Anti-Inflammatory Activity of Compounds Isolated from Plants

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Received May 11, 2001; Accepted August 14, 2001; Revised October 13, 2001; Published November 29, 2001

This review shows over 300 compounds isolated and identified from plants that previously demonstrated anti-inflammatory activity. They have been classified in appropriate chemical groups and data are reported on their pharmacological effects, mechanisms of action, and other properties.

KEY WORDS: anti-inflammatory activity

DOMAINS: drug discovery, pathology, inflammation, bioinformatics, pharmacology, medicinal chemistry

INTRODUCTION

Major research efforts to find new therapeutic agents for a variety of inflammatory skin diseases are motivated mainly by the medical need to find drugs with fewer side effects than the ones currently employed. During the more than 35 years since the introduction of cortisone and phenylbutazone for the treatment of rheumatic diseases, a number of new compounds have been studied for anti-inflammatory activity. Some are also useful in the treatment of fever and gout.

In the treatment of rheumatic diseases, basically two types of drugs are used, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs). NSAIDs mainly inhibit the cyclo-oxygenase pathway of the arachidonic acid cascade, preventing the formation of proinflammatory prostaglandins. DMARDs are immunomodulators claimed to regulate a distorted immune system[1].

A large number of compounds of varied chemical structures isolated from medicinal plants have been shown to possess anti-inflammatory activity. In this review, over 300 compounds isolated from plants with anti-inflammatory activity are shown. This article is based on bibliographic research of Chemical Abstracts from 1950-2000. It can be helpful to researchers in the study of anti-inflammatory substances from plants. This also may serve as a guide for pharmacologists studying the mechanisms of action and anti-inflammatory effects of these substances. For only a few anti-inflammatory compounds isolated from plants has the principal mechanism of action been determined definitively.

ALKALOIDS AND NITROGEN COMPOUNDS

1

3-Acetylaconitine

An isoprenoid pathway-derived alkaloid isolated from *Aconitum flavum* Hand-Mazz and *A. pendulum* Busch, (Ranunculaceae). Increased vascular permeability induced by acetic acid or histamine is considerably inhibited by 3-acetylaconitine. Edema produced by carrageenan or fresh egg white is also inhibited[2].

2

Betonicine

A piperidine alkaloid found to significantly inhibit carrageenan-induced hindpaw edema[3]. Isolated from *Betonica officinalis*, *Marrubium vulgare*, *Stachys sylvatica* (Labiatae), *Achillea moschata*, and *A. millefolium* (Compositae).

3

Benzoxazinoid

The roots of *Coix lachryma-jobi* have been used in China for the treatment of rheumatism and neuralgia. Two benzoxazinoid compounds isolated from the roots of *C. lachryma-jobi* L. (Graminae) showed 85.5 and 47.3% inhibitory activity of histamine release, respectively[4].

4

Bukittingine

The major alkaloid of *Sapium baccatum* Roxb. (Euphorbiaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity on carrageenan-induced hindpaw edema and adjuvant-induced arthritis in rats[5]. This plant is used by indigenous people of West Sumatra, Indonesia in folk medicine for remedies to treat bronchial asthma and to relieve pain.

Capsaicin

A pungent principle of various *Capsicum* spp. (Solanaceae). Used as a selective probe for studying neurogenic inflammation and the role of nociceptors in human physiology[6].

Damascenine

Found in seeds of *Nigella damascena* and *N. arvensis* (Ranunculaceae). Inhibits induced edema formation in the paw[4].

Dauricine

In traditional Chinese medicine, dauricine, an alkaloid isolated from *Menispermum dauricum* DC. (Menispermaceae) roots, has been used for testing rheumatism and is toxic (LD₅₀ i.p. in mice 6 mg/kg⁻¹)[7].

Decinine

Found in *Lythrum lanceolatum* L. (Lythraceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[8].

9

Demethylsonodione

Found in the stem bark of *Hernandia sonora* L. (Hernandiaceae). Showed moderate antiplatelet aggregation activity *in vitro*[9].

10

Deoxyzoanthenamine

Isolated from an unidentified colonial Zoanthid of the genus *Zoanthus*. A potent anti-inflammatory and analgesic agent[8].

11

Dihydrosanguinarine

A benzophenanthridine alkaloid found in *Fumaria parviflora* (Papaveraceae). Activity and uses similar to those of sanguinarine. Used as antiseptic and anti-inflammatory agents[3].

12

Discretine

Found in *Xalopia discreta*. Claimed to have analgesic, anti-inflammatory activity[10].

13

Fetidine

An isoquinoline alkaloid that is anti-inflammatory, hypotensive, and depresses nervous activity in mice[11]. Isolated from *Thalictrum foetidum* (Ranunculaceae) leaves.

14

Gentianaine

Showed low anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced hindpaw edema[12]. Isolated from *Gentiana caucasa* (Gentianaceae) leaves.

15

Gentianadine

A sesquiterpene alkaloid found in the aerial parts of *Gentiana turkestanorum*, *G. olgae*, and *G. olivieri* (Gentianaceae). Shows anti-inflammatory and muscular relaxant actions[12].

16

Gentianamine

Showed anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced hindpaw edema[12]. Isolated from leaves of *Gentiana olivieri* and *G. turkestanorum* (Gentianaceae).

17

Glaucine

Found in a wide variety of genera in the Annonaceae (*Alphonsea*, *Annona*, *Polyalthia*, and *Uvaria*). Shows analgesic and anti-inflammatory activity[8].

18

Hernandezine

Isolated from *Stephania hermandifolia* (Menispermaceae) and *Thalictrum simplex* (Ranunculaceae) leaves and studied in the rat paw carrageenan and the cotton pellet granuloma[13].

19

Hypaconitine

Betalain alkaloid obtained from *Aconitum collianthum*, *A. carnichaeli*, and *A. napellus* (Ranunculaceae). Showed significant inhibitory activity against carragenan-induced edema[14].

20

Isothebaine

Isolated from *Papaver orientale* and *P. bracteatum* (Papaveraceae). Shows analgesic and anti-inflammatory activity[8].

21

Jatrorrhizine

Alkaloid isolated from methanol extract of cultured *Plagiorhegma dubium* Maxim (Berberidaceae). Has shown anti-inflammatory activity[15].

22

Jervine

Some *Veratrum* alkaloids, namely jervine (and jervine derivatives) and protoveratrine, exhibited anti-inflammatory activity when administered subcutaneously. They decreased both exudative and proliferative phases consequent to subcutaneous implantation of wool pellets[16]. Isolated from *Veratrum lobelianum* (Liliaceae) leaves.

23

(+)-O-Methylthalicberine (or Thalimide)

Another alkaloid isolated from leaves of *Lictrum* spp. (Ranunculaceae) and *Berberis laurina* (Berberidaceae). Prevented the development of the paw carrageenan edema[17].

24

Ocoteine

Occurs in *Ocotea puberula* (Lauraceae). Shows analgesic, antimicrobial, and anti-inflammatory activity[8].

25

Palmidrol

Occurs in soya bean lecithin. Shows analgesic, antimicrobial, and anti-inflammatory activity[8].

26

Sinoacutine

Antizoma angustifolia Burch. (Menispermaceae) leaves yielded a morphinandienone-type alkaloid sinoacutine in 2.8% yield. Alkaloid exhibited slight anti-inflammatory activity[18].

27

Sinomenine

A major alkaloid of the traditional Chinese drug plant *Sinomenium acutum* Thunb. Has marked anti-inflammatory activity[19].

28

Sonodione

Found in the stem bark of *Hernandia sonora* L. (Hernandiaceae). Showed moderate antiplatelet aggregation activity *in vitro*[9].

29

Solasodine

Caused significant dose-dependant inhibition of carrageenan-induced paw edema[20]. Isolated from *Solanum lacintatum* (Solanaceae) leaves.

30

Spilanthol

Alkaloid isolated from the roots of *Sapilanthos olereaceae*. Has anti-inflammatory activity on carrageenan-induced hindpaw edema and adjuvant-induced arthritis in rats[6].

31

Stachydrine

Found in *Stachys* spp. (Leguminosae). Widely used against rheumatism and many other diseases. Also a systolic depressant[8].

32

Tetrandrine

Isolated from root of *Stephania tetrandra* S. Moore. Exhibits definitive antiphlogistic action on formaldehyde-induced arthritis of rats[21].

33

Thalicsiline

A spiradine-type C20-diterpenoid alkaloid isolated from the roots of *Thalictrum sessile* Hayata (Ranunculaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[22].

34

Thalicsessine

The first ajaconine-type C20 diterpene alkaloid having an oxygen function at C-20. Isolated from *Thalictrum sessile* (Ranunculaceae). Showed 40% reduction of carrageenan-induced inflammation at 20 mg/kg[12].

35

Thalidasine

The leaves of *Thalictrum dasycarpum* (Ranunculaceae) are reported to be applied to rheumatic swelling of joints and sprains. Exhibited anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced hindpaw edema[13].

36

Thalictroline

Occurs in *Thalictrum rochebrunianum* (Ranunculaceae). Shows strong anti-inflammatory activity and weak antitumor agent[8].

37

Thalmine

Showed anti-inflammatory activity in several experimental models of inflammation in animals. Antitumor activity shown against ascites lymphoma in rats and mice[13]. Isolated from *Thalictrum* spp. (Ranunculaceae) leaves.

38

Trilobine

39

Isotrilobine

Two alkaloids, trilobine and isotrilobine, isolated from roots of *Cocculus trilobus* (menispermaceae) showed inhibitory effect against cotton pellet and adjuvant arthritis in rats[23].

40

Tylophorine

Inhibited the primary and secondary responses of adjuvant-induced arthritis[24]. Isolated from *Tylophora indica* (Burn. L.) Mirr (Asclepiadaceae) leaves.

41

Vertine

Found in *Lagerstroemia faurei* (Lythraceae). Shows hypotensive and anti-inflammatory activity[8].

42

Pseudoephedrine

43

Ephedroxane

Since the traditional usage of an Oriental medicine “mao”, consisting of Ephedra herbs (*Ephedra intermedia*, Ephedraceae) suggests that it may possess anti-inflammatory activity. The methanol extract was fractionated, resulting in the isolation of (+) pseudoephedrine[25] and a new alkaloid

designated as ephedroxane. The anti-inflammatory effects were determined on carrageenan paw edema in mice, Whittle method and the fertile egg method[26].

Cryogenine

Nesodine

Two alkaloids, cryogenine and nesodine, isolated from *Heimia salcifolia* Link and Otto (Lythraceae) were shown to be 2.48 and 2.24 times as potent as aspirin in inhibiting the prostaglandin synthetase prepared from bovine seminal vesicles. Have been shown to exert anti-inflammatory activity in different systems[27].

Sanguinerine

Chelerythrine

Chelidonine

The orange-colored latex of *Chelidonium majus* L. (Papaveraceae) contains high concentrations of benzophenanthridine alkaloids, specially of the main alkaloids chelidonine[28], chelerythrine, and sanguinarine[29]. The chelerythrine and sanguinarine are, to a great extent, responsible for anti-inflammatory and antimicrobial action. Recommended for medical use in the treatment of oral inflammatory processes. *C. majus* is a popular medicinal herb commonly widespread in Central Europe and represents a rich source of benzophenanthridine alkaloids.

Rohutikin

Dysobinin

Dysobinin, a new tetranortriterpene of the meliacin group showing general CNS-depressant action and mild anti-inflammatory activity, was isolated from the fruits of *Dysoxylum binectariferum* Hook. (Meliaceae)[30]. The alkaloid, rohutikin, isolated from the stem bark is an iperidinybenzopyranone. Displayed anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced rat paw edema and inhibited the reverse passive Arthus reactions in rats (50.8% inhibition at 2.5 mg/kg, p.o.)[31].

COUMARINS

51

Calophyllolide

A nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agent found to be effective in reducing the increased capillary permeability induced in mice by various chemical mediators involved in the inflammatory process viz., histamine, 5-hydroxytryptamine, and bradykinin[32]. Caused a decrease of 60.7% in the rat paw carrageenan edema at a dose of 40 mg/kg i.p. Its activity was compared with that of hydrocortisone, which at a dose of 10 mg/kg inhibited the edema by 44%. Showed the greatest anticonvulsant activity in rodents[33]. Isolated from Kernel of *Calophyllum mophyllum* Linn. (Guttiferae).

52

Daphnetin

Has displayed analgesic, sedative, and anti-inflammatory effects in a series of animals test[34]. Isolated from *Daphne giraldii* Nitsche (Thymelaeaceae) leaves.

53

Marmin

Isolated from roots of *Aegle marmelos* Correa (Rutaceae). Showed anti-inflammatory effects in carrageenan-induced inflammation in rats[35].

54

Osthol

The methanol extract of the root of *Angelica pubescens* Maxim. (Umbelliferae) was fractionated, and by following the inhibitory activities on rat hind edema induced by carrageenan and on writhing induced by acetic acid in mouse. The active principle was isolated and identified as osthol[36]. This plant has been used in traditional Chinese medicine as a remedy for arthritic disease, lumbago, edema, and the common cold.

Scopolin

Obtained from *Scopolia japonica* (Solanaceae). Demonstrate anti-inflammatory activity against acute albumin- or histamine-induced edema of hindpaws and acute subacute joint swelling caused by formaldehyde. Both compounds also exhibit analgesic effects[37].

Scopoletin **Polygonolide**

A new isocoumarin. Inhibits the reversed passive Arthus reaction in rats via oral administration. Isolated from the methanol extract of the root of *Polygonum hydropiper* Linn. (Polygonaceae)[38].

Herniarin

Isolated from *Santolina oblongifolia* Boiss (Compositae). These coumarins showed considerable activity as inhibitors of eicosanoid release from ionophore-stimulated mouse peritoneal macrophages[39].

Aesculetin

FLAVONOIDS

Acacetin

Found in *Robinia pseudocacia*. Is an anti-inflammatory, capillary protective, and spasmolytic agent[8].

Anthocyanin 1

Occur in tart cherries. Exhibit antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activities comparable to commercial products[40].

Anthocyanin 2 **Apigenin 7,4'-dimethyl ether**

Isolated from roots of *Rhus undulata* Jacq. (Anacardiaceae). Active on rat paw carrageenan edema with $ED_{25} = 75$ mg/kg, while hydrocortisone phosphate and nobiletin were more potent: $ED_{25} = 13.5$ and 20 mg/kg, respectively[41].

Artemetin

This 5-hydroxy-3,6,7,3',4'-pentamethoxyflavone from the leaf of *Cordia verbenacea* (Boraginaceae) showed marked anti-inflammatory activity using various experimental models in rats. Also reduced the vascular permeability to intracutaneous histamine. Subacute toxicological experiments indicated a very low toxicity[42]. Extract for leaves of *C. verbenacea* are used in Brazilian folk remedies as anti-inflammatory and cicatrizing agents[43].

Chrysine

The flavonoid fraction of leaves of *Populus* spp. (Salicaceae) inhibits croton oil dermatitis in the mouse ear. This activity is mainly due to chrysin[41].

66

Cinnamonol D₁ R= ---OH

67

Cinnamonol D₂ R= —OH

Epicatechin, catechin, procyanidin B₂ and B₄, cinnamonol D₁ and D₄ isolated from aq. methanol extract of the bark of *Cinnamomum sieboldii* Meissn. (Lauraceae). Had potent inhibitory activity on the formation of granulation tissue through screening by the fertile egg methods[44]. The activity increased in the order of monomers, dimers, and trimers. Catechin is able to decrease carrageenan edema (ID = 240 mg/kg, i.p.), while at a lower dose (40 mg/kg s.c.) moderately inhibited rat paw edema induced by serotonin.

68

Baicalin

69

Baicalein

70

Wogonin

The main flavonoid components of leaves of *Scutellaria baicalensis* Georgi (Labiateae) — baicalin, baicalein, and wogonin — have been screened in comparison with three standard anti-inflammatory agents — phenylbutazone, indomethacin, and dexamethasone — for activity in various experimental models of inflammation. All of the test substances were found to inhibit an increase in vascular permeability in mice induced by acetic acid and to reduce acute paw edema in rats. They also suppressed the secondary lesion in developing adjuvant-induced arthritis in rats[45]. The mechanism of their anti-inflammatory action depends on inhibition of enzymes such as 12-lipoxygenase and 5-lipoxygenase. *S. baicalensis* (Ogon in Japanese) has been used for treatment of some types of dermatitis, diarrhea, and various inflammatory diseases as an antiphlogistic and antipyretic in the traditional Chinese system of medicine.

71

Bavachinin

A phenol compound isolated from the leaves of *Psoralea coryfolia* Linn (Leguminosae) has shown anti-inflammatory activity[46].

72

Diosmin

Exhibited anti-inflammatory activity and increased skin capillary resistance[47]. Isolated from leaves of *Diosma crenulata* (Rutaceae).

73

5-7-Dimethoxyflavone

Isolated from black rhizomes of the *Boesenbergia pandurata* Robxb. Zingiberaceae, the anti-inflammatory activity has been assessed. Found to possess comparable effects to aspirin on the rat edema model, and showed no inhibition on cotton pellet-induced granuloma formation. On the rat pleurisy model, it exhibited an antiexudative effect, interfered with leukocyte migration, and markedly inhibited prostaglandin biosynthesis[48].

74

Epicatechin

A catechin with significant anti-inflammatory activity isolated from the seed of the plant *Anacardium occidentale* Linn (Anacardiaceae)[49].

75

(-)Epiafzelechin

An inhibitor of cyclo-oxygenase (COX-1) activity of prostaglandin H₂ synthase. Isolated from aerial parts of *Celastrus orbiculatus* (Celastraceae). An Oriental folk medicine for rheumatoid arthritis[50].

76

Flavan-3-ol, (+)-catechin

Showed suppression of carrageenan-induced rat paw edema as well as TPA-induced rat ear edema (tetradecanoylphorbol acetate)[51]. Isolated from the bark of *Ceiba pentandra* L. Gaether.

77

Gossypin

Glycoside (gossypetin-7-glucoside) from the flowers of *Hibiscus vitifolius* L. (Malvaceae). Inhibits the carrageenan rats paw edema[27].

78

Hypolaetin-8-glucoside

Had an interesting anti-inflammatory profile. This glucoside was more potent than phenylbutazone in suppressing the acute phase of the adjuvant-carrageenan-induced inflammation, but was less effective in the prolonged phase[52,53]. Isolated from leaves of *Sideritis mugronensis* (Labiatae).

79

Kaempferol 3,5,7,4'tetrahydroxyflavone

Isolated from flowers of *Aesculus hippocastanum* (Hippocastanaceae). Shows anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, and mutagenic activities[41].

80

Kolaflavanone

Isolated from the rind of the fruit of *Garcinia kola* (Guttiferae). Inhibited primary and secondary responses of adjuvant induced arthritis in rats[54].

81

Luteolin-4'-neohesperidoside

This flavonoid glycoside was isolated from *Caralluma attenuata* (Asclepiadaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[55].

82

Methyl 4-esculet

Showed activity against initial symptoms of inflammation carrageenan edema, dextran edema, histamine wheal, and peritoneal permeability[56]. Isolated from leaves of *Ruscus aculeatus* L. (Liliaceae).

83

Podaverine A

Isolated from cell culture of leaves of *Podophyllum versipelle* Hance (Berberidaceae). Showed inhibitory activities in the mouse macrophage chemiluminescence (CL) assay and are responsible for the activity of the corresponding callus culture. Preliminary *in vivo* studies indicate that the compounds have anti-inflammatory activity. These inhibitory activities are comparable to those of the antioxidant compound quercetin and nordihydroguaiaretic acid[57].

84

Podoverine B

85

Phloretin

Occurs as the 2'-glucoside, specially in Rosaceae, Ericaceae, and Symplocaceae. Showed anti-inflammatory activity[58].

Quercetin-3-O-galactoside

Exhibited anti-inflammatory activity comparable to phenylbutazone in carrageenan-induced rat paw edema model[59]. Isolated from leaves of *Physalis minima* Linn (Solanaceae).

Quercetin 3O-rhamnoside

Quercetin 3O-xylosyl(1→2)rhamnoside

Two anti-inflammatory principles — quercetin 3O-xylosyl(1→2) rhamnoside and quercetin 3O-rhamnoside — isolated from the methanol extract of the leaves of *Erythrospermum monticolum*. Active against the acute inflammation in mice induced by TPA (12-O-tetradecanoylphorbol acetate) producing significant reductions in edema. Their activity is in range of the well-established reference drug, indomethacin[60]. Quercetin, quercetin 3-rhamnoglucoside and 3-galactoside, rutin has been claimed to be the anti-inflammatory principle of *E. monticolum* (Flacourtiaceae), *Wrightia tinctoria* (Apocynaceae), and *Delonix elata* Gamble (Leguminosae) flowers active on carrageenan edema.

Robinin

The kaempferol glycoside robinin isolated from *Robinia pseudacacia* Borja (Leguminosae) leaves inhibits the exudative and proliferative phases of the cotton pellet granuloma (50 mg/kg/day p.o. in 7 days)[56]. Used as an anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic agent in Spain's folk medicine.

90

Taxifolin

91

α-Amyrin

Taxifolin and α-amyrin from the seed of *Cordia obliqua* Wild. (Boraginaceae) showed significant anti-inflammatory activity[41]. The polar fraction of the plant extract *Cedrus deodara* (RoxB) Loud. (Pinaceae) was found to exhibit anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced edema in mice and its chemical examination has resulted in the isolation of dihydroflavanonols[61].

92

Vitexin

(8-β-D-glucopyranosyl-apigenin) (VT). Isolated from the roots and flowers of *Arnebia nobilis*, *A. gullata*, *A. benthamii*, *A. hispidissima* DC. (Boraginaceae), and *Ochrocarpus longifollus* L. (Guttiferae). Exhibited potent hypotensive, anti-inflammatory, and antispasmodic properties. An anti-inflammatory effect probably related to its antihistamine, antibradykinin, and antiserotonin properties[62].

93

Xanthorhamnin

Isolated from the seeds of *Rhamnus infectoria* (Rhamnaceae). Has been patented as an anti-inflammatory agent and recommended for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and for use in ophthalmology[63].

94

Apigenin

95

Luteolin

Apigenin and luteolin showed a potency similar to indomethacin ($ID_{50} = 29.8$ and 38.4μ per ear, respectively). 18 h after the treatment, only luteolin maintained its effects on edema development

but the three compounds decreased leukocyte infiltration[64]. Isolated from leaves of *Chamomilla recutita* L. (Compositae).

Catechin

Isolated from *Cinnamomum sieboldii*[44].

Procyanidin B₂ R= ---OH

Procyanidin B₄ R= —OH

6-Hydroxykaempferol,3,6-dimethyl ether

6-Hydroxykaempferol-3,6-dimethyl ether has an equivalent profile of enzyme inhibitory activity to santin in both assay (cyclo-oxygenase and 5-lipoxygenase pathways), but is less potent. Quercetagenin 3,6,3'-trimethyl ether shows preferential activity against cyclo-oxygenase with much less activity in inhibiting 5-lipoxygenase[65]. Isolated from *Tanacetum parthenium* and *T. vulgare* (Compositae)[66].

Quercetagenin 3,6,3'-trimethyl ether

Gallocatechin

4'-O-methyl-ent-gallocatechin

Ouratea-catechin

All catechin isolated from *Atuna racemosa* (Chrysobalanaceae) and *Syzygium corynocarpum* (Myrtaceae) exhibited strong to medium inhibition of COX-1 catalysed prostaglandin biosynthesis *in vitro*[67].

104

(S)-4-methoxydalbergione

105

Cearoin

106

Koparin

107

Xenognosin

108

Butein

109

Bowdichione

110

3-O-methylviolananone

Found in heartwood of *Dalbergia odorifera* T. Chen. (Leguminosae). A traditional Chinese medicine known as jiangxiang. Has been used to treat blood disorders, ischemia, swelling, necrosis, and rheumatic pain. Showed significant anti-inflammatory activity[68].

111

Wogonin

Found in the root of *Scutellaria baicalensis* Georgi (Labiatae). Inhibited IL-1 β -induced synthesis of PGE₂ and LTB₄ considerably. In addition, these compounds exerted a moderate inhibition of collagenolytic activity and the cellular activity of fibroblast was increased remarkably[69].

Kaempferol-3-O-sophoroside (K3S)

A polyphenolic constituent isolated of the alcoholic extract of the leaves of *Cassia alata* L. (Leguminosae). Has been investigated for anti-inflammatory activity and the results compared with phenylbutazone. Showed a significant anti-inflammatory effect in rats in carrageenan and induced hind paw edema test[70]. *C. alata* is used in India for skin diseases like eczema, pruritis, and itching.

MISCELLANEOUS COMPOUNDS

113

Ajoene

Isolated from garlic (*Alium sativum*, Liliaceae). Showed potent inhibition of platelet aggregation[8].

114

Arnicolide

Inhibited the carrageenan- and formaldehyde-induced inflammation. Isolated from *Arnica montana* (Compositae) leaves[71].

115

Aristolich acid

Inhibited the carrageenan- and formaldehyde-induced inflammation[72]. Isolated from leaves of *Aristolochia clematis* (Aristolochiaceae).

116

Bromelain

A basic glycoprotein isolated from the fruit pineapple (*Ananas comosus*, Bromeliaceae). This proteolytic enzyme is used medicinally as an anti-inflammatory agent in soft tissue edema and injury[73].

8[C-β-D-[2-O-(E)-cinamoylglu-copyranosyl]-2-[@-2-hydroxypropyl]-7-methoxy-5-methylchromone

Found in *Aloe barbadensis* Mill (Liliaceae). At a dose of 200 μ per mouse ear exhibited topical anti-inflammatory activity equivalent to 200 μ per ear of hydrocortisone[74].

Heptadeca-2E,8E,10E,16-tetraene-4,6-dyne

Heptadeca-2E,8Z,10E,16-tetraene-4,6-dyne

Heptadeca-2E,8E,16-triene-4,6-dyne-10-ol

Found in *Bidens campylothea* Schultz Bip (Compositae). This plant is a traditional remedy in Hawaiian folk medicine for treating general weakness of the body, throat and stomach disorders, and of asthma. Showed significant *in vitro* inhibition of cyclo-oxygenase (CO) and 5-lipoxygenase (5-LO)[75].

Hypoxoside

Has a pronounced anti-inflammatory (rat paw edema) and fairly good analgesic effect[76]. Isolated from *Hypoxis obtusa* (Hypoxidaceae) rhizomes.

122

Kawain

Occurs in the rhizomes of *Piper methysticum* (Piperaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[77].

123

Magnosalicin

Obtained from the dried buds of *Magnolia salicifolia* (Magnoliaceae), significantly inhibited granuloma tissue formation. The inhibitory effect was particularly strong, being nearly half of hydrocortisone acetate when administered orally[78].

124

Monoglycerides

The monoglycerides $\text{CH}_2(\text{OR})\text{CH}=(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ (R=palmitoyl, linoleoyl, linolenoyl, or oleoyl) are isolated from *Aconitum chinense* (Ranunculaceae) as analgesic and anti-inflammatories from *A. chinense*[79].

125

Nimboine

Has pronounced anti-inflammatory (rat paw edema) and fairly good antipyretic effect (pyrogen-induced hyperpyrexia in rabbits). The acute oral toxicity in mice showed a very low range of approximately 13 g/kg body weight[80,81]. Isolated from leaves of *Rachta indica* (Meliaceae).

126

Pedilanthain

A new protease isolated from the latex of *Pedilanthus tithymaloides* Poit Euphorbiaceae and subjected to anti-inflammatory screening. More potent than phenylbutazone. Exhibits its maximum activity at 2nd hour of its oral administration[82].

127

Polysaccharide

Produced by *Serratia piscatorum*. Exhibited anti-inflammatory activity which was completely lost when hydrolyzed into small molecules[83].

128

Polysaccharide

Isolated from *Echinocea angustifolia* DC. (Compositae). Enhance phagocytosis *in vivo* and exhibit anti-inflammatory activity[84].

129

Polysaccharide M_r 1.5×10^5

130

Polysaccharide M_r 3.6×10^4

131

Polysaccharide M_r 1.5×10^4

Three polysaccharide glucans were isolated from dried roots of *Periandra mediterranea* Taubert (Leguminosae). Widely used in Brazilian ethnomedicine as a cough suppressant. Highly immunostimulatory[85] and anti-inflammatory properties.

132

Safynol-2-O-isobutyrate

133

Safynol

Isolated from *Bidens campylothea* Schultz Bip (Compositae)[75].

134

Taspine

Croton lechleri L. (Anacardaceae), commonly called “Sangre de grado”, is a tree of the upper Amazon valley of Peru. The bark, when slashed, produces a red viscous sap which is used for the treatment of rheumatism. Shown to elicit anti-inflammatory activity in different models[86].

135

Caffeic acid

136

Bergapten

137

Umbelliferone

138

Columbianadin

Caffeic acid, bergapten, columbianadin, and umbelliferone isolated from *Angelica pubescens* Maxim (Umbelliferae). Significantly demonstrated anti-inflammatory and analgesic activities at 10 mg/kg in the test: hindpaw, peritoneal vascular permeability, skin window, hot plate, and formalin[87]. The anti-inflammatory and analgesic activities of osthole were reported by Kosuge et al. in 1985[88] from the same plant. Caffeic acid - widespread occurrence in green and roasted coffee beans *Coffea arabica*, (Rubiaceae), the root bark of *Chinchona cuprea*, Rubiaceae), and in *Conium maculatum* (Umbelliferae). Also occurs in herbaceous plants such as *Digitalis purpurea* (Scrophulariaceae), the leaves and flowers of *Papaver somniferum* (Papaveraceae), the roots of *Taraxacum officinale*, and the flowers of *Anthemis nobilis* (Compositae) and *Achillea millefolium* (Compositae)[89]. Umbelliferone - widespread occurrence in the resin of various Umbelliferae: *Ferula*, *Apium*, *Pimpinella*, and *Heracleum* spp. Used in sunscreen lotions.

MONOTERPENOID, DITERPENOID, AND SESQUITERPENOID

139

Bis[helenalinyl]adipate

Isolated from *Schizogyne sericea* (Compositae) leaves. Showed anti-inflammatory activity in rats at 50 mg/kg, i.p. dose[90].

140

Artabsin

Found in wormwood of *Artemisia absinthium* (Compositae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[91].

141

α-Bisabolol

Isolated from chamomile oil from *Matricaria chamomilla* (Compositae). Has anti-inflammatory activity, but is less toxic than guaiazulene, which has a similar action[92].

142

Cafestol

The main constituent of the unsaponifiable portion of coffee bean oil. From *Coffea* spp. (Rubiaceae). Showed anti-inflammatory activity against carrageenan-induced edema in rats[93].

143

Camphor

Constituent of *Matricaria parthenium* (Compuestas). Has a pronounced anti-inflammatory activity in rat paw edema[94].

144

Chamazuleno

A blue oil produced during steam distillation of chamomile with anti-inflammatory and antipyretic activities[92]. Isolated from leaves of *Matricaria chamomilla* (Compositae).

145

Chrysanthemol

A new compound isolated from *Crysanthemum indicum* L. (Compositae) flowers that showed strong anti-inflammatory activity in mice[95].

146

Cis-communic acid

Found in *Cryptomeria japonica* Don (Taxodiaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity. The activity testing was done using the carrageenan-induced paw edema (CPE) method in rats[96]. The leaves of *C. japonica* have been used traditionally in Chinese medicine for the treatment of eczema, eruption, and swelling injury by topical application. Cis-communic acid showed anti-inflammatory effect when applied topically to rats and an inhibitory effect on histamine-induced ileum contraction[86].

147

3-O-1(2'E,4'Z-decadienoyl)-hydroxyingenol

148

3-O-(2,3-dimethylbutyryl)-13-O-n-dodecanoyl-13-hydroxyingenol

Immune complex binding to macrophages was enhanced by treatment with a *Euphorbia kansui* Liou (Euphorbiaceae) extract. Systematic fractionation of the extract led to the characterization of 3-O-1(2'E,4'Z-decadienoyl)-hydroxyingenol and 3-O-(2,3-dimethylbutyryl)-13-O-n-dodecanoyl-13-hydroxyingenol as the active principles. Immune complex binding to macrophages by the action of these compounds increased in a dose-dependent manner[97].

Diterpenoid SP-II

Found in *Sigesbeckia pubescens* (Compositae) together with several other related diterpenoids. Showed anti-inflammatory activity and is a powerful antihypertensive[93].

Ginkgolide A

Found in the root bark and leaves of maidenhair tree, *Ginkgo biloba* (Ginkgoaceae). Used medicinally to treat allergic inflammation and asthma[91].

Guaiazulene

A blue oil produced during steam distillation of chamomile with anti-inflammatory and antipyretic activities[92]. Extracted from *Matricaria chamomilla* (Compositae).

Helenalin

Sesquiterpene lactones have previously been shown to possess anti-inflammatory and antiarthritic activities in rodents. The α -methylene- γ -lactone moiety of this chemical class is required for activity as well as the β -unsaturated cyclopentenone ring. The helenalin showed significant inhibitory activity against carrageenan-induced edema[90]. Isolated from *Helenium autumnale*, *H. anaphalis*, *H. balduinea*, and *H. gaillardia* (Compositae).

153

Hydroxyachillin

Found in the aerial parts of *Tanacetum microphyllum* (Compositae). Used in the Iberian peninsula since ancient times in Spanish traditional medicine as an anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic agent, and for its beneficial effects on the digestive tract. Showed a marked anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced paw edema in mice[98].

154

Isotriptophenolide

An abietane diterpene from the perennial herb *Tripterygium wilfordii* Hookf. (Celastraceae). Shown to possess anti-inflammatory activity[99]. Has gastric cryoprotective effect[100].

155

Limonin

Possesses an antinociceptive effect accompanied by an anti-inflammatory action. Isolated from *Evodia rutaecarpa* var. *Bodinieri* (Rutaceae)[101].

156

Linalool

The main constituent of oil coriander from *Coriandrum sativum* (Umbelliferae) and *Thymus quinquecostatus*. Exhibits anti-inflammatory action[102].

157

Matricin

The guaianolide was isolated from chamomile, *Matricaria chamomilla* (Compositae). Precursor of chamazulene, which is anti-inflammatory[91].

158

Paeoniflorin

Found in *Paeonia lactiflora* (Paeoniaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[103].

159

Rhinocerotoic acid

The structure was determined as 7-oxolabda-8-13-dien-15(E)-oic acid by means of X-ray. Showed anti-inflammatory activity in rats[104]. Isolated from leaves of *Elytropappus rhinocerotis*.

160

Sesquiterpene

Isolated from *Siegesbeckia pubescens* (Asteraceae) leaves at 100 mg/kg p.o. Inhibited inflammation by 44.9% in the carrageenan edema test using male Wistar rats[105].

161

β-Santalal

Anti-inflammatory activity of the petroleum ether extract of *Conzuya canadensis* L. Cronq (Asteraceae) has been reported. The fractionation of the extract led to the isolation of five

sesquiterpenes: β -santalén, β -himachalén, cuparene, α -curcumene, γ -cardinene with anti-inflammatory activity[106].

Thapsigargin

Found in *Thapsia garganica* (Umbelliferae). Potent activator of cells involved in anti-inflammatory response[91].

Tolypodiol

The diterpenoid has been isolated from the terrestrial cyanobacterium, *Tolypothrix nodosa* (HT-58-2). Shows potent anti-inflammatory activity in the mouse ear edema assay[107].

Trans-dehydrocrotonin

Occurs in *Croton cajucara* Benth. (Euphorbiaceae). Widely known in traditional phytotherapy for the treatment of diabetes, diarrhea, gastrointestinal disorders, and liver diseases. Also indicated for controlling high cholesterol levels. Its vernacular name is sacasa and it occurs widely in the Amazon region (Brazil). Produced a significant inhibition of carrageenan-induced paw edema and cotton pellet granuloma in rats. It also inhibited the writhing in mice induced by acetic acid[108].

2 α -Acetoxyandaracopimaradien-1 α -ol

Sandaracopimaradien-1 α -2 α -diol

The two diterpenes isolated from *Kaempferia pulchra* Ridl. (Zingiberaceae) have been assayed for topical anti-inflammatory activity in the model of TPA-induced ear edema in rats[109].

167

α Pinene

168

β Pinene

169

Thymol

170

Carvacrol

The essential oil of *Bupleurum fruticosum* L. (Umbelliferae) has shown significant anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced rat paw edema model and the activity is attributed in part to the major components, α and β pinene. It has also been shown that thymol and carvacrol, although present in extremely low levels, potentiate the pharmacodynamic action[106].

171

Tirotundin

172

Diversifolin

Sesquiterpene lactones from *Tithonia diversifolia* (Hemsl) A. Gray (Asteraceae). In Central America, leaf extracts from this plant are used for the treatment of hematomas and wounds. Inhibit cyclo-oxygenase1, phospholipase A₂, or the transcription factor NF-KB[110].

173

β -Humulene

174

α -Copaene

175

β -Caryophyllene

Copaiba oleoresina from Brazilian *Copaifera* spp. (Leguminosae). Has a widespread use in popular medicine as an anti-inflammatory agent. The oral administration of the oleoresin inhibited the development of carrageenan-induced edema in rats in dose-dependent manner. The oleoresin showed the presence of copalic acid and sesquiterpenes like β -bisabolene, β -caryophyllene, β -cubelene, aromandrene, β -humulene, and α -copaene[106,111].

176

8 β -Hydroxy-9 α -methacryloyloxy-14-oxo-acanthospermolide

177

1 β -Methoxymiller-9Z-enolide

178

9α-Methoxymiller-1-(10)-Z-enolide

179

9α-Acetoxymiller-1-(10)-Z-enolide

180

9α-Acetoxy-4β,15-epoxymiller-1-(10)-Z-enolide

In Central America, aerial parts of the *Milleria quinqueflora* (Asteraceae) are used in traditional medicine as a remedy for skin infections. All sesquiterpene lactones have anti-inflammatory activity using transcription factor NF-κB as molecular target. This is involved in the synthesis of inflammatory mediator, such as cytokines and chemokines. NF-κB -DNA binding was inhibited at micromolar concentrations by all compounds[112].

181

β-Eudesmol

182

Reynosin

183

α-Cyclocostunolide

184

Nectandrin-B

185

Syringaresinol

Found in *Tsoongiodendron odorum* and *Manglietiastrum sinicum* (Magnoliaceae). Displayed considerable inhibition against platelet aggregation induced by arachidonic acid (AA), adenosine diphosphate (ADP), and revealed inhibition activity against PAF-induced platelet aggregation[113].

PHENOLICS COMPOUNDS

186

Bergenin

Occurs in *Peltophorum pteracarpum*, *P. inerme*, *Caesalpinia digyna* (Leguminosae), *Ardisia hortorum*, *Astilbe macroflora*, *Bergenia crassifolia* (Saxifragaceae), *Corylopsis* spp. (Hamamelidaceae), and *Humuria balsamifera* (Humiriaceae)[77]. Found to be equipotent to phenylbutazone in rats against carrageenan-induced edema.

187

Cyanidin-3-O-galactoside

Has anti-inflammatory activity and is used in the prevention of capillary fragility[114]. Isolated from leaves of *Fagus sylvatica* (Fagaceae).

188

2,7-Dihydroxy-3,4-methoxyphenantreno

Showed inhibitory effect on contraction of guinea pig ileum induced histamine, while the topical application showed inhibition of edema in carrageenan-induced rat paw edema model[46]. Isolated from leaves of *Catastium barbatum* Lindl. (Orchidaceae).

189

Euglobal-1^a

Showed granulation inhibitory activity. One of a series of related compounds from *Eucalyptus globulus* (Myrtaceae) having the same activity[115].

190 **Haemocorin**

Found in *Haemodorum coxymbosum* (Haemodoraceae). This aglycone showed anti-inflammatory activity[115].

191 **Magnosalin**

Found in *Magnolia salicifolia* (Magnolaceae). Possess inhibitory effects on granuloma formation[116].

192 **Magnoshinin****193** **Paenol**

Obtained from the traditional Chinese drug, Mu-San-Pi. Has bacteriostatic, anti-inflammatory, and CNS depressive effects[117]. Isolated from *Paeonia suffruticosa* Andr. (Paeoniaceae) roots.

194 **Protocatechuic acid**

Found in *Erica australis* (Ericaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[46].

195

Usnic acid

The active principle usnic and diffractaic acid isolated from *Usnea diffracta* Vain (Usneaceae) exhibited anti-inflammatory activity when administered a dose of 50 mg/kg. Significantly inhibited the granulation tissue formation induced by subcutaneous implantation of cotton pellet[24].

196

Diffractaic acid

197

Vanillic acid

Occurs in *Fagara* spp. (Rutaceae), *Alnus japonica* (Betulaceae), *Eleagnus pungens* (Eleagnaceae), *Erica australis* (Ericaceae), *Gossypium mexicanum* (Malvaceae), *Melia azedarach* (Meliaceae), *Panax ginseng* (Araliaceae), *Patecoma koraiensis* (Bignoniaceae), *Pterocarpus santalinus*, *Rosa canina* (Rosaceae), *Picrorhiza kurroa* (Scrophulariaceae). and *Trachelospermum asiaticum* (Umbelliferae). The vanillic acid *in vitro* test indicated anti-inflammatory activity[46].

198

Zearalenone

A mycotoxin of fungus *Gibberella zeae*, which infects maize. Caused significant dose-dependant inhibition of carrageenan-induced paw edema[115].

199

Hematoxylin

200

Brazilin

Brazilin together with hematoxylin, a constituent of *Haematoxylon campechianum* Linn. and *Caeselpinia sappan* Linné (Leguminosae) wood, have been subjected to various anti-inflammatory assays. Both substances proved to exhibit significant anti-inflammatory activities in the carrageenan-induced rat paw edema test and the fertile egg test[118].

201

Cannabichromene

Cannabichromene has anti-inflammatory activity[77]. Δ^1 -Tetrahydrocannabinol, the active principle of marihuana, has anti-inflammatory, antiemetic, and hallucinogenic properties. Used topically in hypertensive glaucoma[119]. Isolated from *Cannabis sativa* (Cannabaceae) leaves.

202

Δ^1 -Tetrahydrocannabinol (Dronabinol)

203

Tremetone

204

Non-benzofuran acetophenone 1

Isolated from *Ophyosporus axilliflorus* Griseb. (Asteraceae). Exhibited anti-inflammatory activity on carrageenan-induced mouse paw edema[120].

205

Non-benzofuran acetophenone 2

206

6,8-Dihydroxy-3,4-dimethyl-1H-2benzopyran-1-one

Found in the roots of *Polygonum hydropiper* (Polygonaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[115,121].

207

Polygonolide

208

Vineferin

209

Miyabenol

210

Kobophenol

These oligomeric stilbenes have been isolated from *Caragana sinica* (Buchoz) (Leguminosae). Exhibited protein kinase C inhibitory activity at low micromolar concentrations[122].

211

8,10,12,14-Epiamphilectatetraene-9,10-diol

A constituent of *Pseudoptereorgia elisabethae* and has anti-inflammatory activity[121].

PHENYLPROPANOIDS

212

(-)-Bornyl p-coumarate

213

(-)-Bornyl ferulate

214

(-)-Bornyl caffeate

Isolated from the roots of *Coreopsis mutica* var. *Mutica* (Compositae). Have anti-inflammatory activity[123].

215

Calceolarioside A

Found in *Calceolaria hypericina* Poepp. (Scrophulariaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[124].

216

Curcumin

A constituent of turmeric. Has been shown to be an effective anti-inflammatory agent. As potent as phenylbutazone in the carrageenan edema test but half as potent in chronic tests. The mechanism of anti-inflammatory activity is found to be multifactorial. Inhibited lysosomal enzymes (acid phosphatase and cathepsin D) and was effective in inhibiting lipid peroxide formation[89]. Has cytotoxic and antioxidant activities. Reduces cholesterol level and helps control blood sugar. Isolated from rhizomes of *Curcuma longa*, *C. aromatica*, and *C. xanthorrhiza* (Zingiberaceae).

217

Fagaramide (piperonyl-4-acrylicisobutylamide)

Effective against carrageenan paw edema in rats and was approximately 20 times less potent than indomethacin. Effective against the prostaglandin phase of an acute experimental inflammatory reaction. It is thus suggested that at least part of the anti-inflammatory activity of fagaramide is mediated via inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis[125]. The roots of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* and *Fagara xanthoxyloides* (Rutaceae) have been used to treat allergic and anti-inflammatory diseases. The activity is due a fagaramide, a phenylpropanoid, that inhibits the edema of the rat paw induced by carrageenan[89].

218

Forsythoside

Occurs in *Calcolaria ascendens* Lind. (Scrophulariaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity and enhanced production of cyclo-oxygenase products[124].

219

Isoferulic acid

Obtained from the crude extract of *Cimicifuga dahurica* Maxim. Ranunculaceae rhizomes reduce carrageenan-induced edema[106].

220

Myristicin

The fruit of *Myristica fragrans* Houtt (Myristacaceae) has been used in Indonesian folk medicine as aromatic stomachics, analgesics, and a medicine for rheumatism. The anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced edema in rats and vascular permeability in mice is due to the major principle myristicin[126].

221

Orobanchoside

Occurs in *Orobanche hederæ* Duby (Orobanchaceae). Inhibits the formation of 5-lipoxygenase product 5-HETE[124].

222

Plantamajoside

Occurs in the leaves of *Plantago major* and *P. asiatica* (Plantaginaceae). Inhibits 5-lipoxygenase and cyclic adenosine monophosphate diesterase, thus explaining the anti-inflammatory activity of *Plantago* plants[89].

223

Rosmarinic acid

Occurs within the Labiatae in *Rosmarinus officinalis*, *Salvia officinale*, *Melissa officinalis*, *Menta piperita*, and *Teucrium scorodonia*. Also occurs in *Symphytum officinale* (Boraginaceae), in some Hydrophyllaceae and Acanthaceae, and in the genera *Anethum*, *Levisticum*, *Sanicula*, and *Astrantia* (Umbelliferae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[48].

224

Verbacoside

The anti-inflammatory activity has been demonstrated on the exudative and proliferative phases of cotton pellet granuloma[48]. Isolated from leaves of *Buddleja globosa* and *A. officinalis* (Scrophulariaceae).

225

1,5-Bis(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-(1E,4E)-1,4-pentadien-3-one

226

1(4-Hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl) 5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-(1E,4E)-1,4-pentadien-3-one

227

Demethoxycurcumin

228

Bisdemethoxycurcumin

Isolated from rhizomes of *Curcuma domestica* (Zingiberaceae). Showed anti-inflammatory activity[127].

229

5'-Methoxycurcumin**QUINONES**

230

Aethiopinone

An o-naphthoquinone diterpenoid isolated from *Salvia aethiopis* L. (Labiatae) roots. Commonly used in folk medicine for a wide variety of remedies. Exhibited sizeable antinociceptive and anti-inflammatory effects in rodents. Produced a strong anti-inflammatory effect on an acute inflammatory process like that induced by carrageenan, which was in the same order of magnitude as that observed after poroxicam or ibuprofen administration and its antinociceptive effects were specially important against thermal painful stimuli[128].

231

Abruquinones A

232

Abruquinones B

233

Abruquinones D

234

Abruquinones E

235

Abruquinones F

The pharmacological activities of the five isoflavanquinones isolated from the leaf of *Abrus precatorius* L. (Leguminosae) have been evaluated. The results indicate that abruquinones A, B, and D exhibited remarkable inhibitory effects on the platelet aggregation. The compounds A, B, D, and F showed strong anti-inflammatory and antiallergenic effects. The IC₅₀ of abruquinones A, B, D, and F for the inhibition of superoxide formation were less than 0.3 µg/ml for the inhibition of the release of both β-glucuronidase and lysosyme from rat neutrophils[129]. This plant is used as a folk-medicine in China for the treatment of laryngitis, hepatitis, and bronchitis, indicating that it exhibits anti-inflammatory activity.

236

Chimaphillin

Anti-inflammatory and analgesic principles were isolated from the methanol extract of the whole herb of *Pyrola rotundifolia* L. (Pyrolaceae). Based on bioassays of the inhibitory activities on carrageenan-induced hindpaw edema in rats on acetic acid-induced writhing in mice. The principles were identified as ursolic acid and chimaphillin[88]. *P. rotundifolia* is found in the group of Chinese crude drugs called Qu-feng-shi-yao, which has long been used as a remedy mostly for arthritic diseases in traditional Chinese medicine.

237

4,5-Dihydroxyanthraquinone-2-carboxylic acid

Possesses anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced paw edema. Isolated from *Rheum palmatum* leaves[121].

238

Embellin

Possesses anti-inflammatory activity in carrageenan-induced paw edema and cotton pellet granuloma formation[130]. Isolated from *Embelia ribes* Burm (Myrsinaceae) leaves.

8-Hydroxy-6-methoxy- 2 methylanthra-quinone-3-O-β-D-glucopyranoside

Isolated from *Limonia crenulata* Roxb. (Rutaceae). Showed significant inhibition (65.9%) of carrageenan-induced paw edema in rats in a dose of 1 g/kg[131].

Shikonin

Shikonin and acetylshikonin are active ingredients in the traditional Chinese drug Zi-Cao (*Arnebia euchroma* Royle, Boraginaceae). Both of these compounds inhibit the usual increase of capillary permeability induced in rats by histamine and have significant anti-inflammatory effects in rats on edema of the paws induced by acute exposure to formalin[132].

Acetylshikonin

TRITERPENOIDS AND STEROIDS

Arvenoside A

A triterpenoid saponin that showed strong anti-inflammatory activity[133,134]. Isolated from *Calendula arvensis* (Compositae) leaves.

243

Astramembrannin

Isolated from Huang-Qi (the traditional Chinese drug plant *Astragalus membranaceus* Bge). Has anti-inflammatory action[135].

244

Asteryunnanoside A

245

Asteryunnanoside B

246

Asteryunnanoside C

Found in *Aster yunnanensis* (Compositae). Used as drug for the treatment of fevers, colds, tonsillitis, snake bites, and bee stings in Chinese medicine. Showed potent analgesic and anti-inflammatory activity[136].

247

Bassic acid

Isolated from the ethanol extract of *Bumelia sartorum* Mart. (Sapotaceae) leaves and has been shown to be responsible for anti-inflammatory activity[133].

248

Boswellic acid

In India, the oleogum resin of *Boswellia serrata* Roxb. Ex Coleb (Burseraceae) has been released for therapeutic use under trade name “Sallaki” for the treatment of rheumatism and nervous diseases. It has been established that anti-inflammatory and antiarthritic activities are due to the presence of boswellic acid and other related pentacyclic triterpene acids[137].

249

Chiisanoside

Used in Korean folk medicine, leaves and stem bark of *Acanthopanax chiisanensis* Nakai (Araliaceae) have been used as an antirheumatic. Chiisanoside, a glycosylated 3,4-secotriterpene of lupane-type with significant anti-inflammatory activity has been isolated from *A. chiisanensis*[138].

250

R_1 = glucose (1→2)-glucuronic acid

R_2 = glucose

Chikusetsusaponin V

The rhizomes of *Panax japonica* C.A. Meyer (Araliaceae) have been used for a long time in Japan as a substitute for *P. ginseng* roots of Chinese medicine. A saponin glucoside, chikusetsusaponin V isolated from the rhizomes of the plant, has shown significant anti-inflammatory activity[139].

251

Cryptogenin

Obtained from *Dioscorea mexicana* (Dioscoreaceae) roots by extraction with ETOH. 80 mg/kg i.p. reduced kaolin edema in rats to half, 5 h after injection[140].

252

Cucurbitacin

The fruit juice of *Ecballium elaterium* L.A. Rich (Cucurbitaceae). Used in Turkish folk medicine for the treatment of sinusitis. Has been investigated for its anti-inflammatory activity. The active principle isolated from chloroform extract showed significant anti-inflammatory activity (69.6% inhibition of edema)[141].

253

Dulcin

Found in *Pithecellobium dulce* (Leguminosae). Showed anti-inflammatory activity[142].

254

Echinocystic acid

Possesses activity capable of preventing various chemically induced edemas in rats and abdominal writhings following acetic acid injection in mice[143]. Isolated from *Baccharis trimera* (Asteraceae) leaves. This South American plant is used in traditional medicine, internally, for the treatment of rheumatism, hepatobiliary disorders, and diabetes.

255

3-Epibetulinic acid

Showed anti-inflammatory activity[121]. Isolated from *Pricramnia pentandra* (Simarubaceae) leaves.

256

R=glc(6-1)glc(4-1)rha

Fruticesaponin A

257

R= glc(4-1)rha

Fruticesaponin B

258

R=glc(6-1)glc(4-1)rha

Fruticesaponin C

Occur in the dry root of *Bupleurum frutescens* (Umbelliferae). Listed officially in the Chinese and Japanese pharmacopoeias and used in Asian traditional medicine to treat certain disorders, are accompanied by inflammation. *In vivo* anti-inflammatory activity (antiedematous activity)[144].

259

Ginsenoside Ro

An oleanane-type saponin that has been screened for activity in experimental models of inflammation. Inhibited an increase in vascular permeability in mice induced by acetic acid and reduced an acute paw edema in rats induced by carrageenan[145]. Isolated from roots of red *Panax ginseng* C.A. Meyer (Araliaceae). Widely prescribed in Chinese medicine in general practice and has been considered to be effective in the management of psychosomatic diseases such as indefinite complaints, stress ulcer, and anxiety neurosis. In addition, ancient literature indicates that ginseng root alleviates some types of inflammatory diseases.

260

Glycyrrhetic acid glucoside

261

3β-p-Hydroxybenzoyldehydrotumulosic acid

Occur in the sclerotium of *Poria cocos* Wolf (Polyporaceae). Used in Chinese herbal prescriptions as a diuretic and a sedative. The 50% inhibitory doses of the compounds were 0.27 and 1.25 mg per ear on TPA- and AA-induced inflammation[146].

262

3β-Hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-withanolide F

Anti-inflammatory activity of 3β-hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-withanolide F has been assessed and has marked effects in subacute inflammation. A comparison of the anti-inflammatory properties

showed it is approximately 5 times more active than phenylbutazone and equally active to that of hydrocortisone on weight basis. The withanolide did not exhibit any effect on CNS[147]. Isolated from *Withania coagulans* Dunal (Solanaceae) leaves. This plant is used in India for skin afflictions, inflammatory conditions, chronic liver complications, and as a sedative.

263

Mi-saponin A

A bisdesmoside of an olean-12 ene-type sapogenol protobassic acid. Obtained from seed kernels of *Madhuca longifolia* L. Macbride (Sapotaceae). The activity of anti-inflammatory activity was found to be $\frac{1}{4}$ of phenylbutazone[148].

264

Notoginsenoside R1

Occurs in *Panax notoginseng* (Araliaceae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[149].

265

Olaxoside

Found in various *Olax* spp. (Olacaceae). Showed strong anti-inflammatory activity[133,134].

266

Oleanolic acid 3-glucoside

Showed significant antiarthritic activity in the exudative and proliferative phases of inflammation in rats[150]. Isolated from *Randia dumetorum* Lam. (Rubiaceae) seeds.

267

11,13(18)-Oleanadiene 3,16,23,28, tetrol.

A constituent of *Bupleurum falcatum*. An anti-inflammatory agent[8].

268

3-O-[α-arabinopyranosyl-(1-2)-α-L-arabinopyranosyl]olean-12ene-28,29-dioic acid 28-[O-α-L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1-4)-D-glucopyranosyl-(1-6)β-glucopyranoside

Found in the bark of *Nothopanax davidii* Harms (Araliaceae). Used in traditional Oriental medicine for more than 5000 years. Has anti-inflammatory activity[151].

269

7-Ox0-10α-Cucurbita-5,24-dien-3β-ol

Isolated from the seeds of *Trichosanthes kirilowii* Maxim. (Cucurbitaceae). Showed anti-inflammatory effect[152].

270

Phytolaccoside B

This saponin is a glucoside of jaligonic acid 30 methyl ether, exhibiting antirheumatic and anti-inflammatory actions[153,154]. Isolated from *Phytolacca americana* L. (Phytolaccaceae) roots.

271

Propapyriogenin A₂

Obtained by acid hydrolysis of the saponin fractions of *Tetrapanax papyriferum* (Araliaceae) and *Bupleurum rotundifolium* (Umbelliferae). Showed strong anti-inflammatory activity[133,134].

272

Quillaic acid

Obtained from the acid hydrolysis of the saponin fraction from the bark of *Quillaja saponaria* (Rosaceae). The saponin-rich bark of *Q. saponaria* (10%) is used in shampoo liquids. Shown to have analgesic and anti-inflammatory activity[141].

273

Ruscogenin

Occurs in *Ruscus aculeatus*. Used in the local treatment of hemorrhoids. Showed anti-inflammatory effect[8].

274

Saikosaponin A

The roots of *Bupleurum falcatum* L.B. chinense (Umbelliferae) are used in Chinese medicine for the treatment of inflammation of the diaphragm and enlargement of the liver caused by hepatitis. A number of saikosaponins have been isolated and the aglycone part was found to have oleanane-type structure with a characteristic unsaturation at C-11 and 13 β ,28-oxide system. The administration of saikosaponins has no side effect such as shrinking of the adrenal gland that often occurs with the administration of prednisolone[106].

275

Sasanquol

Found in the seed of *Camellia sasanqua* Thumb (Theaceae). The 50% inhibitory dose of this compound against TPA-induced ear inflammation (1 μ g per ear) in mice was 0.4 per ear[155].

276

β -Sitosterol

The anti-inflammatory and antipyretic activities of β -sitosterol isolated from *Cyperus rotundus* (Cyperaceae) and *Bryophyllum pinnatum* (Crassulaceae) leaves have been studied, employing

carrageenan-induced edema, cotton pellet implantation, and Brewer's yeast-induced pyrexia in rats. β -Sitosterol was found to possess potent anti-inflammatory activity against both tests, similar to hydrocortisone and oxyphenbutazone when administered i.p.[156,157].

277

β -Sitosterol- β -D-glucopyranoside

The isolated glucoside from *Sechium edule* (Cucurbitaceae) leaves was tested against phenylbutazone and the vehicle control using dextran-induced rat paw edema method[158].

278

Stigmasterol- β -D-glucopyranoside

279

α -Spinasterol

Showed significant activity against acute inflammation induced by carrageenan in rats and was more potent than phenylbutazone but less potent than betamethasone[159]. Isolated from *Symplocos spicata* Roxb. (Symplocaceae) roots.

280

25R-Spirostan-4-ene-3,12-dione

Found in *Polygonum chinensis* L. Polygonaceae. Has anti-inflammatory and antiallergic activities[160,161]. Treatment of dysentery.

281

Terminolic acid

282

Glycyrrhezinic acid

283

Lonchoterpene

Terminolic acid, glycyrrhetinic acid, and lonchoterpene showed anti-inflammatory activity[162]. Isolated from *Terminalia ivorensis* (Combretaceae) bark. The glycyrrhezinic acid potentiates the antiarthritic action of hydrocortisone in rats and showed anti-inflammatory activity in 1/8 potency of cortisol by the cotton pellet method[133]. Isolated from *Glycyrrhiza glabra* Linn (Leguminosae) roots.

284

Triptotriterpenic acid

Showed anti-inflammatory activity[121]. Isolated from *Tripterygium wilfordii* leaves.

285

Velutinal A

Has antibradykinin, anti-inflammatory activity[163]. The structure of velutinal A comprises a novel pregnane skeleton, and steroids of this class are commonly encountered in Apocynaceae[164]. Extracted from *Mandevilla velutina* (Aponcinaceae) rhizomes.

Six species of Compositae plants — *Calendula officinalis*, *Carthamus tintorius*, *Cosmos bipinnatus*, *Chrysanthemum morifolium*, *Helianthus annuus*, and *Matricaria matricarioides* — were investigated for their triterpene alcohol constituents. This led to the isolation and identification of 11 triterpene alcohols as follows: Helaniol, Taraxerol, Dammaradienol, β-amyrin, Cycloartenol, Tirucalla-7,24-dienol, α-amyrin, Lupeol, 24-methylenecycloartanol, ψ-taraxasterol, and Taraxasterol. Triterpene alcohols isolated from the Compositae flowers in this study were examined for their inhibitory effects on TPA-induced inflammation in mice. The inhibitory activities were compared with indomethacin and hydrocortisone. All of the triterpene alcohols markedly inhibited the TPA-induced inflammation[165]. Also inhibited eukaryote signal-regulated protein kinases[166].

293

Zanthasaponin A

294

Zanthasaponin B

Found in *Zanha africana* root bark (Sapindaceae). Used in traditional medicine in Southern Africa for the treatment of dysentery. Have anti-inflammatory activity[161].

295

Betulin

296

Betulinic acid

297

Ursolic acid

Three anti-inflammatory triterpenes — betulin, betulinic acid, and ursolic acid — were isolated from *Diospyros leucomelas* L. (Ebenaceae) leaves. They showed anti-inflammatory activity in the carrageenan and serotonin paw edema tests and TPA and EPP ear edema tests. The blockade of their effects by progesterone, actinomycin D, and cycloheximide has served to determine the mechanism of action in relationship with that of glucocorticoids[167].

XANTHONES

298

Dehydrocycloguandin

The anti-inflammatory activity has been demonstrated on the exudative and proliferative phases of cotton pellet granuloma, formaldehyde-induced arthritis, and carrageenan edema[168]. Isolated from *Calophyllum brasiliense* and *C. inophyllum* (Guttiferae) leaves.

299

6-Deoxyjacareubin

Significantly inhibited carrageenan- and yeast-induced edema and cotton pellet inflammation[168]. Isolated from leaves of *Calophyllum zeylanicum* and *Kielmeyera speciosa* (Guttiferae).

300

Euxanthone

A xanthone. Exhibited anti-inflammatory activity[169]. Isolated from seeds of *Mammea americana* (Guttiferae).

301

Jacareubin

Found in the wood of *Calophyllum brasiliense*, *Kielmeyera ferruginea*, and *Pentadesma butyracea* (all Guttiferae). Has anti-inflammatory activity[169].

302

Luteolin-4'-O-neohesperidoside

Has significant anti-inflammatory action. More potent than ibuprofen. Isolated from *Caralluma attenuata* Wight (Asclepiadaceae)[55].

303

Mangiferin

Xanthone mangiferin and phenylated xanthone mangostin have been found to exert pronounced anti-inflammatory activity when tested against different models of experimental inflammation[170]. Isolated from leaves of *Swertia chirata* Buch-Ham (Gentianaceae). This plant is used in the Indian system of medicine as an antimalarial, and liver tonic. Mangiferin exhibits

304

Mangostin

significant anti-inflammatory properties at a dose of 50 mg/kg. They do not have analgesic or antipyretic effects but show antiulcer activity[169]. Isolated from leaves of *Canscora decussata* Schult (Gentianaceae) and *Cratoxylus pruniflorus* Kurz (Guttiferae).

305

Mesuaxanthone A

306

Mesuaxanthone B

The leaves of *Mesua ferrea* (Guttiferae) have been used to treat inflammatory diseases. The activity is due at mesuaxanthone A and B, that inhibited the increase in edema of the rat paw induced by carrageenan[168].

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This article should be referenced as follows:

Perez G., R.M. (2001) Anti-inflammatory activity of compounds isolated from plants. *TheScientificWorld* 1, 713–784.

Handling Editor:

Edward J. Goetzel, Principal Editor for *Inflammation* — a domain of *TheScientificWorld*.

TABLE 1
Mechanism of Action of Several Compounds Isolated from Plants with Anti-Inflammatory Activity

A. Suppress platelet function	Curcumin Isoflavanquinones (abruinonones A, B, D, and F) Diterpenoids (Aethiopinone) Quinoid aporphine alkaloids o-Naphthoquinone diterpene
B. Inhibit eicosanoid mediator generation or activities	The coumarins - herniarin, aesculetin, scopolin, and scopoletin
C. Block O ₂ radical formation or effects	Chamazulene The coumaric, caffeic acid, ferulic acid, and derivatives (methyl caffeate, methyl ferulate and bornyl ferulate) (-) Epicatechin, (-) epiafzelechin, artemetin Flavonoids (quercetin and kaempferol) The flavan 3-ol derivatives, 4'-O-methyl-ent-gallocatechin, (+)-gallocatechin, mearnsitrin, myricitrin and quercitrin 6-Hydroxyflavonoids as 6-hydroxykaempferol, 3,6-dimethyl ether, and 6-hydroxyluteolin The ocobullenone Polyacetylenes Sesquiterpene lactone hydroxyachillin
D. Alter cytokine production or effects	The pimarane diterpenes (2 α -acetoxysandara-copimaradien, maxikdiol and sandara-copimaradien-1 α ,2 α -diol) Sesquiterpene lactones (diversifolin, methyl ether, and tirotundin) Sesquiterpene lactones of the germacranolide-type

E. Block lysosomal enzymes	(melampolides and millerenolides) Acid phosphatase and cathepsin D Flavonoids (hypolaetin-8-glucoside) Hypolaetin-8-glucoside Isoflavanquinones (abruinonones A, B, D, and F) Quercetin and kaempferol
F. Antagonize other low m.w. mediators	α -Amyrin and lupeol and the palmitate and linoleate esters of these triterpenoids Baicalein, baicalin, and wogonin Fagaramide, velutinol A Glycoside nepretin The kaempferol 3-O-sophoroside Lithocholic acid, 18 α - and 18 β -glycyrrhetic acid, 5-cholenic acid-3 β -ol, lithocholic acid methyl ester, ursolic acid, and oleanolic acid Nimbidin and bradykinin, benzoxazinoid The oligomeric stilbenes [(+)- α -viniferin, miyanenol, and kobophenol] The saponin echinocystic acid Sesquiterpene lactone (limonin) Sesquiterpene lactones (diversifolin, diversifolin methyl ether, and tirotundin)
G. Inhibit leukocyte function	Several phenolic diarylheptanoids Bukittinggine Epicatechin, catechin procyanidin B ₂ , 5,7 Dimethoxyflavone Gossypetin-8-glucoronide (hibifolin) The oleanane-type triterpene saponins zanha-saponins A and B Hypolaetin-8-glucoside Several triterpenoids belonging to the lupane, Oleanane and ursane series Procyanidin B ₄ , cinnamonol D ₁ and cinnamonol D ₂ , Quercetin glycosides
H. Other effects	Acetophenones Anthocyanins Benzophenanthridine (BPA) alkaloids (sanguinarine, chelerythrine, and chelidonine) Clerodane diterpene:19-nor clerodane diterpene The bicycle form of sesquiterpene molecule with four and nine members rings (β -caryophyllene) Non-phenolic diarylheptanoids The pimarane diterpenes (2 α -acetoxysandara-copimaradien, maxikdiol and sandara-copimaradien-1 α ,2 α -diol) The betulinic acid and betulin The ingenase-type diterpene structurally related to phorbol Lupeol The triterpenes - saponin, glycyrrhizin, and glycyrrhetic acid α -Spinasterol Saponin echinocystic Vitexin

TABLE 2
Applications of Several Compounds Isolated from Plants with Anti-Inflammatory Activity

Compound	Administration	Uses
Acetophenones	p.o.	Used in folk medicine in Argentina for its anti-inflammatory properties.
Aescin (β -amyirin derivative)	p.o.	Used as a folk medicine in France and the tincture of this drug has been used for haemorrhoid, and in the treatment of varicose vein.
Aesculetin	p.o.	Used in Spain as a folk remedy against a variety of diseases such as inflammatory complaints and to achieve beneficial effects on the digestive tract.
α -Amyrin	p.o.	Used as a remedy for arthritis.
3-O-[α -L-arabinopyranosyl-(1-2)- α -L-arabinopyranosyl]olean-12-ene-28,29dioic acid[O- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1-4) β -D-glucopyranoside.	p.o.	Show various pharmacological activities including increasing mental efficiency, recovering physical balance, stimulation of metabolic function, and other general health promoting effects.
Anemonin and protoanemonin	p.o.	Have commonly been used as analgesic, diuretic, and anti-inflammatory agents.
Arachidonic acid	p.o. topically	Used in South America in traditional medicine internally for the treatment of rheumatism, hepatobiliary disorders, and diabetes; externally, in cases of skin ulceration and wounds.
Artemetin	topically	Used in Brazilian folk remedies as anti-inflammatory and cicatrizing agents.
Baicalein, baicalin, and wogonin	p.o.	Used for treatment of some types of dermatitis, diarrhea, and various inflammatory diseases as an antiphlogistic and antipyretic in traditional Chinese medicine.
Bassic acid	p.o.	Used in Brazilian folklore in the treatment of inflammatory disorders.
Benzoxazinoid	p.o.	Used in China for a long time for the treatment of rheumatism and neuralgia.
Bergenin	topically	An ingredient of gages, tooth powders, and lotions used for eye troubles, muscular pains, and sores.
Boswellic acid	topically	Used in Ayurvedic system of medicine "Salai guggal" in India. Effective in controlled clinical trials in arthritis patients. Released for therapeutic use under the trade name "Sallaki".
Brazilin and hematoxylin	p.o.	Have long been used as emmenagogue, as analgesic, as astringent antidiarrhoic, and as cure for contusion and sprain in Oriental medicine.
Bukittingine	p.o.	Used in West Sumatra, Indonesia to treat bronchial asthma and to relieve pain.
Calophyllolide	i.p. and p.o.	Used for the treatment of rheumatism, sore, eyes, scabies, gout in the Indian system of medicine.
Chamazulene	p.o.	The preparations from chamomile are used in the treatment of inflammatory diseases of skin and intestinum.
Chikusetsusaponin V	p.o.	Long used in Japan as antitussive and expectorant.
Chimaphilin	p.o.	Found in the group of Chinese crude drugs called Qu-feng-shi-yao, which has long been used as a remedy mostly for arthritic diseases in traditional Chinese medicine.
Cis-communic acid	topically	Traditionally used in Chinese medicine for the treatment of eczema, eruption, swelling, injury, etc. by topical application.
Cryogenin and nesodine	p.o.	Shown to exert significant anti-inflammatory activity in different disorders.
Cucurbitacin B	p.o.	Used as a folk medicine in Turkey for the treatment of sinusitis and arthritis.

Curcumin	p.o. and topically	Should be a useful antiarthritic drug without the side effects commonly encountered with other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Used as agent for local application on infected wounds including malignancies.
Cyanidanol	p.o.	Used in Europe for the treatment of liver diseases (for 20 years).
Dauricine	p.o.	Used in traditional Chinese medicine for testing rheumatism.
Trans-dehydrocrotonin	p.o. topically	Widely known in traditional phytotherapy for the treatment of diabetes, diarrhea, gastrointestinal disorders, and liver diseases. Used in the Amazon region (Brazil) in the form of tea or powdered and dried pills.
1,7-Diarylheptanoids	topically	In Thailand, commonly used externally for the treatment of acne and skin inflammations.
5,7 Dimethoxyflavone	p.o.	Used in the folk medicine of Thailand as a remedy for arthritis.
Ephedrine	p.o.	The crude drug mao is famous for containing alkaloids of the ephedrine series having sympathomimetic, antiallergic activity, perspiratory, and antitussive.
Flavonoid glycoside	p.o.	Used for the treatment of injury.
Flavonoids	p.o. topically	A traditional medicine in China (jiangxiang). Used to treat blood disorder, ischemia, swelling, necrosis, and rheumatic pain.
Ginsenoside Ro ¹	p.o.	Widely prescribed in Chinese medicine in general practice. Effective in the management of psychosomatic diseases such as indefinite complaints, stress ulcer, and anxiety neurosis.
Germacranolides	p.o.	Used in the Philippines for sore eyes, coughs, infections of stomach and intestines, itching and for snake and scorpion bites.
Glycyrrhetic acid	p.o.	Used in African ethnomedicine for treatment of various diseases including arthritic conditions.
Glycyrrhizin	p.o.	Used in Western and Oriental medicine as an expectorant, antitussive, and as a sweetening adjuvant.
Gossypin	p.o.	Used as a remedy for arthritis.
Helenalin	topically	Used as a remedy for arthritis.
3 β -Hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-withanolide F	p.o.	Used in India for a number of ailments especially in skin infections, inflammatory conditions, asthma, chronic liver complications, and as sedatives.
3 β -Hydroxybenzoyldehydro- mulosic acid	p.o.	Used in Chinese prescriptions as a diuretic and as a sedative.
Hydroxyachillin	p.o.	Used since ancient times in Spanish traditional medicine as an anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic agent, and for their beneficial effects on the digestive tract.
Hypolaetin-8-O-glucoside	p.o.	Employed in Spanish folk medicine as an anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic agent.
Isoflavanquinones	p.o.	Used in China for the treatment of laryngitis, hepatitis, and bronchitis.
Kaempferol	p.o.	Used as antipyretic, refrigerant, useful against thirst, leprosy, and leucoderma.
Lignans and neolignans	p.o.	Long used for treatment of headaches, as a tranquilizer and analgesic, and is considered to be especially efficacious for empyem, chronic inflammation of paranasal sinuses. A traditional Chinese herbal medicine know as "Shin-i".
Limonin	p.o.	Used for treatment of headache, thoracoabdominal pain, and vomiting, as an analgesic agent or cold remedy, and as an improving agent of blood circulation in traditional Chinese medicine.
Lupane saponins	p.o.	Listed officially in Chinese and Japanese pharmacopoeias and used in Asian traditional medicine to treat certain disorders that are accompanied by inflammation.
Magniferin	p.o.	Used as a remedy for arthritis, and antimalarial and liver tonic.

Marmarin	p.o.	Used as antidiarrhoeitic and antidote to snake venom.
Maslinic acid	topically	Topical application traditionally used for the treatment of prickly heat, eczema, and other skin diseases.
Nimbidin	p.o.	Possesses antigastric ulcer activity, prevents ulceration by reducing gastric secretion, useful as a liniment for rheumatic affections.
Ocubellenone	p.o.	Used in the traditional medicine of Southern Africa for headaches, injury, and magical purposes.
Osthol	p.o.	Found in the Chinese crude drug called "Qu-feng-shi-yao"; used as a remedy for arthritis diseases, lumbago, edema, and common cold.
Phenanthrene derivatives	topically	Used in the folk medicine in Paraguay as anti-inflammatory when applied topically.
Phytolaccoside B	p.o.	Used in Korean medicine to alleviate rheumatism.
Polyacetylenes	p.o.	A traditional remedy in Hawaiian folk medicine for treating general debility of the body, throat, and stomach disorders, and of asthma.
Polysaccharides	p.o.	Widely used in Brazilian ethnomedicine as a cough suppressant, anti-inflammatory, and expectorant.
Quillaic acid	p.o.	Used as an analgesic and as a anti-inflammatory.
Saikosaponins	p.o.	Used in Chinese medicine for the treatment of inflammation of diaphragm and enlargement of liver caused by hepatitis.
Sesquiterpenes	p.o.	Used as a remedy for arthritis diseases.
Sesquiterpene Lactones	p.o.	Used in Central America as a remedy for skin infections.
Sinoacutine	p.o.	Used in the folk medicine in South Africa; this alkaloid exhibited slight anti-inflammatory activity; used as a remedy for arthritis.
β -Sitosterol	i.p.	Used for the treatment of reumatism.
Taspine	p.o.	Used for the treatment of rheumatism by the Peruvian Indian.
Trilobine and isotrilobine	p.o.	Used for the treatment of reumatism.
3,4-Seco triterpene	p.o.	Used as an antirheumatic, anti-inflammatory, and tonic in Korea.
Ursolic acid	p.o.	Used in traditional Chinese medicine only for arthritic diseases.
Velutilol A	i.p.	Used as a folk medicine in Brazil; bradykinin antagonist; possesses low oral activity and very short-lived systemic activity; used as an analgesic, anti-inflammatory, and as an antirheumatic.
Vitexin	p.o.	Exhibited moderate anti-inflammatory activity; used as anti-inflammatory, hypotensive, and antispasmodic .
Zanhasaponins A and B	p.o.	Used in traditional medicine in Southern Africa for the treatment of dysentery.