

# The Effectiveness of Natural Products for Women's Health

# 8th Annual NHRI Scientific Symposium





Presented by:

## Safety and Efficacy of Botanical Dietary Supplements As Alternatives to Hormone Replacement Therapy

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## UIC/NIH Botanical Center for Dietary Supplements Research

- 1998 US Congress appropriated funds for the NIH Office of Dietary Supplements to establish botanical research centers
- 1999 UIC Botanical Center founded
- First Director, Norman R. Farnsworth

First meeting of the UIC/NIH Botanical Center External Advisory Board 2000



# UIC Botanical Dietary Supplement Research Philosophy

Any botanical dietary supplement to be studied in humans must be:

- Botanically authenticated
- Biologically standardized
- Chemically standardized (based on active constituents)
- Manufactured under GMP
- Have a [proposed] mechanism of action
- Safe

## Steps in Developing a Botanical Dietary Supplement for Clinical Evaluation



## **UIC Botanicals for Women's Health**

### Angelica sinensis

Estrogenic, serotonergic, QR Induction, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory

#### Cimicifuga (Actea) racemosa (black cohosh) Serotonergic, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory

### Vitex agnus-castus

Serotonergic, anti-inflammatory, QR induction, antioxidant

### Valeriana officinalis

Serotonergic, anti-inflammatory

 Trifolium pratense (red clover) Estrogenic, progestogenic, anti-inflammatory, QR induction, antioxidant

### Humulus lupulus (hops)

Estrogenic, anti-inflammatory, QR induction, antioxidant

### Viburnum prunifolium

Serotonergic, anti-inflammatory, QR induction

#### Glycyrrhiza glabra (licorice) Estrogenic, anti-inflammatory, QR induction

### Glycyrrhiza uralensis

Estrogenic, anti-inflammatory

Project 1: Metabolomics: Characterization of Botanical Chemistry and Synergy Guido Pauli, Shao-Nong Chen

### Aim 1: Chemodiversity Profiling of Bioactive Metabolites

- Aim 2: Metabolomic Standardization Methods
- Aim 3: Study of Botanical Synergy

	Herba			
1º Met	abolites	2	º Metab	olites
Ubiquitous/Unspecific Metabolites			E	Bioactive
Rare: Bioactive 1º Metabolites	Inactive 1º/2º Me	tabolites	2º Metabolites	

### Project 2: Botanical Modulation of Estrogen Carcinogenesis Judy Bolton, Birgit Dietz



### Project 3: Metabolism, Safety & Efficacy Richard van Breemen, Dejan Nikolic

# Aim 1: Metabolism & bioavailability of active compounds

- In vitro and in vivo metabolism
- Identification of enzymes responsible for metabolism
- Investigation of enzyme inhibition by botanicals
- Bioavailability in rats

### Aim 2: Investigation of botanical-drug interactions

- Inhibition of phase I and phase II metabolism
- Induction of phase I and phase II enzymes
- Induction/inhibition of drug transporters
- Identification of compounds responsible for enzyme inhibition/induction and transporter inhibition/induction

**Core B: Botanical Integrity** GF Pauli, SN Chen, DD Soejarto

> **Core C: Bioassay** Judy Bolton, Birgit Dietz

### **Core D: Analytical**

Richard van Breemen, Dejan Nikolic, David Lankin

- Botanical authentication and extraction
- Chemical and biological standardization
- Determination of mechanisms of action
- Identification of active constituents

## **Clinical Trials of Botanical Dietary Supplements at the UIC Botanical Center**

- Phase I study of safety and pharmacokinetics of red clover.
   Piersen, *et al. Curr Med Chem.* 2004, *11*: 1361-74.
- Phase I clinical trial of safety and pharmacokinetics of black cohosh. van Breemen et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther. 2010, 87: 219-25.
- Phase I investigation of safety and pharmacokinetics of hops. In progress.
- Phase II clinical trial of safety and efficacy of black cohosh and red clover. Geller *et al. Menopause,* 2009, *16*: 1156-66.

Concentration-time profiles of 23-epi-26deoxyactein in human serum after oral administration of a black cohosh extract



### Alternatives to Hormone Replacement Therapy: Screening Botanicals for Estrogens

- Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) in women might increase risks of cardiovascular disease, breast cancer and dementia.
- Therefore, women are seeking safer alternatives to HRT.
- Many women are using botanical dietary supplements such as black cohosh, red clover or hops for the management of menopausal symptoms.
- The mission of the UIC/NIH Botanical Center is to investigate the safety and efficacy of botanical alternatives to HRT.
- Finding alternatives to HRT that prevent instead of causing cancer is a goal of the Center.

## Hops: Promising Botanical for Postmenopausal Women's Health

- Hops (*Humulus lupulus* L.) used during the brewing of beer as a preservative and flavoring agent.
- Contain the estrogen 8-prenylnarigenin. J Agric Food Chem 2005, 53:6246-6253.
- Do not induce uterine weight. Might contain natural progestins. Chem Biol Interact 2008, 176:30-39.
- Induce NQ01 activity. Active compound is xanthohumol. Chem Res Toxicol 2005, 18:1296-1305.
- Inhibit catechol estrogen formation in MCF-10A cells.
  Cancer Prev Res (Phila) 2012, 5:73-81.
- Under investigation for managing hot flashes In menopausal women.







# Pulsed Ultrafiltration-Mass Spectrometric Screening for Ligands of ER- $\alpha$ and ER- $\beta$



## Ultrafiltration LC-MS Assay of Hop Extract for Ligands to Estrogen Receptors



### Metabolism of Xanthohumol Determined Using Human Liver Microsomes and Hepatocytes



### Identification of CYP450 Enzymes that O-demethylate Isoxanthohumol to Form 8-Prenylnaringenin



- mAb inhibitors of CYP450 enzymes were incubated with human liver microsomes, isoxanthohumol and NADPH.
- 8-Prenylnaringenin was measured using LC-MS.
- CYP1A2 O-demethylates isoxanthohumol to form 8-prenylnaringenin.

Nikolic *et al. J. Mass Spectrom.* 2005, *40*: 289-299.



### Conversion of Xanthohumol to Isoxanthohumol and 8-Prenylnaringenin



Although estrogenic 8-prenylnaringenin is only a minor constituent of hop products, it can be formed in vivo by hepatic metabolism of isoxanthohumol.

Nikolic D, Chadwick LR, Pauli GF, van Breemen RB. J. Mass Spectrom. 2005; 40: 289-299.

### LC-MS-MS Analysis for Standardization of Hop Extract for Phase I Clinical Investigation



Thermo TSQ Quantum; YMC AQ 2 x 100 mm, 3 µm. Total analysis time 15 min.

### Active Compounds Identified and Measured in Standardized Ethanol Extract of Hops



## Investigation of Possible Induction of Human Cytochrome P450 Enzymes by Hops

- Although hops (*Humulus lupulus* L.) are used to brew beer, little is known about possible interactions of hop extracts or their constituents with drug metabolizing enzymes.
- An *in vitro* assay utilizing human hepatocytes in cell culture was used to evaluate the potential for cytochrome P450 induction by hops.
- Cells were incubated with hop extracts or with vehicle only (control) to induce or inhibit drug metabolizing enzymes.
- Cytochrome P450 enzyme assays were carried out using standard substrates for the isoforms CYP3A4 and CYP1A2.
- UHPLC-MS-MS and SRM were used with the Nexera-8030 system to enhance the throughput, precision and accuracy of the enzyme activity assay.

## CYP1A2 and CYP3A4 Activities of Human Hepatocytes after Treatment with Hops



Conclusion: Hops do not induce drug metabolizing enzymes.

## Inhibition of Human CYP450s by Hops and Prenylated Flavonoids Isolated from Hops (*Humulus lupulus*)

- In addition to induction of drug metabolizing enzymes, inhibition of these enzymes is a common mechanism for drug-botanical interactions.
- The standardized hop ethanolic extract and active prenylated phenols were assayed for cytochrome P450 (CYP450) inhibition.
- When inhibition of CYP450 enzymes was observed, IC<sub>50</sub> values (concentrations required to inhibit 50% enzyme activity) were determined for inhibitors of specific enzymes.

### Screening of Prenylated Phenols from Hops and a Hop Extract for Inhibition of Cytochrome P450 Enzymes

	CYP1A2	<b>2B6</b>	2C8	2 <b>C</b> 9	2C19	2D6	2E1	3A4
% Inhibition (1 $\mu$ M) $\pm$ S.D.								
6-PN	< 10 55.8 +	< 10	< 10 32 2 +	< 10	< 10 43.8 +	< 10	< 10	< 10
8-PN	0.7	< 10	1.2 87.7 ±	ND	0.2 51.0 +	< 10	< 10	< 10
IX	< 10	< 10	1.1 47.8 ±	$31.6\pm8.0$	8.6	< 10	< 10	< 10
XN	< 10	< 10	5.1	< 10	< 10	< 10	< 10	< 10
% Inhibition (10 $\mu$ M) $\pm$ S.D.								
6-PN	21.4 ± 0.8	35.7 ± 1.9	85.5 ± 1.2	63.8 ± 2.0	14.3 ± 0.1	< 10	< 10	< 10
8-PN	88.4 ± 1.6	34.7 ± 1.7	97.6 ± 0.1	93.0 ± 0.6	92.8 ± 5.5	< 10	< 10	31.4 ± 2.8
IX	48.2 ± 4.6	< 10	98.9 ± 0.1	82.1 ± 1.7	96.3 ± 1.5	< 10	< 10	< 10
XN	11.8 ± 1.1	43.9 ± 1.3	92.9 ± 0.4	69.7 ± 3.0	15.0 ± 1.9	< 10	< 10	< 10
Hop extract (5 µg/mL)	26.7 ± 8.1	36.4 ± 5.1	92.7 ± 0.4	88.1 ± 2.5	69.8±10. 8	19.5 ± 2.5	13.7 ± 12.6	19.2 ± 2.9
4 Mix <sup>1</sup>	16.4 ± 0.7	14.9 ± 1.4	92.7 ± 0.6	75.9 ± 2.1	65.5 ± 6.8	20.8 ± 4.9	< 10	29.2 ± 2.3

<sup>1</sup> Mixture of 6-PN, 8-PN, IX, and XN at concentrations identical to the 5 µg/mL hop extract

### IC<sub>50</sub> Values (µM) for the Inhibition of Cytochrome P450 Enzymes by a Hop Extract and Hop Prenylated Phenols

Compound	CYP1A2	CYP2C8	CYP2C9	CYP2C19
Hops	9.4 $\pm$ 0.6 <sup>1</sup>	0.8 ± 0.1	0.9 ± 0.1	$3.3\pm0.7$
IX	ND <sup>2</sup>	$0.2\pm0.1$	$2.1\pm0.3$	$0.5\pm0.1$
8-PN	$1.1\pm0.2$	$0.6\pm0.1$	$1.1\pm0.2$	$0.4\pm0.1$
XN	ND	$1.1\pm0.1$	$3.3\pm0.4$	ND
6-PN	ND	$1.9\pm0.1$	$5.9\pm0.7$	ND

1. Data expressed as mean  $\pm$  SD

2. ND: Not determined since  $\leq$  50% inhibition at 10  $\mu$ M

# Phase I hops Clinical Study Design



- Healthy women
- Post-menopausal
- Not on hormone replacement therapy
- No beer for 1 month before or during study

- Urine collected during first 24 h.
- Blood drawn hourly for first 24 h then daily through day 5.
- Women monitored for another 7 days for adverse effects.
- Urine and blood analyzed for effects on blood chemistry, hormone levels, etc.
- Urine and blood analyzed using UHPLC-MS-MS for 8PN, 6PN, IX, XN, and their conjugates in support of pharmacokinetics study.
- Data will be used for design of Phase II study of safety and efficacy.

<sup>1</sup>Each capsule was standardized to 0.25 mg 8PN, 1.30 mg 6PN, 0.80 mg IX, 21.3 mg XN

### UHPLC-MS-MS SRM Chromatograms of Hop Flavonoids in Serum 2 h after Administration of High Dose of Hop Extract



Concentrations of hop compounds increased after enzymatic deconjugation, indicating that most hop flavonoids in serum were conjugated.

### **Concentration-time Curves for Pharmacokinetics Evaluation of Hop Flavonoids in Human Serum**



## **Assessment of Pharmacokinetics**

- WinNonlin 6.2 (Pharsight; Sunnyvale, CA)
- AUC,  $C_{max}$ ,  $T_{max}$ ,  $T_{1/2}$ , Vd/F, Cl/F were determined.
- Non-compartmental analysis (NCA) was used for pharmacokinetics modeling.
- Urinary excretion was  $\leq 2\%$  of XN, IX, 6PN, and 8PN
- Challenges
  - Interconversion of compounds
  - Enterohepatic recirculation



## Pharmakokinetics of Hop Prenylated Flavonoids

XN	Unit	Low Dose	Med Dose	High Dose
AUC <sub>0-inf</sub>	h∙ng/ml	73.2 ± 60.1	166.9 ± 62.1	322.6 ± 169.2
<b>T</b> <sub>1/2</sub>	h	$18.3\pm5.3$	$9.5\pm2.2$	$20.7\pm12.7$
Cmax	ng/ml	$4.4\pm3.0$	$22.2\pm12.1$	$\textbf{27.6} \pm \textbf{8.9}$
IX				
AUC <sub>0-inf</sub>	h∙ng/ml	$149\pm86$	$418\pm446$	$546\pm301$
<b>T</b> <sub>1/2</sub>	h	$\textbf{27.5} \pm \textbf{5.7}$	$24.8 \pm 24.3$	$19.9\pm8.7$
Cmax	ng/ml	$5.7\pm2.7$	19.1 $\pm$ 15.5	$\textbf{37.6} \pm \textbf{17.6}$
8PN				
AUC <sub>0-inf</sub>	h∙ng/ml	$24.3\pm8.9$	$69.2\pm38.9$	$88.6\pm52.6$
T <sub>1/2</sub>	h	>20	>20	>20
Cmax	ng/ml	$1.4\pm0.3$	$3.9\pm2.6$	6.7 ± 3.8

Enrollment and Randomization of Menopausal Women in a Phase II Trial of Safety and Efficacy of Black Cohosh and Red Clover vs. Prempro and



Primary outcome to be measured: Reduction of hot flashes

### Phase II Clinical Trial Primary Outcome: Reduction of Hot Flashes in Postmenopausal Women



## Summary

- Enzyme assays and mRNA measurements indicate that the hop clinical extract does not significantly induce CYP1A2 or CYP3A4 (according to FDA guidelines).
- The hop extract inhibited CYP2C8, CYP2C9 and CYP 2C19 with IC<sub>50</sub> values of 0.8, 0.9, and 3.3 µg/mL, respectively.
- Isoxanthohumol (IX) was the strongest inhibitor of CYP2C8 with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 0.2  $\mu$ M.
- 8-Prenylnaringenin (8-PN) was the most effective inhibitor of CYP2C9 and CYP2C19 with  $IC_{50}$  values of 1.1 and 0.4  $\mu$ M, respectively. 8-PN inhibited CYP1A2 with an  $IC_{50}$  of 1.1  $\mu$ M.
- After rapid absorption in the Phase I study, prenylated hop phenols were conjugated so that only low levels of free flavonoids were observed in human serum.
- Enterohepatic recirculation and long half-lives were observed.
- In vivo studies are needed to evaluate significance of these inhibition data for hops and to investigate efficacy of hop extracts for the management of menopausal symptoms.

# Conclusions

- The safety and efficacy of botanical dietary supplements used by menopausal women are under investigation using botanically authenticated, chemically and biologically standardized extracts prepared using GMP.
- Mechanisms of action are being determined, and synergy of constituents are under investigation.
- Safety studies include Phase I maximum tolerated dose and pharmacokinetic studies as well as evaluations of drug-botanical interactions such as induction and inhibition of drug metabolizing enzymes.
- Efficacy studies have included Phase II randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trials.

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