

# A Review On : Herbal Anticancer Drug

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## ABSTRACT

Cancer is major health problem in both developed developing countries. Cancer after cardiovascular disease is the second leading cause of death. Cancer is the abnormal growth of cells in our bodies that can lead to death. Plant-derived compounds have been an important source of several clinically useful anti-cancer agents. Plant has been the beacon of therapeutic sources for curing diseases from times immemorial. Medicinal plant with their isolated lead molecules is also used as an alternative medicine for treating cancer. These chemical compounds are formulated with a view to create effective drugs against cancer. Vincristine, Vinblastine, Homoharringtonine, Honokiol, Paclitaxel, Topotecan, Maytansine, Astraguloside, Docetaxel, Elliticine, Lapochel, Oleanolic acid, Cisplatin, Etoposide, Teniposide and Resveratrol this lead molecules isolated from different medicinal plants are in use to treat cancer and chemotherapeutic side effect. In the present review, an attempt has been made to study the plants that have been used in the treatment of cancer.

**Keywords:** Cancer, Anti-Cancer Drugs, Vincristine, Paclitaxel

## I. INTRODUCTION

In recent times, medicinal plants occupy an important position for being the paramount sources of drug discovery, irrespective of its categorized groups- herb, shrub or tree. Plants have been indispensable in treating diverse forms of diseases including cancer. According to World Health Organisation, 80% of the people living in the rural areas depend on medicinal plants as primary health care system. These practices are solely based on the knowledge of traditional use of medicinal plants. Natural products are formulated to generate different types of effective drugs to enhance anticancer activities. Proper understanding of the complex synergistic interaction of various constituent of anticancer herbs would help in formulating the design to attack the cancerous cells without harming the normal cells of the body.

India is the largest producer of medicinal plants and is rightly called the "Botanical garden of the World". And have many of plant used in cancer. The search for this cancer drug discovery from Natural sources began with the investigations done by Hartwell and his co-

workers in the late 1960's with the application of Podophyllotoxin and its derivatives from the plant Podophyllum peltatum. Further discoveries lead to isolate anticancer compound from plants like Catharanthus roseus, Camptotheca acuminata, Lapacho, Cephalotaxusharringtonia, Mangnoliagrandidiflora and Taxus brevifoliabark are the established potential anticancer agents derived from these plants which are found to be effective against various types of cancer.

To the scientific mind, these translate easily into ideas. Numbers and standard letters such as n are also in the mathematical with 100s of applications and websites, allowing you to put Equations Everywhere and Anywhere.

**LEUKEMIA** used in leukemia therapy.

Vincristine, Vinblastine, Homoharringtonine and Honokiol this drug are Leukemia is a group of cancers that originate from blood-forming tissues. The name of the disease is derived from the Greek word 'leukos' for 'white blood' Leukemia is classified into four main

categories or subtypes according to cell type and rate of growth: acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) derived from immature T- or B-lymphocytes, most common in children; acute myeloid leukemia (AML) from immature myeloid cells, most common in adults; chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) from mature B-lymphocytes, mostly an adult disorder; and chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) from granulocyte precursors, most common in adults.

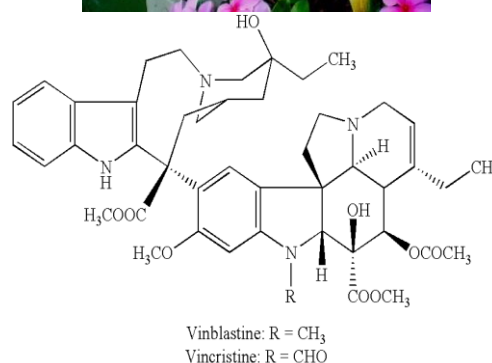
**Vincristine** works partly by binding to the tubulin protein, stopping the cell from separating its chromosomes during the metaphase; the cell then undergoes apoptosis.<sup>1</sup> **Vinblastine** at very low concentrations they suppress microtubule dynamics and at higher concentrations they reduce microtubule polymer mass.<sup>2</sup>

**Homoharringtonine** is a protein translation inhibitor. It inhibits protein translation by preventing the initial elongation step of protein synthesis. It interacts with the ribosomal A-site and prevents the correct positioning of amino acid side chains of incoming aminoacyl-tRNAs.<sup>4</sup>

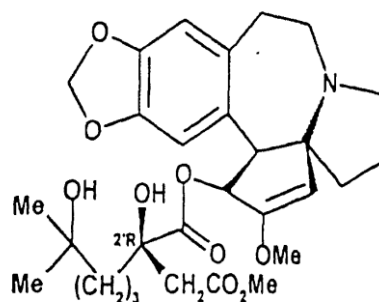
<sup>6</sup>**Honokiol** inhibits phosphorylation of Akt, p44/42 mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK), and src. Additionally, honokiol regulates the nuclear factor kappa B (NF-κB) activation pathway, an upstream effector of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), MCL1, and cyclooxygenase 2 (COX-2), all significant pro-angiogenic and survival factors<sup>8-9</sup>

### Marketed preparation

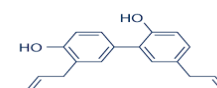
- 1 Vincristine sulph 1mg, methyl paraben 0.13%, propyl paraben 0.02%.<sup>3</sup>
- 2 Vinblastine sulph. 1mg, sodium chloride 9mg benzyl alcohol 0.9% v/v/ml.<sup>3</sup>
- 3 Omacetaxine synribo: 1.25 mg/m<sup>2</sup> administered by subcutaneous injection twice daily for 7 consecutive days of a 28-day cycle. 5 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for seven days, 7 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for seven days, and 5 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for nine days.<sup>7</sup>
- 4 Honokiol90 : 60-330 mg for a 150lb person 220-440 mg for a 200lb person 270-550 mg for a 250lb person.<sup>10</sup>



**Catharanthus roseus** Vinblastine R=CH<sub>3</sub> Vincristine R=CHO

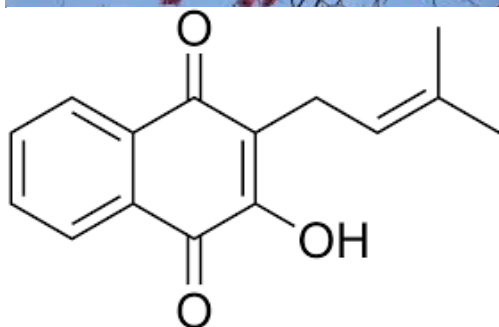


**Cephalotaxus harringtonia** Homoharringtonine

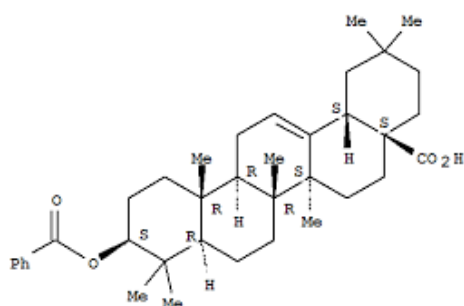








**Handroanthus Lapochol**



**Phytolacca Americana Oleanolic acid**

## SKIN CANCER :

Cisplatin, Etoposide, Teniposide and Resveratrol are used in skin cancer therapy.

**Skin cancer** are two types of skin cancer: malignant melanoma of the skin and non-melanoma skin cancer

(NMSC). Malignant melanoma is the most serious type of skin cancer. NMSC is much more common than malignant melanoma, and in the vast majority of cases it is detected early and is not life-threatening. Malignant melanoma is a cancer that develops from melanocytes (cells found in the deep layers of the epidermis). Melanocytes produce the ultraviolet (UV)-protective pigment melanin, which is responsible for the colour of skin. NMSC most commonly develops from the epidermal cells keratinocytes, which produce the waxy skin-strengthening substance keratin.<sup>31</sup>

**Cisplatin** binds with DNA to form intrastrand crosslinks and adducts that cause changes in the conformation of the DNA and affect DNA replication. Other mechanisms of cisplatin cytotoxicity include mitochondrial damage, decreased ATPase activity, and altered cellular transport mechanisms. **Etoposide** forms a ternary complex with DNA and the topoisomerase II enzyme (which aids in DNA unwinding), prevents re-ligation of the DNA strands, and by doing so causes DNA strands to break. Cancer cells rely on this enzyme more than healthy cells, since they divide more rapidly. Therefore, this causes errors in DNA synthesis and promotes apoptosis of the cancer cell.

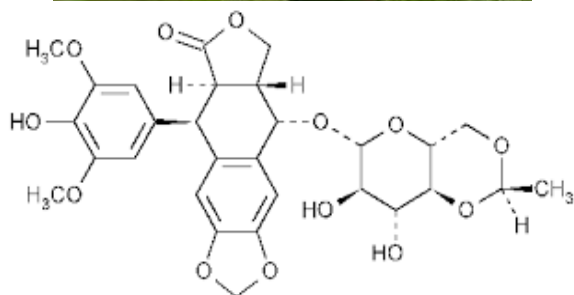
**Thymoquinone** Induces Mitochondria-Mediated Apoptosis in Acute Lymphoblastic.

**Resveratrol** activates Sirtuin 1 and PGC-1 $\alpha$  and improves the functioning of the mitochondria.<sup>34</sup>

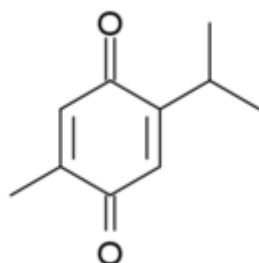
Resveratrol's ability to directly activate sirtuin 1 has been called into question, although newer attempts tried to reconfirm this link, latest research demonstrated that resveratrol binds to TyrRS to potentiate a PARP1/NAD<sup>+</sup>-driven signaling cascade to activate p53 and AMPK by inhibiting SIRT1.<sup>37</sup>

## Marketed preparation

1. Cisplatin 70 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (days 1, 8, 15, 29, 36, 43) in combination with escalating doses of paclitaxel.<sup>36</sup>
2. Etoposide daily administration of 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for 4 to 5 days.<sup>35</sup>
3. Thymoquinone: 20, 30 and 40 mg/kg body weight for intraperitoneal injection and 200, 300 and 500 mg/kg body weight for oral ingestion.<sup>34</sup>



**Podophyllum hexandrum Etoposide**



**Nigella Sativa Thymoquinone**

## II. CONCLUSION

Cancer is major health problem in both developed and developing countries. Cancer after cardiovascular disease is the second leading cause of death. Cancer is the abnormal growth of cells in our bodies that can lead to death. Plant-derived compounds have been an important source of several clinically useful anti-cancer agents. Plant have been the beacon of therapeutic sources for curing diseases from times immemorial. Medicinal plant with their isolated lead molecules are

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