

quaternary protoberberine alkaloid and were observed to exhibit a significant inhibition on the acetylcholinesterase (AChE) with dose-dependent manner. The IC<sub>50</sub> value of 1–5 on the inhibition of AChE were calculated as 0.14 µg/ml (1), 1.0 µg/ml (2), 1.4 µg/ml (3) and 0.66 µg/ml (4), respectively.

[PD2-30] [ 04/20/2001 (Fri) 13:30 – 14:30 / Hall 4 ]

### The Structure–Activity Relationship of Hepatoprotective Phenylpropanoids from Underground Part of *Scrophularia buergeriana*

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We previously reported a new phenylpropanoid ester of rhamnose and six known phenylpropanoids isolated from the roots of *Scrophularia buergeriana* MIQ. (Scrophulariaceae). The present study was conducted to determine that these seven phenylpropanoids including a newly-reported glycoside protect primary cultured rat hepatocytes from the toxicity induced by carbon tetrachloride (CCl<sub>4</sub>). Furthermore, the relationship between these isolated compounds and hepatoprotective activity was investigated with eleven structurally related compounds. Among the treated compounds, (*E*)-*p*-methoxycinnamoyl- $\alpha$ -L-rhamnopyranoside ester, (*E*)-*p*-methoxycinnamic acid, and isoferulic acid markedly blocked the release of GPT into the culture medium from the injured hepatocytes. From this study, it was deduced that  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -unsaturated ester moiety in phenylpropanoids are very important to exert hepatoprotective activity. Moreover, para-methoxy substituted phenylpropanoids showed stronger hepatoprotective activity than unsubstituted or para-hydroxy substituted phenylpropanoids.

[PD2-31] [ 04/20/2001 (Fri) 13:30 – 14:30 / Hall 4 ]

### Kaikasaponin III, a Potent Antimutagenic Saponin, Isolated from the Flower of *Pueraria thunbergiana*

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The MeOH extract of *Pueraria thunbergiana* (Leguminosae) flowers was fractionated to test antimutagenicity by Ames test. EtOAc fraction (1 mg/plate) decreased the number of revertants of *Salmonella typhimurium* TA100 to 95% against aflatoxin B1 (AFB1). Phytochemical isolation of the EtOAc fraction afforded four isoflavonoids (tectorigenin, glycitein, tectoridin and glycitin) and one saponin (kaikasaponin III). Though the three isolates other than tectoridin showed significant antimutagenicity, the activity of kaikasaponin III was the most potent. Kaikasaponin III (0.5 mg/plate) decreased the number of revertants of *S. typhimurium* TA100 to 99% against AFB1 but to 75% against MNNG (N-methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidin). This result suggested that kaikasaponin III prevents the metabolic activation of AFB1 or scavenges electrophilic intermediate capable of mutation.

[PD2-32] [ 04/20/2001 (Fri) 13:30 – 14:30 / Hall 4 ]

### Hepatoprotective constituents from the rhizomes of *Rhodiola sacra*

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