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Enhanced cytotoxic effects of herb-drug combinations for resistant cancer - mechanisms and new therapeutic potentials

Although more than 50% of anticancer drugs are originally derived from natural products, the use of herbal products as a systemic chemotherapeutic agent is not an accepted practice in Western countries since these products are not approved by regulatory agencies due to lack of definitive clinical efficacy studies. However, there is increasing evidence that a number of herbal products especially in combination with established anticancer drugs can significantly re-sensitize certain anticancer drugs via different mechanisms. Such activity offers new therapeutic potential of their use in cancer chemotherapy, especially for resistant cancer, which is responsible for the high cancer mortality globally. Various examples of herbal product that can exert different cytotoxic effects leading to enhanced activity when combined with conventional anticancer agents will be presented and the advantage of development of such combination products for therapeutic use will be discussed.

Biography

Moses S S Chow graduated from University of California, San Francisco and currently is Professor of Pharmacy Practice at the College of Pharmacy, Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona, California. His previous academic appointments included Professor, University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy and Director, Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has supervised/co-supervised over 40 Master's and PhD degree students and Post-doctoral fellows. He has published as author/co-author over 300 articles, book chapters, monographs in Pharmacokinetic Studies, Translational Research and Drug Development, including Chinese medicine. He has served as a Consultant to NIH and USPs as well as Visiting Professor to a number of pharmacy schools in Asia. He has served as Board Member and Secretary of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology, President of American Chinese Pharmaceutical Association and Founding President and Board member of Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy (AASP).

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