

Special Issue

Phytochemical-Drug Interaction

Message from the Guest Editor

Consumption of phytochemicals in forms of dietary supplement or functional food/nutraceutical has been sharply increasing worldwide. Although these phytochemicals are believed to be safe and effective in the aspect of health benefit, their simultaneous consumption with prescription and/or over-the-counter drugs could be complex and cause potential phytochemical-drug interactions (PDI), possibly resulting in unwanted health problems. Phytochemicals could modulate the absorption, metabolism and excretion of drug through altering the activity and expression of drug metabolizing enzymes such as Phase I cytochrome P450s and drug transporters, leading to clinically relevant PDI. Phytochemicals are capable of impairing or exaggerating the bioavailability of the co-administered drug. In addition, the influence of phytochemicals on pharmacological activity of drug may potentially contribute to an increased risk of side effects or treatment failure. This Special Issue of IJMS will focus on understanding the mechanisms involved in PDI and their biological consequences, which would help better predict and manage possible risk related to a concurrent use of phytochemicals and drugs.

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