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Cytostatic Activity of Hot Water Extracts from the Sea Cucumber in Caco-2

Mariko OGUSHI¹⁾²⁾, Yumiko YOSHIE-STARK¹⁾ and Takeshi SUZUKI¹⁾

 Department of Food Science and Technology, Faculty of Marine Science, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology
Department of Food Science, Sagami Women's University

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Sea cucumber is a traditional food item in Asia and has been reported to exhibit antifungal, antitumor, and antioxidant bioactivity as well as other properties. In this study, sea cucumbers were treated with hot water at 98°C for 60min to prepare extracts that were then used to assess their effect on the proliferation and H_2O_2 susceptibility of human colon adenocarcinoma Caco-2 cells. The growth of Caco-2 cells was significantly inhibited by sea cucumber extracts in a dose dependent manner. Cell proliferation was inhibited by high molecular weight sea cucumber extract at a concentration of 0.108mg/mL. No growth was observed at 1.04mg/mL of the hot water extract after 96h incubation. Cell damage by sea cucumber extract was evident above 1mg/mL. H_2O_2 showed concentration dependent cytotoxity to Caco-2 cells. In addition, coadministration of sea cucumber extracts intensified the H_2O_2 cytotoxity.

Keywords: Sea cucumber, Caco-2 cells, Cytostatic activity, Hot water extract

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