

ABSTRACT

The present Ph.D dissertation deals with the isolation and structure elucidation of potential anti-tumor agents from some members of family Asteraceae and Lauraceae. Bidens biternata, Saussurea atkinsonii, Senecio chrysanthemoides and Senecio ledebourii of family Asteraceae, while Cinnamomum tamala and Cinnamomum zeylanicum of family Lauraceae were selected for the studies. This is the first report of in vitro anti-tumor activity of these plants against human ovarian cancer cell line (A-2780) assessed by alamar blue dye assay. Most of them exhibited moderate to excellent anti-tumor activities which were also associated with their cytotoxicity against normal fibroblast baby hamster kidney cells (BHK-21).

The selected plants were subjected to bioassay guided fractionation which resulted in the isolation of three flavonoids namely 5,7-dihydroxy-2-(4'-hydroxy phenyl)-4H-1-benzopyran-4-one (1), 2-(3',4'-dihydroxyphenyl)-3,5,7-trihydroxy-4Hchromen-4-one (2) and 3,5,7-trihydroxy-2-(3',4',5'-trihydroxyphenyl)-4-chromenone (3) from B. biternata. These flavonoids exhibited significant anti-tumor activity in the order of 2 < 3 < 1. The bioassay directed isolation of S. atkinsonii yielded four compounds; 3,5,7-trihydroxy-2-(4'-hydroxyphenyl)-4-chromenone (4), 3-ammonio-4hydroxy benzoate monohydrate (5), 6,7-dihydroxy-2-chromenone (6) and decahydro-3,6,9-tris (methylene) azuleno [4,5] furan-2-(3H)-one (7). Compounds 5 and 6 showed strong anti-tumor activity with IC50 values of 1.38 \times $10^{\text{-3}}$ and 2.55 \times $10^{\text{-3}}$ mg/mL respectively. Compound 8 [(E)-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxy phenyl)-prop-2'-enoic acid] and 9 [4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethoxy benzoic acid], isolated from S. chrysanthemoides, were inactive against human ovarian cancer cell line, while compound 10 exhibited significant activity with $IC_{50} = 7.59 \times 10^{-3}$ mg/mL. Bioassay-guided fractionation of S. ledebourii yielded compound 11 [(E)-3,4',5-trihydroxy-trans-stilben], 12 [7-hydroxy-2H-1-benzopyran-2-one] and 13 [7-hydroxy-6-methoxychromen-2-one], among which compound 11 exhibited significant inhibitory activity with IC₅₀ = 2.14×10^{-3} mg/mL. The compounds isolated from Senecio species showed anti-tumor activity in the order of 8 < 9 < 13 < 12 < 10 < 11. Four compounds were isolated from C. tamala extracts which were identified as caryophylene oxide (15), 1,7,7-trimethylbicyclo [2.2.1] hept-2-yl acetate (16), 3-(4-hydroxy phenyl)-2-propenoic acid (17) and 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy benzoic acid (18), while 6-methoxy-4-methyl coumarin (33), 7,8-dihydroxy-4-methyl



coumarin (34) and ethyl 3,4-dihydroxy benzoate (35) were purified from the extracts of C. zeylanicum. Compound 36 [5-isopropyl-2-methylphenol] was isolated from the essential oil of C. zeylanicum bark. The activity of these eight isolates of C innamomum species was observed in the order of 18 < 17 < 34 < 33 < 15 < 36 < 35 < 16.

GCMS analysis of column chromatography fractions (CT₁, CT₂ and CT₄) of C. tamala methanol extract resulted in the identification of eight compounds along with fifteen major components from other seven sub fractions (CT₃-A to CT₃-G) of a CC fraction CT₃. Column chromatography of CZ₂ of C. zeylanicum chloroform extract yielded three sub fractions (CZ₂-A to CZ₂-C). A few major components of these sub fractions were also characterized with the help of GCMS technique and anti-tumor bioassays.

The isolates obtained in this research work can be classified as four flavonoides (1, 2, 3 and 10), five coumarins (6, 12, 13, 33 and 34), seven phenolic compounds (4, 8, 9, 11, 17, 18 and 35) and one sesquiterpene lactone (7). Anti-tumor potential of the four flavonoids was observed in the order of activity (2 < 10 < 3 < 1). The coumarins showed moderate cell growth prevention potential against A-2780 cells with order of activity 6 > 34 > 12 > 33 > 13. Sesqueterpene lactone was most active one and only two phenolic compounds i.e. 11 and 35 proved as good anti-tumor agents and exhibited significant inhibitory activity against human ovarian cancer cells with comparatively less cytotoxicity against BHK cells.



