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Anti-Proliferative Effect of Sulforaphane in Human Breast Cancer Cells and V-MYC Transformed WB-F344 Rat Liver Cells

Eun Hye Jo¹, Ji Won Jung¹, Sung Dae Cho¹, Se Ran Yang¹, Joon Suk Park¹, Jae Woong Hwang¹, Byoung Su Yoon², Sung Hoon Kim³, Yong Soon Lee¹ and Kyung Sun Kang¹

¹Department of Veterinary Public Health, College of Veterinary Medicine, Seoul National University, ²Department of Biology, College of Natural Science, Kyonggi University and ³Graduate School of East-West Medical Science, Kyunghee University

Sulforaphane, contained abundantly in Brassica species vegetables, is associated with reduced risk of cancer in human populations, thereafter is regarded as an prospective chemotherapeutic agent. In this work, we have analyzed a possible mechanism by which isothiocyanate induces cell death in cancer cell lines. Our results show that sulforaphane inhibited cell proliferation and triggered apoptotic pathways including changes in p53 and Bcl-2/bax ratio, caspase cascades, proapoptotic proteins (PARP and Apaf-1), and eventual changes in morphology of nuclei. We suggest that sulforaphane might have potency for being used as chemotherapeutic agent.

Keyword: Sulforaphane, MCF-7 cell, WB cell, v-myc, Apoptosis