

Effect of Yak-Kong (*Rhynchosia nolubilis*) on Serum Lipid Level and Proinflammatory Cytokines (TNF- α , IL-1 β , IL-6) in DBA/1J Mice

Joo Hyuk Yim, Sung-ja Koo*

Department of Food & Nutrition, Kyung-hee University, Seoul Korea

In contrast to the common usage of soybean, Yak-Kong (*Rhynchosia nolubilis*) has been used as supplements of estrogen for preventing postmenopausal osteoporosis in oriental medicine. In oriental medicine, Yak-Kong is consisted to be abundant in phytoestrogen. Yak-Kong has been prescribed in oriental medicine because it has protective functions for the liver and kidney as well as bone and muscle. The effect of ethanol extract of Yak-Kong on serum lipids and proinflammatory cytokine in DBA/1J mice were studied. Treatment with Yak-Kong extract decreased TG, total- and LDL-cholesterol compared with those of control group, but HDL-cholesterol of Yak-Kong extract group significantly increased ($p < 0.05$). Also, as compared with mice treated with saline, oral administration of Yak-Kong extract inhibited the production of inflammatory cytokines (TNF- α , IL-1 β , IL-6). In conclusion, the extract of Yak-Kong inhibits inflammatory and decrease serum lipid level in the type II collagen-induced arthritis in DBA/1J mice.

Corresponding author : Sung-Ja Koo (sjkoo@khu.ac.kr)