R-7. Suppression of nitric oxide and interleukin-6 production by methanol extract of *Sophora japonica* in macrophage cells

이지은, 이주연, 최점일, 김성조
부산대학교 치과대학 치주과학실

**Objectives:**
Both nitric oxide (NO) and interleukin-6 (IL-6) have been thought to have a role in the pathogenesis of inflammatory periodontal disease as it does in other inflammatory diseases, and the inhibitors of NO and IL-6 production have been considered as potential anti-inflammatory agents. In this study, we evaluated methanol extract of *Sophora japonica* for inhibition of NO and IL-6 production in *Prevotella intermedia* LPS-induced mouse macrophages RAW264.7 cells.

**Materials and methods:**
Dried *Sophora japonica* was sliced, and extracted with 100% methanol, LPS from *P. intermedia* ATCC 25611 was prepared by the standard hot phenol-water method, NO production was assayed by measuring the accumulation of nitrite in culture supernatants and IL-6 was measured using mouse IL-6 ELISA kit, Western blot analysis of iNOS and analysis of reverse transcription (RT)-PCR products were carried out.

**Results:**
The methanol extract of *Sophora japonica* concentration-dependently reduced the production of NO and the expression of iNOS protein and mRNA in RAW264.7 cells treated with *P. intermedia* LPS. *Sophora japonica* also suppressed IL-6 production and the expression of IL-6 mRNA in RAW264.7 cells stimulated by *P. intermedia* LPS.

**Conclusions:**
The methanol extract of *Sophora japonica* showed potent inhibition of NO and IL-6 production without affecting cell viability. The inhibition of NO and IL-6 production by *Sophora japonica* may be useful in the therapy of inflammatory diseases such as periodontitis. This hypothesis, however, remains to be tested.