bacteria. However, the purification of the glycosidases related to the metabolism of ginsenosides except β-glucosidase from K-110 have not been studied. We purified and characterized ginsenoside hydrolyzing β-glucosidase and α-arabinofuranosidase from *Bifidobacterium cholerium* K-103, a human intestinal bacterium. The specific activity of the homogeneously purified β-glucosidase was 0.65 μmole/min/mg. Molecular weight of the purified β-glucosidase was determined to be 360 kDa and the enzyme was composed of four identical subunits. Optimal pH range of β-glucosidase was 5.0~5.5 in phosphate buffer and the enzyme activity was inhibited by Cu^{++}. This enzyme transformed ginsenoside Rc to compound O. Specific activity of the homogeneously purified α-arabinofuranosidase was 0.76 μmole/min/mg. Molecular weight of the purified enzyme was determined to be 173 kDa and it has two identical subunits. Optimal pH range 5.5~6.0 in phosphate buffer and the enzyme activity was inhibited by addition of Cu^{++}. α-L-Arabinofuranosidase from *Bifidobacterium* K-103 transformed ginsenoside Rc to Rd but it didn't hydrolyze ginsenoside Rb2.

[PC2-3] [04/18/2003 (Fri) 09:30 - 12:30 / Hall P]

Antiallergic Activities of Daidzein, a Metabolite of Puerarin and Daidzin Produced by Human Intestinal Microflora

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To evaluate the antiallergic activities of puerarin and daidzin from the rhizome of *Pueraria lobata*, *in vitro* and *in vivo* inhibitory activities of these compounds and their metabolite daidzein were measured. Daidzein exhibited potent inhibitory activity on the β-hexosaminidase release induced by DNP-HSA and potently inhibited the PCA reaction in mice. Daidzein administered intraperitoneally showed the strongest inhibitory activity and significantly inhibited the PCA reaction at doses of 25 and 50 mg/kg with inhibitory activity of 37% and 73%, respectively. The inhibitory activity of intraperitoneally administered daidzein was stronger than those of intraperitoneally and orally administered puerarin and daidzin. Therefore we believe that puerarin and daidzin in the rhizome of *Pueraria lobata* are prodrugs, which have antiallergic activities, produced by intestinal microflora.

[PC2-4] [04/18/2003 (Fri) 09:30 - 12:30 / Hall P]

Protective Effect of Kakkalide from *Puerarie Flos* on Ethanol-Induced Lethality and Hepatic Injury Is Expressed by Human Intestinal Microflora

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The inhibitory effect of kakkalide isolated from *Puerariae flos* on ethanol-induced lethality and hepatic injury were investigated. Intraperitoneally treated Kakkalide was weakly reduced the mortality associated with administration of ethanol and did not reduce alcohol hepatotoxicity. However, orally administered kakkalide and intraperitoneally administered irisolidone significantly reduced the mortality and potently reduced serum ALT and AST activities on liver-injured mice by ethanol. When kakkalide (200mg/kg) was orally administered to rat, a main compound was irisolidone and kakkalide was not detected in blood and urine. Kakkalide was metabolized to irisolidone via kakkalidone when incubated with human intestinal microflora. Based on these