

## Antimicrobial effects of quinolines against harmful intestinal microorganisms

Young-Mi Kim, Hoi-Seon Lee

Faculty of Biotechnology and Research Center for Industrial Development of Biofood Materials,  
College of Agriculture & Life Science, Chonbuk National University, Chonju 561-756, Korea  
TEL: +82-63-270-2544, FAX: +82-63-270-2550

The growth responses of *Ruta chalepensis* leaf-derived materials toward human intestinal bacteria were examined.<sup>1-4)</sup> The biologically active constituent of the *R. chalepensis* extract was characterized as quinoline-4-carboxaldehyde (C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO). The growth responses varied depending on the bacterial strain, chemicals, and dose tested. At 0.25 and 0.1 mg/disk, quinoline-4-carboxaldehyde strongly inhibited the growth of *Clostridium perfringens* and weakly inhibited the growth of *Escherichia coli* without any adverse effects on the growth of three lactic acid-bacteria. Furthermore, at 0.05 and 0.025 mg/disk, this isolate showed moderate activity against *C. perfringens*. In comparison, chloramphenicol at as low as 0.01 mg/disk significantly inhibited the growth of all bacteria tested, and cinnamaldehyde at 0.25 mg/disk did not inhibit *Bifidobacterium bifidum*, *B. longum*, *E. coli*, and *Lactobacillus acidophilus* with the exception of *C. perfringens*. The structure-activity relationship revealed that quinoline-3-carboxaldehyde had strong growth-inhibition against *C. perfringens*, but quinoline, quinoline-3-carboxylic acid, and quinoline-4-carboxylic acid did not inhibit the growth of *B. bifidum*, *B. longum*, *C. perfringens*, *E. coli*, and *L. acidophilus*. These results indicate that carboxyl aldehyde functional group of quinolines seems to be required for growth-inhibiting activity against *C. perfringens*, Thus indicating at least one of the pharmacological actions of *R. chalepensis* leaf.<sup>5-8)</sup>

### References

1. Benno, Y. (1990) Effect of diets on human fecal microflora. *Bifidus*. 4: 1-8.
2. Black, F., K. Einarsson, A. Lidbeak, K. Orrhage, and C. E. Nord (1991) Effect of lactic acid producing bacteria on the human intestinal microflora during ampicillin

- treatment. *Scand. J. Infect. Dis.* 23: 247-254.
3. Granum, P. E. (1990) *Clostridium perfringens* toxins involved in food poisoning. *Int. J. Food Microbiol.* 10: 101-112.
  4. Guandalini, S., L. Pensabene, M. A. Zikri, J. A. Dias, L. G. Casail, H. Hoekstra, S. Kolacek, K. Massar, D. Micetic-Turk, A. Papadopoulou, J. S. Sousa, B. Sandhu, H. Szajewska, and Z. Weizman (2000) *Lactobacillus* GG administered in oral rehydration solution to children with acute diarrhea: a multicenter European trial. *J. Pediatr. Gastroenterol. Nutr.* 30: 54-60.
  5. Kim, M. J., S. H. Lee, J. H. Cho, M. K. Kim, and H. S. Lee (2003) Growth-responses of seven intestinal bacteria against *Phellodendron amurense* root-derived materials. *J. Microbiol. Biotechnol.* 13: 522-528.
  6. Lee, H. S. (2003) Inhibitory effects of quinizarin isolated from *Cassia tora* seeds against human intestinal bacteria and aflatoxin B<sub>1</sub> biotransformation. *J. Microbiol. Biotechnol.* 13: 529-536.
  7. Lee, H. S. and Y. J. Ahn (1998) Growth-inhibiting effects of *Cinnamomum cassia* bark-derived materials on human intestinal bacteria. *J. Agric. Food Chem.* 46: 8-12.
  8. Mitsuoka, T. (1990) Bifidobacteria and their role in human health. *J. Indus. Microbiol.* 6: 263-268.