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Anxiolytic effects of Baicalin, one of active compounds in the herb Huang Qin in rats**S C Yang and K R Shieh**

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Baicalin, one of the principal and active compounds in the traditional Chinese herb Huang Qin, has been shown to interact with the benzodiazepine binding site of gamma-aminobutyric acid type A (GABA_A) receptor. Previous studies also showed that baicalin has the potential anxiolytic-like effect in the membrane binding assay *in vitro* and in the Vogel conflict test in ICR mice *in vivo*. Whether baicalin had the similar anxiolytic-like effects in rats was the main focus. In the present study, male Sprague Dawley rats were oral administration of Baicalin to test the anxiolytic-like effects. Baicalin did not influence the motor function, seizure score and novelty seeking behaviors, but did reduce the anxious responses in the behavioral responses of elevated-plus maze and open field tests. All of these findings indicate that Baicalin has the potentials to develop as the anxiolytics in the future.

Biography

S C Yang has completed her PhD from Yang Ming University. Her research fields include the neuroscience and animal behaviors.

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