## 감초 신품종 추출물의 유전독성 평가

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## Genotoxicity Evaluation of the Glycyrrhiza New Variety extract

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The genus *Glycyrrhiza* (Licorice) has been used as an oriental herbal medicine for a long time in Asian countries. Wongam (WG), which is *Glycyrrhiza* new variety, have been developed to improve limitation of licorice including low productivity, environmental restriction and insufficient components by Korea Rural Development Administration. To using WG as a herbal medicine, it is important to reveal the adverse effects in health. In this study, we evaluated the genotoxicity test of WG extract through *in vitro* bacterial reverse mutation (AMES) assay, *in vitro* chromosomal aberration assay and *in vivo* mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay. When compared with the control, WG extract with or without the S9 mix showed no genotoxicity in the AMES assay up to 5000 μg/plate and in the chromosomal aberration assay up to 1100 μg/ml. In micronucleus assay, no significant increase in the number of micronucleated polychromatic erythrocytes or in the mean ratio of polychromatic to total erythrocytes up to 5000 mg/kg/day for 2 days. The present study demonstrated that WG extract is safe and reliable herbal medicine since no detectable genotoxic effects at least under the conditions of this study.

**Key words:** *Glycyrrhiza*, Wongam, Genotoxicity, Bacterial reverse mutation assay, Chromosomal aberration assay, Micronucleus assay

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