in mice. Although EGCG is the most plentiful of the green tea catechins and exhibits a high level of antioxidant activity, preventive effects appear to be stronger when a mixture of tea catechins, such as polyphenon E, a decaffeinated green tea catechin mixture, or a green tea extract, is administered (Hsu *et al.*, 2011).

The results of many investigations showed potential antioxidant proprieties of tea polyphenols. The tea catechins can act as antioxidants by donation of hydrogen atom, as an acceptor of free radicals, interrupter of chain oxidation reactions or by chelating metals (Gramza and Korczak, 2004).

Conclusion

The consumption of different types of tea derived from *Camellia sinensis* is most often associated to their antioxidant properties. An increasing number of scientific

researches are performed in an attempt to better understand the mechanisms of action of antioxidants, the benefits associated with the antioxidant capacity and the best way to optimize such properties. Investigations related to the ideal consumption of green tea suggest that it may have a beneficial effect on human health. However, more research is needed to elucidate the properties and mechanisms of action of phenolic compounds in this drink enjoyed worldwide.

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Abbreviations

ALL:	Acute Lymphoid Leukemia
ALT:	Alanine aminotransferase
AST:	Aspartate aminotransferase
CHD:	Chronic Heart Disease
CML:	Chronic Myeloid Leukemia
CVD:	Cardio Vascular Diseases
DBC:	Diabetic control
DEN:	Diethylnitrosamine
DHA:	Docosahexaenoic acid
DWT:	Diabetic White Tea
EAC:	Ehrlich Ascites Carcinoma
EGC:	(-)-epigallocatechin
EGCG:	(-)-epigallocatechin-3-gallate
FITC:	Fluorescein isothiocyanate
FOX:	Ferrous oxidation in xylenol orange
GE:	Gastric Emptying
GI:	Glycemic Index
GSTP:	Glutathione-S-transferase placental
GTE:	Green Tea Extract
GTP:	Green Tea Polyphenols
HDL-C:	High Density Lipoprotein-Cholesterol
LDL-C:	Low Density Lipoprotein-Cholesterol
LP:	Lipid peroxidation
MTT:	(3-[4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl]-2,5 diphenyl tetrazolium bromide)
NAPRALERT:	NATural PRoducts ALERT
NC:	Normal control

- NPY: Neuropeptide Y
PI: Propidium iodide
TBARS: Thiobarbituric Acid Reactive Substances
TRE: Tea (*C. sinensis*) Root Extract
TS: Triterpene saponin
TSOD: Tsumura Suzuki Obese Diabetic
TTS: Total Tea Seed Saponin
WBC: White Blood Cells
WT: White Tea

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