Exciting developments in Berberis research

Berberine and synergy: overcoming multidrug resistance

Berberis contains not only the alkaloid berberine, but also the flavolignan 5’-methoxyhydnocarpin.

5’-methoxyhydnocarpin does not itself have antibiotic activity. But it can inhibit the multidrug resistant pumps (MDRs) in the microbial cell membrane, so that the antimicrobial alkaloid berberine stays inside the microbial cells.

Thus 5’-methoxyhydnocarpin potentiates the antimicrobial effect of berberine, making Berberis a more potent antimicrobial than its isolated alkaloids.

Berberine enhances medical drugs

For example, berberine can enhance the effectiveness of the following medical drugs:

- simvastatin: berberine enhances reduction of lipid levels
- arsenic trioxide: berberine enhances anticancer effect
- oxacillin: berberine enhances action against MRSA

Berberine reduces drug side effects

For example, berberine can reduce radiation-induced acute intestinal symptoms in abdominal radiotherapy.

Berberis and treatment of cardiovascular disorders

Berberis contains the alkaloids berberine and berbamine, two reported to have cardiovascular actions such as:

- cardioprotective
- cardiotonic
- antiarrhythmic
- anticholesterolemic
- antiangiogenic
- anti-inflammatory (arterial endothelium)
- antiatherosclerotic
- vasodilatory
- hypotensive
- antithrombotic

BERBERIS RESEARCH REFERENCES

To check these references online, go to Pub Med and enter the author details.


BERBERIS JRHC EXAMPLE

Berberis: Candida infection

Jeremy has designed this new herb combination according to advances in research and according to the principles of Chinese medicine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Herb</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berberis vulgaris cortex</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Echinacea angustifolia radix</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thymus vulgaris herba</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinnamomum cassia cortex</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glycyrrhiza glabra radix</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Click on top menu bar to see details of this Berberis combination.