Chapter I

Introduction

1. Cancer

1.1 Colon cancer

Types and variations
Signs and symptoms
Pathologic Staging
Causes and risk factors
Incidence and mortality
Genetics and colon cancer
Treatment

1.2 Cervical cancer

Types of cervical cancer
Signs and symptoms
Risk factors
Staging of cervical cancer
Incidence and mortality
Prevention
Treatment

1.3 Chemotherapeutic agents

1.3.1 Toxicities of Chemotherapeutics
1.3.2 5-FU
1.3.3 Cisplatin
1.3.4 Paclitaxel

1.4 Herbal remedies: alternative therapy

1.4.1 Phytochemicals
1.4.2 Phytochemicals in cancer therapy: herb-drug interaction
1.4.3 Alkaloids
1.4.4 Alkaloids under clinical trials
1.4.5 Alkaloids in combination with anticancer agents

1.5 Murraya koenigii: a multipotential medicinal herb

1.5.1 Carbazole alkaloids of Murraya koenigii
1.5.2 Mahanine.

1.6 Tumour Suppressors

1.6.1 p53 family protein

Structure of p53
Index

p53 network: contribution in tumour suppression
p53: context dependent nature
p53-based therapeutic strategy
p73 in cancer

1.6.2 PTEN and cancer
  Structure of PTEN
  PTEN and the PI3-Kinase Pathway
  PTEN and p53 network
  Insight into nuclear PTEN

1.7 Reactive oxygen species (ROS): in the context of cancer ...........................................28
  1.7.1 ROS generation: cellular sources
  1.7.2 ROS and its defense
  1.7.3 ROS in tumorigenesis

1.8 STATs: oncogenic pathway ..........................................................................................31
  1.8.1 STAT3 signaling cascade
  1.8.2 STAT3: role in tumorigenesis

1.9 Aims and Objectives of the study ..................................................................................33

Chapter II ............................................................................................................................34
  Mahanine-induced apoptosis in colon and cervical cancer cell lines

Chapter III ...........................................................................................................................43
  Mahanine synergistically enhances cytotoxicity of toxic chemotherapeutics in colon and cervical cancers

Chapter IV ..........................................................................................................................59
  ROS-mediated activation of PTEN and p53/p73: Synergism through combination of 5-fluorouracil and mahanine in colon carcinoma

Chapter V ..........................................................................................................................75
  Mahanine synergistically inhibits stat3 in combination with cisplatin in cervical cancer

Chapter VI ..........................................................................................................................86
  Conclusions
Index

Appendix I ......................................................................................................................... i
  Materials and Methods
Appendix II ...................................................................................................................... xii
  Abbreviations
Appendix III ...................................................................................................................... xvii
  References
Appendix IV ...................................................................................................................... xcv
  Papers & Presentations
Appendix V ...................................................................................................................... xxvii
  Reprints