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Antineoplastic properties of Maharishi-4 against DMBA-induced mammary tumors in rats

Hari M. Sharma ... Gopi A. Tejwani

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Abstract

Maharishi-4 (M-4), an ayurvedic food supplement, was tested for anticarcinogenic and anticancer properties against 7,12-dimethylbenz(a)anthracene (DMBA)-induced mammary tumors in rats. The 6% M-4-supplemented diet protected DMBA-induced carcinogenesis by reducing both tumor incidence and multiplicity during initiation and promotion phases. The control animals who developed tumors when supplemented with M-4 diet for four weeks showed tumor regression in 60% of cases. There was no significant difference in the food intake or weight gain in rats who were on M-4-supplemented diet compared to control group. Possible mechanisms of action of M-4 are discussed.





Keywords

Antineoplastic; Maharishi-4; DMBA; Mammary tumors; Opioid peptides; Prolactin; Estrogen; Progesterone receptors

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