The Chemopreventive Activity of Indonesia Medicinal Plants Targeting on Hallmarks of Cancer

Edy Meiyanto1,2,* , Yonika Arum Larasati1,2

1Cancer Chemoprevention Research Center, Faculty of Pharmacy, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Sekip Utara, Yogyakarta 55281, Indonesia.
2Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Sekip Utara, Yogyakarta 55281, Indonesia.

Abstract
Cancer remains a complex disease with increasing global mortality and morbidity. Numerous theories have been established to understand the biological mechanism underlying cancer. One of the most renowned frameworks is the hallmark of cancer proposed by Hanahan and Weinberg that covers ten eminent characteristics of cancer: (i) genome instability and mutation, (ii) sustaining proliferative signaling, (iii) evading growth suppressor, (iv) enabling replicative immortality, (v) resisting cell death, (vi) inducing angiogenesis, (vii) activating invasion and metastasis, (viii) avoiding immune destruction, (ix) tumor-promoting inflammation, and (x) deregulating cellular energetics. These hallmarks provide a rational approach to design an anticancer therapy. In the current review, we summarized specific target molecules on each hallmark of cancer. Further, we evaluated the biological activity of several Indonesia medicinal plants against those specific targets. We explicated the anticancer and chemopreventive activities of some medicinal plants that have been used for centuries by local communities in Indonesia, including Curcuma genus, Brucea javanica, Boesenbergia pandurata, Caesalpinia sappan, and Nigella sativa. Interestingly, these medicinal plants target several hallmarks of cancer, and even Curcuma genus exhibited biological activities that target all hallmarks of cancer. Further, we also discuss several strategies to develop those medicinal plants and/or their active compounds as anticancer and chemopreventive agents.

Introduction
Despite current advancement in cancer prevention, treatment, and diagnostic; cancer remains global jeopardy with 70% of cancer-related deaths take place in low- and middle-income countries.1 Characterized by uncontrolled cells proliferation, cancer arises from a genetically transformed cell in a process called carcinogenesis that includes initiation, promotion, and progression stages.2 Moreover, cancer holds diversities for each cancer type with particular molecular mechanisms. A notable work of Hanahan and Weinberg simplified the complexity of cancer into ten properties called ‘the hallmarks of cancer’.3 The long-term carcinogenesis, together with complex molecular characteristics, makes cancer difficult to be cured completely. Therefore, we need a systematic strategy to eradicate cancer based on its specific molecular markers.

The long timeframe between cancer initiation and invasive cancer could be exploited to prevent cancer through cancer chemoprevention, an effort to prevents, inhibits, and/or reverses cancer development.4 For this purpose, various natural products show the biological activity to inhibit cancer progression at certain stages with specific molecular targets (Figure 1). Even more, there are many natural substances performing pleiotropic effects in cancer signaling that may share in some stages of cancer progression, i.e. curcumin and thymoquinone.

Indonesia, a mega-biodiversity country, holds potency to provide chemopreventive agents based on its medicinal plants. Herbal medicine is popular there with around 6000 plant species have been used by Indonesian community for various disease prevention and treatment.5,6 In this review, we aim to elaborate the potency of medicinal plants widely used in Indonesia as the chemopreventive agents targeted on the hallmarks of cancer. We would focus on some medicinal plants that have been used for centuries in Indonesia, including Curcuma genus, Brucea javanica, Boesenbergia pandurata, Caesalpinia sappan, and Nigella sativa.
Hallmarks of cancer and representation of the Indonesia medicinal plants with specific anti-cancer target

Genome instability and mutation
Cancer begins with unrepaired mutation(s) in the cells, which are accumulated during the time and disrupt normal cell function. In normal cells, various DNA repair pathways rectify almost all DNA mutations, i.e. non-homologous end joining (NHEJ) and homologous recombination (HR). Interestingly, about 25% of human cancers exhibit defects of HR. Further exploitation in the defect of DNA repair mechanism offers a potential target for the anticancer drugs, as the prolonged existence of DNA double-strand breaks (DSBs) leads to cellular cytotoxicity. Therefore, developing studies assessed the potency of HR inhibitors as anticancer drugs. The target proteins of those HR inhibitors include ataxia-telangiectasia mutated (ATM), checkpoint kinase (CHK) 1 and 2, ataxia telangiectasia and Rad3-related protein (ATR), and Brca1. Another mechanism of DNA repair is base excision repair, which is facilitated by poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP).

Curcumin, from turmeric (Curcuma longa), shows potency to act as a chemopreventive agent targeting genome instability and mutation (Table 1). Curcumin targets 3 major DNA damage repair pathways: non-homologous end joining (NHEJ), homologous recombination repair (HRR), and DNA damage checkpoint response (DDR). Curcumin suppresses NHEJ through inhibition of histone acetyltransferase activity and suppresses HR pathways by inhibiting Brca1 expression. Curcumin also alleviates the activation of ATR-CHK1 signaling.

Sustaining proliferative signaling
Cell proliferation regulators consist of inducers (growth factors, receptor tyrosine kinases/RTKs, transcription factors) and effectors. While the proliferation of normal cells is strictly regulated, cancer cells exhibit aberrant regulation of cell proliferation. Cancer cells may overexpress either the receptors or ligands of growth factors, such as androgen receptor (AR) in prostate cancer and estrogen receptor (ER) in breast cancer. RTKs are also commonly deregulated in the cancer cells, including epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2), and Bcr-Abl. In addition, aberrant activation of transcription factors are also important for carcinogenesis. The overactivation of NF-κB plays an extensive role in carcinogenesis. The role of c-Myc as a proto-oncogene has been well-established and the overexpression of c-Myc is often associated with poor prognosis in the cancer patients. The effector of cell proliferation is cell cycle machinery, which consists of cyclins and cyclin-dependent kinases (CDKs) as the regulatory proteins. About 15%–40% of cancer shows amplification of CCND1, cyclin D1 gene. The overexpression of cyclin E associates with trastuzumab resistance in HER2-positive breast cancer patients.

Various Indonesian medicinal plants show chemopreventive activity by inhibiting the proliferative signaling pathways in cancer cells (Table 2). Thymoquinone selectively inhibits the proliferation of prostate cancer cells by suppressing AR overactivation. Curcumin also inhibits AR expression in prostate cancer cells. The aqueous extract of B. javanica attenuates EGFR activity in liver cancer and human non-small-lung cancer cells; resulting in the inhibition of cancer proliferation.

Table 1. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting cancers’ genome instability and mutation

| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| CHK 1 ↓ | Curcumin | 16 |
| ATR ↓ | Curcumin | 17 |
| Histone acetyltransferase ↓ | Curcumin | 17 |
| Brca1 ↓ | | 17 |

CHK1: checkpoint kinase 1; ATR: ataxia telangiectasia and Rad3-related protein; Brca1: Breast cancer type 1 susceptibility protein. ↓ indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.
Ethanolic extract of C. sappan inhibits HER2 expression in breast cancer cells.\textsuperscript{31} Interestingly, curcumin shows an impressive activity against various RTKs, including EGFR and HER-2, in colon cancer cells.\textsuperscript{32} Brucejavane B, bruceine A, and brusatol (from B. javanica) inhibit the activation of NF-κB in leukemia and pancreatic cancer.\textsuperscript{33,34} Panduratin A also shows its anticancer effect in lung cancer cells by inhibiting the activation of NF-κB.\textsuperscript{35} Bruceain down-regulates c-Myc in multiple myeloma cells, leading to the inhibition of cell proliferation and induction of apoptosis.\textsuperscript{36} Panduratin A down-regulates multiple cell cycle regulatory proteins in prostate cancer cells, including cyclin D1, cyclin E, Cdk 2, Cdk 4, and Cdk 6.\textsuperscript{37} Brazilein, from C. sappan, down-regulates cyclin D1 and induces cell cycle arrest in G1 phase in MCF-7 breast cancer cells.\textsuperscript{38}

**Evading growth suppressor**

Tumor suppressors have the eminent roles to inhibit the growth signaling cascades; however, their loss of function is frequently found in the cancer cells. Retinoblastoma protein (pRb) inactivates E2F, which is an important transcription factor for cell cycle progression, DNA replication, DNA damage repair, cell cycle checkpoint, and apoptosis.\textsuperscript{39} The p53 is another powerful tumor suppressor protein that up-regulates the gene expression of proteins involved in the cell cycle arrest, senescence, and apoptosis; serving as a barrier for the growth of cancer cells.\textsuperscript{40} Loss or mutation of p53 occurs in various cancers, including in 50% of non-small-cell lung cancer cases and skin cancer, above 70% of small-cell lung cancers, and almost 100% in high-grade serous carcinoma of the ovary.\textsuperscript{41-44} Phosphatase and tensin homolog (PTEN) is a phosphatase that serves as an important inhibitor for P13K/Akt/mTOR pathway. Loss of PTEN occurs in various sporadic tumors.\textsuperscript{44,45} Other prominent growth suppressors are the Cdk inhibitors (Cdki), such as p16, p21, and p27. These proteins are activated by p53 and inhibit cell cycle progression from G1 to S phase.\textsuperscript{46}

Various natural compounds exhibit the ability to restore the level and/or function of tumor growth suppressors (Table 3). Aqueous extract of B. javanica increases the level of p53 in breast cancer and cervical cancer cells.\textsuperscript{47} Thymoquinone increases the level of p53 in cervical cancer cells and up-regulates PTEN in both mRNA and protein level in doxorubicin-resistance-breast cancer cells.\textsuperscript{48,49} Curcumin up-regulates the expression of multiple tumor growth suppressors, including p16/INK4a, p21/WAF1/CIP1, and p27/KIP1; as well as inhibits hyperphosphorylation of retinoblastoma (Rb) protein.\textsuperscript{50}

### Enabling replicative immortality

By shortening of DNA telomere, normal cells would enter a phase called replicative senescence where they could not further proliferate. However, cancer cells escape from this event through various mechanisms; thus are able to proliferate continuously. However, cancer cells escape from this event through various mechanisms; thus are able to proliferate continuously. Telomerase, a complex of enzymes repressed in normal cells, is activated in the cancer cells and preserves the telomere of cancer cells.\textsuperscript{51} Telomerase complex consists of various enzymes, one of the most important is telomerase reverse transcriptase (TERT; hTERT for human) that becomes the rate-limiting step in telomerase activity.\textsuperscript{52} Telomerase is found in about 85% to 90% of all malignant tumors and becomes an interesting target for the anticancer drugs.\textsuperscript{53} Several natural compounds show anticancer activity by targeting replicative immortality of cancer cells (Table 4). Methanolic extract of C. sappan was shown to inhibit telomerase activity in oral carcinoma and osteosarcoma cells.\textsuperscript{44} Curcumin also inhibits telomerase activity, which mediated by proteasome induced-degradation of hTERT.\textsuperscript{54}

### Table 2. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting cancers’ proliferative signaling

| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| AR signaling (↓) | Thymoquinone    | 27           |
|                  | Curcumin        | 28           |
| EGFR (↓)         | Brucea javanica (aqueous extract) | 29,30 |
|                  | Curcumin        | 32           |
| HER2 (↓)         | C. sappan (ethanol extract) | 31 |
|                  | Curcumin        | 32           |
| NF-κB signaling (↓) | Bruceajavanone B | 33  |
|                  | Brucetin A      | 33           |
|                  | Brusatol        | 34           |
|                  | Panduratin A    | 36           |
| P13K (↓)         | Curcumin        | 36           |

*AR: androgen receptor; EGFR: epidermal growth factor receptor; HER2: human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; CDK: cyclin-dependent kinase. ↓: indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.*

| Cell cycle (Cdks/ cyclins) (↓) | Panduratin A (cyclin D1, cyclin E; CDK 2, 4, 6) | 37 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----|
|                               | Brazilein (cyclin D)                            | 38 |

### Table 3. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting cancers’ growth suppressors

| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| p53 (↑)          | Brucea javanica (aqueous extract) | 47 |
|                  | Thymoquinone    | 48           |
| PTEN (↑)         | Thymoquinone    | 49           |
| pRb(↑)           | Curcumin        | 50           |
| Cdki (↑)         | Curcumin        | 50           |

*PTEN: phosphatase and tensin homolog; pRb: retinoblastoma protein; Cdki: cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor. ↑: indicates up-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.*

### Table 4. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting cancers’ replicative immortality

| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Telomerase (↓)   | C. sappan (methanol extract) | 54 |
|                  | Curcumin        | 55           |
| hTERT (↓)        | Curcumin        | 55           |

*hTERT: human telomerase reverse transcriptase. ↓: indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.*
Resisting cell death
Beside proliferate uncontrollably; cancer cells are also able to resist cell death (apoptosis). Apoptosis is initiated through two main pathways: intrinsic and extrinsic pathways. The intrinsic pathway is closely related with mitochondria permeabilization and regulated by the homeostasis of pro- and anti-apoptotic proteins, i.e. Bak, Bax, Bim (pro-apoptotic) or Bcl-2, Bcl-xl, Mcl-1 (anti-apoptotic).36 The extrinsic pathway starts with the activation of death receptors in the cell membrane, i.e. TNF-related apoptosis-inducing ligand (TRAIL) and Fas receptor.37 Those death receptors are activated by several ligands: TNF for TRAIL and Fas ligand (FasL) for Fas. The agonist of death receptor is promising to be developed as the anticancer agents.38

Various natural compounds are reported to overcome apoptosis resistance in cancer cells (Table 5). Brucein D, brusatol, brazilin, pinostrobin, and curcumin were reported to down-regulate Bcl-2.34,59-62 Curcumin suppresses important anti-apoptotic protein Mcl-1.40 Panduratin A up-regulates both Fas and TRAIL in prostate cancer cells.37

Inducing angiogenesis
Cancer cells develop blood vessels independently from normal cellular physiology to support their need for nutrition and oxygen in a process called angiogenesis. During angiogenesis, cancer cells secrete various pro-angiogenic factors that stimulate endothelial cells to grow and produce various digestive enzymes.63 These factors include vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) and fibroblast growth factor 2 (FGF-2).

Without enough supply of oxygen from blood vessels, cancer cells suffer from a hypoxia condition. In this situation, hypoxia-inducible factor-1α (HIF-1α) is activated. And induces the expression of various genes that promote the mitogenic and migratory activities of endothelial cells.64 Hence, HIF-1α is an interesting molecule to target cancer angiogenesis.

Several natural compounds are reported to interfere angiogenesis in cancer cells (Table 6). Studies found that thymoquinone suppresses the level of VEGFR2; while ar-turmerone down-regulates VEGFR3.65,66 Curcumin down-regulates the transcriptional activity of HIF-1α under hypoxia, resulting in the suppression of VEGF level.67 Tetrahydrocurcumin decreases VEGF level in osteosarcoma cells and down-regulates HIF-1α, resulting in mesenchymal-epithelial transition/MET.68

Activating invasion and metastasis
Metastasis is responsible for >90% mortality of patients with solid tumors.69 In order to achieve metastasis, cancer cells produce various proteins that play important roles in cell-cell adhesion, cell-matrix adhesion, cellular migration, and epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT). E-cadherin is a key protein regulating cell-cell adhesion through the formation of the cell-cell junction. Loss of E-cadherin is found in the progression of tumor malignancy of most epithelial tumors.70 Down-regulation of E-cadherin occurs via various mechanisms: genetic or epigenetic mechanism, transcriptional suppression, proteolytic degradation, and modulation of several RTKs.71 Beta-catenin, while being an important protein for cell-cell adhesion, also serves as an oncogenic protein. Nuclear localization of β-catenin induces EMT resulting in metastasis.72 In cell-matrix adhesion, integrin plays a significant role to facilitate the interaction between cells and extracellular matrix (ECM).73 Other key proteins for invasion and metastasis are matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs). MMP-2 and MMP-9 degrade ECM components to facilitate cancer cells invasion and migration.74 Moreover, the overexpression of several MMPs could induce EMT.75

Numerous natural compounds exhibit inhibitory effect on invasion and metastasis (Table 7). B. javanica oil inhibits metastasis by up-regulating integrin.76 Thymoquinone reduces the expression of MMP-9, hence suppresses metastasis to multiple vital organs, including lungs, brain, and bone in the animal model of cancer.78 Thymoquinone down-regulates the expression of HER-2 and reduces the motility and migration of a highly metastatic pancreatic cancer cell line.77

Ethyl acetate fraction of C. sappan decreases the protein

| Table 5. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting cancers’ cell death |
| --- |
| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
| Bcl-2 (↓) | Curcumin | 60 |
| | Brazilin | 61 |
| | Pinostrobin | 62 |
| Mcl-1 (↓) | Curcumin | 60 |
| Fas (↑) | Panduratin A | 37 |
| TRAIL (↑) | Panduratin A | 37 |

Bcl-2: B-cell lymphoma 2; Mcl-1: Induced myeloid leukemia cell differentiation protein; TRAIL: TNF-related apoptosis-inducing ligand. ↓: indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway. ↑: indicates up-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.

| Table 6. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting cancers’ angiogenesis |
| --- |
| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
| VEGFR (↓) | ar-turmerone | 65 |
| | thymoquinone | 66 |
| VEGF (↑) | Curcumin | 67 |
| HIF-1α (↓) | Curcumin | 67 |
| | Tetrahydrocurcumin | 68 |

VEGFR: vascular endothelial growth factor receptor; VEGF: vascular endothelial growth factor; HIF-1α: hypoxia-inducible factor-1α. ↓: indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.
Indonesian plants target hallmarks of cancer

Table 7. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting cancers’ invasion and metastasis

| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| E-cadherin (↑)   | Tetrahydrocurcumin | 68           |
|                  | Curcumin         | 85           |
| MMP-2 (↓)        | C. sappan (ethyl acetate fraction) | 78           |
|                  | Brazilin         | 79           |
|                  | Panduratin A     | 35, 82       |
|                  | ar-turmerone     | 65           |
|                  | Tetrahydrocurcumin | 79          |
| MMP-9 (↓)        | C. sappan (ethyl acetate fraction) | 78           |
|                  | Brazilin         | 80           |
|                  | Brazilen         | 81           |
|                  | Thymoquinone     | 66           |
|                  | xanthorrhizol    | 83           |
|                  | ar-turmerone     | 65, 86       |
|                  | Tetrahydrocurcumin | 68           |
|                  | Demehtoxycurcumin | 84           |
| HER2 (↓)         | C. sappan (ethyl acetate fraction) | 78          |
|                  | Thymoquinone     | 77           |
| β-catenin (↓)    | Tetrahydrocurcumin | 68          |
| Integrin (↓)     | Brueca javanica (oil) | 76          |

MMP-2: matrix metalloproteinase-2; MMP-9: matrix metalloproteinase-9; HER2: human epidermal growth factor receptor 2.
↑: indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway; ♠: indicates up-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.

Avoiding immune destruction

Cancer cells can avoid immune system through several ways, including (i) modification of immune regulatory cells, (ii) defective antigen presentation in the tumor cells, (iii) immune suppressive mediators, (iv) tolerance and immune deviation, and (v) induce apoptosis in immune cells. A regulatory (Treg) cell is a suppressor of the immune system. Tumor cells increase the suppressive activity of Treg and monoclonal antibody against Treg decreases tumor development. Natural killer (NK) cells also can be exploited to target cancer cells. NK cells were shown to control and/or eradicate some of the human hematopoietic tumors, as well as to eliminate metastasizing cells and small tumor grafts. T cells, both helper and cytotoxic cells, were shown to have a positive impact on eliminating cancer. High expression of the Th1 cluster and CD8+ are positively correlated with prolonged disease-free survival in patients with colon cancer. At the molecular level, IL-12 shows various immunomodulatory activity, such as induces interferon-γ (IFN-γ) secretion and promotes the maturation of cytotoxic T cells. Nigella sativa and Curcuma genus show immunomodulatory activities against cancer cells (Table 8). The aqueous extract of N. sativa enhances the cytotoxicity of natural killer (NK) cells against YAC-1 tumor cells, indicating its potency as the stimulant for NK cells antitumor activity. Low concentration of thymoquinone increases the activation of CD8+ T cells and might beneficial for conditioning T cells in vitro, which will be used in T-cell therapy against cancer.

Curcumin shows extensive activity against various types of T cells. Curcumin also enhances the response of Th1 (T helper cells) and the cytotoxicity of T killer cells. In addition, curcumin down-regulates Treg, a suppressor of the immune system. Ar-turmerone, another compound isolated from Curcuma genus, has been shown to increase the level of IL-12 in dendritic cells, which could be beneficial for the anticancer immunotherapy.

Tumor-promoting inflammation

About 25% of tumor is closely related to chronic inflammation as chronic inflammation promotes tumor cell survival, proliferation, invasion, angiogenesis, metastasis, chemoresistance, and radioresistance. Chronic inflammation also may generate reactive oxygen species (ROS) and reactive nitrogen species that could induce the initiation and/or promotion of carcinogenesis. Therefore, tumor inflammation is a desirable target for a chemopreventive agent.

NF-κB serves as a transcription factor for various pro-

Table 8. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting cancers’ resistance to immune system

| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| NK cell activity(↑) | N. sativa (aqueous extract) | 94           |
| Th1 response (↑)  | Curcumin        | 96           |
| Treg lymphocytes (↓) | Curcumin    | 96           |
| T-cell killer activity (↑) | Thymoquinone | 95           |
| IL-12 (↑)         | ar-turmerone    | 97           |

NK: natural killer; Th1: T helper cell type 1; Treg: regulatory, IL-12: interleukin 12.
↑: indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway; ♠: indicates up-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.
inflammatory enzymes and cytokines.\(^{101}\) However, as NF-kB also closely related to the activation of immune system, NF-kB inhibitors should be designed carefully so that it does not impair the immune system.\(^{102}\)

Cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) is a well-known enzyme responsible for inflammation events as it mediates the synthesis of pro-inflammatory molecule PGE\(_2\). Overexpression of COX-2 was found in various cancer tissues and selective inhibition of COX-2 might be beneficial for the prevention of cancer.\(^{103-105}\) Another important enzyme for inflammation is nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) that catalyzes the production of nitric oxide (NO), a potent pro-inflammatory mediator.\(^{106}\)

Cytokines, such as tumor necrosis \(\alpha\) (TNF-\(\alpha\)), interleukin \(\beta\) (IL-\(\beta\)), and interleukin 6 (IL-6), are also shown to correlate with tumor-promoting inflammation. TNF-\(\alpha\) supports cancer initiation since it stimulates the production of genotoxic molecules, such as ROS and NO. TNF-\(\alpha\) and IL-6 also develop a positive feedback loop with NF-kB, resulting in the sustained chronic inflammation in the tumor cells.\(^{107}\) IL-6, another type of cytokine, promotes apoptosis resistance in tumor cells during the inflammatory process.\(^{108}\)

Various natural compounds exhibit anti-inflammatory activity that might beneficial to counteract tumor-promoting inflammation (Table 9). Panduratin A suppresses COX-2 expression level in colon cancer cells.\(^{109}\) Brazilin suppresses lipopolysaccharide-stimulated iNOS in RAW 264.7 macrophage cells; as well as inhibits the DNA binding activity of NF-kB.\(^{110}\) \(B. javanica\) oil has been shown to down-regulate the expression of COX-2 and p65, an active subunit of NF-kB.\(^{111}\)

The aqueous extract of \(N. sativa\) suppresses the secretion of IL-6 and TNF-\(\alpha\) in primary macrophages cells.\(^{112}\) Thymoquinone decreases the expression level of COX-2 in pancreatic cancer and breast cancer cells.\(^{86,112}\) Furthermore, thymoquinone decreases the level of IL-1\(\beta\), as well as inhibits the activation of NF-kB.\(^{112}\)

Xanthorrhizol inhibits the enzyme activity of COX-2 and iNOS in macrophage cells.\(^{113}\) Curcumin has been reported to suppress various inflammatory cytokines, including TNF-\(\alpha\), IL-1, IL-2, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-12, and IL-18. Curcumin is also a potent inhibitor of NF-kB transcription factor\(^{114}\) and decreases the expression level of COX-2.\(^{32}\)

### Deregulating cellular energetics

While glycolysis usually occurs in the normal cells under anaerobic condition, cancer cells are able to reprogram their energy metabolism mainly into aerobic glycolysis; the phenomenon that is known as the ‘Warburg effect’.\(^{115}\) Hypoxia is suspected as the basis of tumor cells metabolic reprogramming. When hypoxia occurs, the transcription factor HIF-1\(\alpha\) is activated and induces the expression genes involving in glycolysis, including glucose transporter 1 (GLUT1), glucose transporter 3, hexokinase 2, pyruvate kinase 2, lactate dehydrogenase 5, and pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase 1 (PDK1).\(^{116}\) Therefore, HIF-1\(\alpha\) serves as a key molecule for the anticancer drugs targeting cancer metabolism.

Cancer cells also suffer from a high level of ROS that is closely related to metabolism dysregulation in cancer cells. While a moderate level of ROS activates the expression of pro-survival genes, such as HIF1A and GLUT1, a high level of ROS in cancer cells trigger metabolism dysregulation and protein translation, resulting in the increase of ROS production.\(^{117}\) As excessive ROS level is toxic to cells, cancer cells upregulate various antioxidant systems, such as glutathione and thioredoxin antioxidant pathways.\(^{118}\) Developing studies reported that modulating ROS level is a potential strategy to eliminate various cancer cells. The combination of glycolysis inhibitor or glucose deprivation with inhibition of antioxidant systems, including glutathione and thioredoxin, exhibits synergistic anticancer effect breast and prostate cancer cells.\(^{119}\)

Various compounds also exhibit anticancer activity targeting cancer cell energetic machinery (Table 10). A recent study showed that brusatol induces HIF-1\(\alpha\) degradation in colon cancer.\(^{120}\) Furthermore, brusatol pre-treatment under hypoxia condition down-regulates the expression of HIF-1\(\alpha\) downstream genes, including GLUT1 and PDK1. Curcumin blocks glucose uptake in GLUT1 expressing cells up to 86%.\(^{121}\)

Brucein D generates superoxide and exhibits cytotoxicity in pancreatic cancer cells, but not in non-tumorigenic cells.\(^{122,123}\) Xanthorrhizol and curcumin also exhibits pro-oxidative activity. Xanthorrhizol elevates ROS level in oral squamous cell carcinoma cells and concurrent treatment with antioxidant partly reverses the cytotoxic activity of xanthorrhizol.\(^{124}\) Recent study showed that curcumin

---

**Table 9. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting tumor-promoting inflammation**

| Molecular target | Plant/compound | Reference(s) |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| COX-2 \(^{[-]}\) | \(B. javanica\) oil | 111          |
|                  | Panduratin A   | 109          |
|                  | Thymoquinone   | 66,112       |
|                  | Xanthorrhizol   | 113          |
|                  | Curcumin       | 32           |
| iNOS \(^{[-]}\)  | Xanthorrhizol   | 113          |
| NF-kB signaling \(^{[-]}\) | \(B. javanica\) oil | 111          |
|                  | Brazilin       | 110          |
|                  | Thymoquinone   | 112          |
|                  | Curcumin       | 114          |
| TNF-\(\alpha\) \(^{[-]}\) | \(N. sativa\) (aqueous extract) | 94           |
|                  | Curcumin       | 114          |
| IL-6 \(^{[-]}\)  | \(N. sativa\) (aqueous extract) | 94           |
|                  | Curcumin       | 114          |
| IL-1\(\beta\) \(^{[-]}\) | Thymoquinone   | 112          |

COX-2: cyclooxygenase 2; iNOS: nitric oxide synthase; NF-kB: nuclear factor kappa-light-chain-enhancer of activated B cells; TNF-\(\alpha\): tumor necrosis factor \(\alpha\); IL-6: interleukin 6; IL-1\(\beta\): interleukin \(\beta\).

\(^{[-]}\): indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.

**Meiyanto and Larasati**

**Advanced Pharmaceutical Bulletin, 2019, Volume 9, Issue 2**
Indonesian plants target hallmarks of cancer

Table 10. Indonesian plants and/or their components that show chemopreventive activity targeting deregulating cellular energetics induced by cancer cells

| Molecular target | Plant/compounds | Reference(s) |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| HIF-1α [↓]      | Brusatol       | 120          |
| GLUT1 [↓]       | Curcumin       | 121          |
|                 | Brusatol       | 120          |
| PDK1 [↓]        | Brusatol       | 120          |
| ROS [↑]         | Brucin D       | 122, 123     |
|                 | Xanthorrhizol   | 124          |
|                 | Curcumin       | 125          |

HIF-1α: hypoxia-inducible factor-1α; GLUT1: Glucose transporter 1; PDK1: pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase 1; ROS: reactive oxygen species. [↓]: indicates down-regulation of a protein and/or pathway; [↑]: indicates up-regulation of a protein and/or pathway.

Discussion

Indonesian plants and their bioactive components show promising activity as the anticancer and chemopreventive agents targeting the complex system of cancer. After a thorough investigation, we revealed the activity of Indonesian plants and their components against ten hallmarks of cancer (Tables 1-10). We could see that some constituents target more than one hallmark of cancer, even interfere with all hallmarks of cancer. Such ‘powerful’ compounds are curcumin (10 hallmarks), thymoquinone (7 hallmarks), and panduratin A (5 hallmarks). Despite their extensive targets on cancer cells, curcumin, thymoquinone, and panduratin A remain selective to eliminate cancer cells compared to the non-cancerous cells. These studies strengthen the urgency to develop natural compounds from Indonesian plants for clinical use in cancer therapy. However, curcumin and thymoquinone exert poor water solubility (<1.0 mg/mL), while the water solubility of panduratin A has not been well-established yet, leading to a problem for drug formulation. Hence, scientists are concentrating their effort to solve this problem, i.e. use curcumin and thymoquinone as the lead compounds to design the more water-soluble drugs or formulate these compounds with various techniques to increase their water solubility.

In their renowned paper about hallmarks of cancer, Hanahan and Weinberg acknowledge that combination chemotherapy (co-chemotherapy) is the key to effective cancer treatment. However, the co-chemotherapy strategy should be formulated on rational cancer targets by targeting multiple pathways or hallmarks of cancer. Targeting only one pathway or feature of cancer risks in cancer resistance and therefore, integrative and broad-spectrum co-chemotherapy serves as a potential strategy to combat cancer. Even though some of the plants or compounds do not act as a broad targeting-agent like curcumin, they are still promising to be developed as the anticancer and chemopreventive agents. B. javanica and its constituent exhibit their anticancer activities mostly via targeting cancer cells proliferative signaling (Table 2); whereas C. sappan and its constituents are potent anti-metastatic agents (Table 7). Meanwhile, Curcuma genus and N. sativa show promising activity against tumor inflammation (Table 9). Hence, further study could be conducted to determine their best combination as an integrative and broad-spectrum co-chemotherapy. To achieve that goal, the researchers should evaluate the synergistic anticancer effect of the combination of extract, fraction, or even pure compounds of various plants in an integrative experimental model of cancer.

Conclusion

In summary, Curcuma genus, B. javanica, B. pandurata, C. sappan, and N. sativa show extensive anticancer and chemopreventive activities against various hallmarks of cancer. We recognize that only limited plants and compounds could be illustrated in this current article due to space limitation. Therefore, further experimental research and systematic reviews are quintessential to elucidate the anticancer properties of Indonesian plants, as well as develop them to be used clinically for cancer patients.

Ethical Issues

Not applicable

Conflict of Interest

There is no conflict of interest in this study

References

1. Making cancer data count. Lancet 2014;383(9933):1946. doi: 10.1016/s0140-6736(14)60939-9
2. Pitot HC. The molecular biology of carcinogenesis. Cancer 1993;72(3 Suppl):962-70.
3. Hanahan D, Weinberg RA. Hallmarks of cancer: the next generation. Cell 2011;144(5):646-74. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2011.02.013
4. Steward WP, Brown K. Cancer chemoprevention: a rapidly evolving field. Br J Cancer 2013;109(1):1-7. doi: 10.1038/bjc.2013.280
5. Itokawa H, Shi Q, Akiyama T, Morris-Natschke SL, Lee KH. Recent advances in the investigation of curcuminoids. Chin Med 2008;3:11. doi: 10.1186/1749-8546-3-11
6. Hall IH, Lee KH, Imakura Y, Okano M, Johnson A. Anti-inflammatory agents III: Structure-activity relationships of brusatol and related quassinoids. J Pharm Sci 1983;72(11):1282-4. doi: 10.1002/jps.2600721111
7. Basha LIA, Rashed MS, Aboul-Enein HY. TLC assay of thymoquinone in black seed oil (Nigella sativa Linn) and identification of dithymoquinone and thymol. J Liq Chromatogr 1995;18(1):105-15. doi: 10.1080/10826079508009224
8. Kiat TS, Pippen R, Yusof R, Ibrahim H, Khalid N, Rahman NA. Inhibitory activity of cyclohexenyl chalcone derivatives
and flavonoids of fingerroot, Boesenbergia rotunda (L.), towards dengue-2 virus NS3 protease. *Bioorg Med Chem Lett* 2006;16(12):3337-40. doi: 10.1016/j.bmcl.2005.12.075

9. Laksmani NPL, Susidarti RA, Meiyanto E. Brazilein Increased Cytotoxic Activity of Doxorubicin on MCF-7/DOX Cells. *Indonesian Journal of Cancer Chemoprevention* 2015;6(2):58-63.

10. Yaman E, Elfahmi, Woerdenbag HJ, Kayser O. Jamu: Indonesian traditional herbal medicine towards rational phytopharmacological use. *J Herb Med* 2014;4(2):51-73. doi: 10.1016/j.jhermed.2014.01.002

11. Sancar A, Lindsey-Boltz LA, Unsal-Kacmaz K, Linn S. Molecular mechanisms of mammalian DNA repair and the DNA damage checkpoints. *Annu Rev Biochem* 2004;73:39-85. doi: 10.1146/annurev.biochem.73.011303.073723

12. Pääföll HN ZL, Willers H. Targeting homologous recombination repair in cancer. In: Kelley MR, Fishel ML, eds. DNA repair and cancer therapy: molecular targets and clinical applications. Academic Press; 2016:119-60.

13. Kaina B. DNA damage-triggered apoptosis: critical role of DNA repair, double-strand breaks, cell proliferation and signalling. *Biochem Pharmacol* 2003;66(8):1547-54. doi: 10.1016/S0006-2952(03)00510-0

14. Ferguson LR, Chen H, Collins AR, Connell M, Damia G, Dassagupta S, et al. Genomic instability in human cancer: Molecular insights and opportunities for therapeutic attack and prevention through diet and nutrition. *Semin Cancer Biol* 2015;35 Suppl:S5-s24. doi: 10.1016/j.semcancer.2015.03.005

15. Rouleau M, Patel A, Hendzel MJ, Kaufmann SH, Poirier GG. PARP inhibition: PARP1 and beyond. *Nat Rev Cancer* 2010;10(4):293-301. doi: 10.1038/nrc2812

16. Ogihara H, Yokota J, Kohno T. Abstract B65: Curcumin, a novel inhibitor of ATR-CHK1 pathway, suppresses homologous recombination and DNA damage checkpoint and enhances the sensitivity to PARP inhibitors. *Mol Cancer Ther* 2011;10(11 Suppl):B65-B. doi: 10.1158/1535-7163.targ-11-B65

17. Ogihara H, Usi A, Shiotani B, Zou L, Yasui A, Kohno T. Curcumin suppresses multiple DNA damage response pathways and has potency as a sensitizer to PARP inhibitor. *Carcinogenesis* 2013;34(11):2486-97. doi: 10.1093/carcin/bgt240

18. Griffiths AJF, Miller JH, Suzuki DT, Lewontin RC, Gelbart WM, et al. Cancer: the genetics of aberrant cell control. An introduction to genetic analysis. 7th ed. New York: W. H. Freeman; 2000.

19. Chen CD, Welsbie DS, Tran C, Baek CH, Chen R, Vessella R, et al. Molecular determinants of resistance to antiandrogen therapy. *Nat Med* 2004;10(1):33-9. doi: 10.1038/nm972

20. Keen JC, Davidson NE. The biology of breast carcinoma. *Cancer* 2003;97(3 Suppl):825-33. doi: 10.1002/cncr.11126

21. Schlessinger J. Cell signaling by receptor tyrosine kinases. *Cell* 2000;103(2):211-25. doi: 10.1016/S0092-8674(00)00114-8

22. Feitelson MA, Arzumanyan A, Kulathinal RJ, Blain SW, Holcombe RE, Mahajna J, et al. Sustained proliferation in cancer: Mechanisms and novel therapeutic targets. *Semin Cancer Biol* 2015;35 Suppl:S25-s54. doi: 10.1016/j.semcancer.2015.02.006

23. Xiao G, Fu J. NF-kappaB and cancer: a paradigm of Yin-Yang. *Am J Cancer Res* 2011;1(2):192-221.

24. Pelengaris S, Khan M, Evan G. c-MYC: more than just a matter of life and death. *Nat Rev Cancer* 2002;2(10):764-76. doi: 10.1038/nrc904

25. Musgrove EA, Caldon CE, Barraclough J, Stone A, Sutherland RL. Cyclin D as a therapeutic target in cancer. *Nat Rev Cancer* 2011;11(8):558-72. doi: 10.1038/nrc3090

26. Scaltriti M, Eichhorn PJ, Cortes J, Prudkin L, Auru C, Jimenez J, et al. Cyclin E amplification/overexpression is a mechanism of trastuzumab resistance in HER2+ breast cancer patients. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2011;108(9):3761-6. doi: 10.1073/pnas.1014835108

27. Kaseb AO, Chinnakannu K, Chen D, Sivanandam A, Tejwani S, Menon M, et al. Androgen receptor and E2F-1 targeted thymoquinone therapy for hormone-refractory prostate cancer. *Cancer Res* 2007;67(16):7782-8. doi: 10.1158/0008-5472.can-07-1483

28. Choi HY, Lim JE, Hong JH. Curcumin interrupts the interaction between the androgen receptor and Wnt/ beta-catenin signaling pathway in LNCaP prostate cancer cells. *Prostate Cancer Prostatic Dis* 2010;13(4):343-9. doi: 10.1038/pcan.2010.26

29. Chen JH, Kim SH, Fan PW, Liu CY, Hsieh CH, Fang K. The aqueous extract of Chinese medicinal herb *Brucia javanica* suppresses the growth of human liver cancer and the derived stem-like cells by apoptosis. *Drug Des Devel Ther* 2016;10:2003-13. doi: 10.2147/dddt.s107909

30. Kim SH, Liu CY, Fan PW, Hsieh CH, Lin HY, Lee MC, et al. The aqueous extract of *Brucia javanica* suppresses cell growth and alleviates tumorigenesis of human lung cancer cells by targeting mutated epidermal growth factor receptor. *Drug Des Devel Ther* 2016;10:3599-609. doi: 10.2147/dddt.s117443

31. Rachmady R, Muntafiah L, Rosyadi F, Sholilah I, Handayani S, Jenie RI. Antiproliferative effect of seccang heartwood ethanolic extract (*Caesalpinia sappan* L.) on HER2-positive breast cancer cells. *Indonesian Journal of Cancer Chemoprevention* 2016;7(1):1-5. doi: 10.14499/indonesianjchemoprevention7iss1pp1-5

32. Patel BB, Gupta D, Elliott AA, Sengupta V, Yu Y, Majumdar AP. Curcumin targets FOLFOX-surviving colon cancer cells via inhibition of EGFRs and IGF-1R. *Anticancer Res* 2010;30(2):319-25.

33. Kim JA, Lau EK, Pan L, De Blanco EJ, NF-kappaB inhibitors from *Brucia javanica* exhibiting intracellular effects on reactive oxygen species. *Anticancer Res* 2010;30(9):3295-300.

34. Yang X, Ye W, Huang C, Lou B, Zhang J, Yu D, et al. Brusatol inhibits growth and induces apoptosis in pancreatic cancer cells via JNK/p38 MAPK/NF-kappaB/Stat3/Bcl-2 signaling pathway. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 2017;478(4):820-6. doi: 10.1016/j.bbrc.2017.04.133

35. Cheah SC, Lai SL, Lee ST, Hadi AH, Mustafa MR, Panduratin A, a possible inhibitor in metastasized A549 cells through inhibition of NF-kappa B translocation and chemoinvasion. *Molecules* 2013;18(8):8764-78. doi: 10.3390/molecules1808764

36. Cuenet M, Christov K, Lantvit DD, Deng Y, Hedaya S, Nelson L, et al. Multiple myeloma regression mediated by bruceantin. *Clin Cancer Res* 2004;10(3):1170-9. doi: 10.1185/1078-0432.CCR-0362-3
37. Yun JM, Kweon MH, Kwon H, Hwang JK, Mukhtar H. Induction of apoptosis and cell cycle arrest by a chalcone panduratin A isolated from *Kaempferia pandurata* in androgen-independent human prostate cancer cells PC3 and DU145. *Carcinogenesis* 2006;27(7):1454-64. doi: 10.1093/carcin/bgi348

38. Tao LY, Li JY, Zhang JY. Brazilin, a compound isolated from *Caesalpinia sappan* Linn., induced growth inhibition in breast cancer cells via involvement of GSK-3beta/beta-Catenin/cyclin D1 pathway. *Chem Biol Interact* 2013;206(1):1-5. doi: 10.1016/j.cbi.2013.07.015

39. Bracken AP, Ciro M, Cocito A, Helin K. E2F target genes: unraveling the biology. *Trends Biochem Sci* 2004;29(8):409-17. doi: 10.1016/j.tibs.2004.06.006

40. Beckerman R, Prives C. Transcriptional regulation by p53. *Cold Spring Harb Perspect Biol* 2010;8(2):a000935. doi: 10.1101/cshperspect.a000935

41. Toyooka S, Tsuda T, Gazdar AF. The TP53 gene, tobacco exposure, and lung cancer. *Hum Mutat* 2003;21(3):229-39. doi: 10.1002/humu.10177

42. Giglia-Mari G, Sarasin A. TP53 mutations in human skin cancers. *Hum Mutat* 2003;21(3):217-28. doi: 10.1002/humu.10179

43. Ahmed AA, Etemadmoghadam D, Temple J, Lynch AG, Shih I, et al. PTEN loss is associated with worse outcome in HER2-amplified breast cancer patients but is not associated with trastuzumab resistance. *Clin Cancer Res* 2015;21(9):2065-74. doi: 10.1158/1078-0432.ccr-14-2993

44. Nita ME, Alves VA, Carrilho FJ, Ono-Nita SK, Mello ES, Gama-Rodrigues J. Molecular aspects of hepatic carcinogenesis. *Rev Inst Med Trop Sao Paulo* 2002;44(1):39-48. doi: 10.1590/S0036-4652002000100007

45. Gao H, Lamusta J, Zhang WF, Salmorsen R, Liu Y, O'Connell E, et al. Tumor cell selective cytotoxicity and apoptosis induction by an herbal preparation from *Brucea javanica*. *Am J Med Sci* (Boston) 2011;4(2):62-6. doi: 10.1164/anurevmed.411008.092311

46. Stern HM, Gardner H, Burzykowski T, Elatre W, O'Brien C, Lackner MR, et al. PTEN loss is associated with worse outcome in HER2-amplified breast cancer patients but is not associated with trastuzumab resistance. *Clin Cancer Res* 2015;21(9):2065-74. doi: 10.1158/1078-0432.ccr-14-2993

47. Ng WK, Yazan LS, Ismail M. Thymoquinone from *Nigella sativa* was more potent than cisplatin in eliminating of SiHa cells via apoptosis with down-regulation of Bcl-2 protein. *Toxicol In Vitro* 2011;25(7):1392-8. doi: 10.1016/j.tiv.2011.04.030

48. Arafa el SA, Zhu Q, Shah ZI, Wani G, Barakat BM, Racoma I, et al. Thymoquinone up-regulates PTEN expression and induces apoptosis in doxorubicin-resistant human breast cancer cells. *Mutat Res* 2011;706(1-2):28-35. doi: 10.1016/j.mrmm.2010.10.007

49. Srivastava RK, Chen Q, Siddiqui I, Sarva K, Shankar S. Linkage of curcumin-induced cell cycle arrest and apoptosis by cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor p21(DWF1/CIP1). *Cell Cycle* 2007;6(23):2953-61. doi: 10.4161/cc.6.23.4951

50. Hahn WC, Meyerson M. Telomerase activation, cellular immortalization and cancer. *Ann Med* 2001;33(2):123-9. doi: 10.3109/07853890109002067

51. Poole JC, Andrews LG, Tollefsbol TO. Activity, function, and gene regulation of the catalytic subunit of telomerase (hTERT). *Gene* 2001;269(1-2):1-12. doi: 10.1016/S0378-1119(01)00440-1

52. Shay JW. Role of telomerases and telomerase in aging and cancer. *Cancer Discov* 2016;6(6):584-93. doi: 10.1158/2159-8290.cd-16-0062

53. Lee JS, Kim YG, Kim JH. Studies on anticancer effects of extracts *Caesalpinia sappan* on oral carcinoma and osteosarcoma cells. *J Korean Assoc Oral Maxillofac Surg* 2001;27(4):281-8.

54. Lee JH, Chung IK. Curcumin inhibits nuclear localization of telomerase by dissociating the Hsp90 co-chaperone p23 from hTERT. *Cancer Lett* 2010;290(1):76-86. doi: 10.1016/j.canlet.2009.08.026

55. Tait SW, Green DR. Mitochondria and cell death: outer membrane permeabilization and beyond. *Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol* 2010;11(9):621-32. doi: 10.1038/nrm2952

56. Ozoren N, El-Deiry WS. Cell surface Death Receptor signaling in normal and cancer cells. *Semin Cancer Biol* 2003;13(2):135-47. doi: 10.1016/S1044-579X(02)00131-1

57. Wiezorek J, Holland P, Graves J. Death receptor agonists as a targeted therapy for cancer. *Clin Cancer Res* 2010;16(6):1701-8. doi: 10.1158/1078-0432.ccr-09-1692

58. Lau ST, Lin ZX, Liao Y, Zhao M, Cheng CH, Leung PS. Brucine D induces apoptosis in pancreatic adenocarcinoma cell line PANC-1 through the activation of p58-mitogen activated protein kinase. *Cancer Lett* 2009;281(1):42-52. doi: 10.1016/j.canlet.2009.02.017

59. Cheng CY, Lin YH, Su CC. Curcumin inhibits the proliferation of human hepatocellular carcinoma J5 cells by inducing endoplasmic reticulum stress and mitochondrial dysfunction. *Int J Mol Med* 2010;26(5):673-8. doi: 10.3892/ijmm_0000513

60. Kim B, Kim SH, Jeong SJ, Sohn EJ, Jung JH, Lee MH, et al. Brazilian induces apoptosis and G2/M arrest via inactivation of histone deacetylase in multiple myeloma U266 cells. *J Agric Food Chem* 2012;60(39):9882-9. doi: 10.1021/jf30257p

61. Sukardiman, Widyawaruyanti A, Widyowati R, Sismindari, Zaini NC. Pinostrobin isolated from *Kaempferia pandurata* Roxb induced apoptosis in t47d human breast cancer cell line. *E-Journal Planta Husada* 2014;2(1):20-6.

62. Tonini T, Rossi F, Claudia PP. Molecular basis of angiogenesis and cancer. *Oncogene* 2003;22(42):6549-56. doi: 10.1038/sj.ong.1206816

63. Liao D, Johnson RS. Hypoxia: a key regulator of angiogenesis in cancer. *Cancer Metastasis Rev* 2007;26(2):281-90. doi: 10.1007/s10555-007-9066-y

64. Yue GGL, Kwok HF, Lee JKM, Jiang L, Chan KM, Cheng L, et al. Novel anti-angiogenic effects of aromatic-termerone, essential oil isolated from spice turmeric. *J Funct Foods* 2015;15:243-53. doi: 10.1016/j.jff.2015.03.030

65. Shannugam MK, Hsu A, Hui KM, Tan BKH, Sethi G. Abstract 4123: Thymoquinone inhibits bone metastasis in a breast cancer mouse model by modulating CXCR4/CXCL12 signaling axis. *Cancer Res* 2016;76(14 Suppl):4123. doi: 10.1158/0007-4744.am2016-4123

66. Bae MK, Kim SH, Jeong JW, Lee YM, Kim HS, Kim SR, et al. Curcumin inhibits hypoxia-induced angiogenesis via down-regulation of HIF-1. *Oncol Rep* 2006;15(6):1557-62.
68. Zhang Y, Liu Y, Zou J, Yan L, Du W, Zhang Y, et al. Tetradecurcumin induces mesenchymal-epithelial transition and suppresses angiogenesis by targeting HIF-1-alpha and autophagy in human osteosarcoma. Oncotarget 2017;8(53):91134-49. doi: 10.18632/oncotarget.19845

69. Chaffer CL, Weinberg RA. A perspective on cancer cell metastasis. Science 2011;331(6024):1559-64. doi: 10.1126/science.1203543

70. Perl AK, Wilgenbus P, Dahl U, Semb H, Christofori G. A causal role for E-cadherin in the transition from adenoma to carcinoma. Nature 1998;392(6672):190-3. doi: 10.1038/32433

71. Cavallaro U, Christofori G. Cell adhesion and signalling by cadherins and lg-CAMs in cancer. Nat Rev Cancer 2004;4(2):118-32. doi: 10.1038/nrc1276

72. Brabletz T, Jung A, Spaderna S, Hlubek F, Kirchner T. Opinion: migrating cancer stem cells - an integrated concept of malignant tumour progression. Nat Rev Cancer 2005;5(9):744-9. doi: 10.1038/nrc1694

73. Hynes RO. Integrins: bidirectional, allosteric signaling machines. Cell 2002;110(6):673-87. doi: 10.1016/S0092-8674(02)00971-6

74. Weaver AM. Invadopodia; specialized cell structures for cancer invasion. Clin Exp Metastasis 2006;23(2):97-105. doi: 10.1007/s10585-006-9014-1

75. Radisky ES, Radisky DC. Matrix metalloproteinase-induced epithelial-mesenchymal transition in breast cancer. J Mammary Gland Biol Neoplasia 2010;15(2):201-12. doi: 10.1007/s10911-010-9177-x

76. Zhao N, Li YH, Wu XK, Wang GY, Cai DY, Han FJ. [Effect of Brucea javanica fruit oil emulsion combined cispalitin on the growth inhibition of transplanted tumor in human ovarian cancer SKOV3 nude mice: an experimental study]. Zhongguo Zhong Xi Yi Jie He Za Zhi 2015;35(1):57-62.

77. Torres MP, Ponnusamy MP, Chakraborty S, Smith LM, Das S, Arafat HA, et al. Effects of thymoquinone in the expression of mucin 4 in pancreatic cancer cells: implications for the development of novel cancer therapies. Mol Cancer Ther 2010;9(5):1419-31. doi: 10.1158/1535-7163.mct-10-0075

78. Jenie RI, Handayani S, Susidarti RA, Udin Z, Meiyanto E. Cytotoxic and Antimetastasis Effect of Ethyl Acetate Fraction from Caesalpinia sappan L. on MCF-7/HER2 Cells. Indonesian Journal of Cancer Chemoprevention 2017;8:42-50. doi: 10.14499/indonesiancancerchemoprev8iss1pp42-50

79. Hsieh CY, Tsai PC, Chu CL, Chang FR, Chang LS, Wu YC, et al. Brazilein suppresses migration and invasion of MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells. Chem Biol Interact 2013;204(2):105-15. doi: 10.1016/j.chembi.2013.05.005

80. Handayani S, Susidarti RA, Udin Z, Meiyanto E, Jenie RI. Brazilein in combination with cispalitin inhibit proliferation and migration on highly metastatic cancer cells, 4T1. Indonesian Journal of Biotechnology 2016;21(1):38-47. doi: 10.22146/ijbiotech.26106

81. Kim BS. Brazilein inhibits of TPA-induced MMP-9 expression via the suppression of NF-kB activation in MCF-7 human breast carcinoma cells. Journal of Food Hygiene and Safety 2010;25(3):209-14.

82. Lai SL, Cheah SC, Wong PP, Noor SM, Mustafa MR. In vitro and in vivo anti-angiogenic activities of Panduratin A. PLoS One 2012;7(5):e38103. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0038103

83. Choi MA, Kim SH, Chung WY, Hwang JK, Park KK. Xanthorrhizol, a natural sesquiterpenoid from Curcuma xanthorrhiza, has an anti-metastatic potential in experimental mouse lung metastasis model. Biochem Biophys Res Commun 2005;326(1):210-7. doi: 10.1016/j.bbrc.2004.11.020

84. Yodkeeree S, Ampasavate C, Sung B, Aggarwal BB, Limtrakul P. Demethoxycurcumin suppresses migration and invasion of MDA-MB-231 human breast cancer cell line. Eur J Pharmacol 2010;627(1-3):8-15. doi: 10.1016/j.ejphar.2009.09.052

85. Chen CC, Sureshbabul M, Chen HW, Lin YS, Lee JY, Hong QS, et al. Curcumin suppresses metastasis via Sp-1, PAK inhibition, and E-cadherin upregulation in colorectal cancer. Evid Based Complement Alternat Med 2013;2013:541695. doi: 10.1155/2013/541695

86. Park SY, Kim YH, Kim Y, Lee SJ. Aromatic-turmerone attenuates invasion and expression of MMP-9 and COX-2 through inhibition of NF-kappaB activation in TPA-induced breast cancer cells. J Cell Biochem 2012;113(12):3653-62. doi: 10.1002/jcb.24238

87. Vinay DS, Ryan EP, Pawelec G, Talib WH, Stagg J, Ellkord E, et al. Immune evasion in cancer: Mechanistic basis and therapeutic strategies. Semin Cancer Biol 2015;35 Suppl:S185-s98. doi: 10.1016/j.semcancer.2015.03.004

88. Gasparoto TH, de Souza Malapina TS, Benevides L, de Melo EJ, Jr., Costa MR, Damante JH, et al. Patients with oral squamous cell carcinoma are characterized by increased frequency of suppressive regulatory T cells in the blood and tumor microenvironment. Cancer Immunol Immunother 2010;59(6):819-28. doi: 10.1007/s00262-009-0803-7

89. Byrne WL, Mills KH, Lederer JA, O'Sullivan GC. Targeting regulatory T cells in cancer. Cancer Res 2011;71(22):6915-20. doi: 10.1158/0008-5472.can-11-1156

90. Ruggeri L, Aversa F, Martelli MF, Velardi A. Allogeneic hematopoietic transplantation and natural killer cell recognition of missing self. Immunol Rev 2006;214:202-18. doi: 10.1111/j.1600-065X.2006.00455.x

91. Ljunggren HG, Malmberg KJ. Prospects for the use of NK cells in immunotherapy of human cancer. Nat Rev Immunol 2007;7(5):329-39. doi: 10.1038/nri2073

92. Tosolini M, Kirilovsky A, Mlecnik B, Fredriksen T, Mauger D, Tosolini M, Kirilovsky A, Mlecnik B, Fredriksen T, Mauger D, Dolk H, et al. Clinical impact of different classes of regulatory T cells in colorectal cancer. Nat Rev Cancer 2010;10(6):502-13. doi: 10.1038/nrc2861

93. Suzuki R, Namai E, Oda Y, Nishii N, Otake S, Koshima R, et al. Cancer gene therapy by IL-12 gene delivery using liposomal bubbles and tumoral ultrasound exposure. J Control Release 2010;142(2):245-50. doi: 10.1016/j.jconrel.2009.10.027

94. Majdalawieh AF, Hmaidan R, Carr RI. Nigella sativa modulates splenocyte proliferation, Th1/Th2 cytokine profile, macrophage function and NK anti-tumor activity. J Ethnopharmacol 2010;131(2):268-75. doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2010.06.030

95. Salem ML, Alenzi QF, Attia WY. Thymoquinone, the active ingredient of Nigella sativa seeds, enhances survival and activity of antigen-specific CD8-positive T cells in vitro. Br J Biomed Sci 2011;68(3):131-7. doi: 10.1080/09674845.2011.11730340
96. Bhattacharyya S, Md Sakib Hossain D, Mohanty S, Sankar Sen G, Chattopadhyay S, Banerjee S, et al. Curcumin reverses T cell-mediated adaptive immune dysfunctions in tumor-bearing hosts. Cell Mol Immunol 2010;7(4):306-15. doi: 10.1038/cmi.2010.11

97. Yonggang T, Yiming M, Heying Z, Cheng S, Quashi W, Xianghong Y, et al. Maturation and upregulation of functions of murine dendritic cells (DCs) under the influence of purified aromatic-tumourone (AR). Hum Vaccin Immunother 2012;8(10):1416-24. doi: 10.4161/hv.21526

98. Hussain SP, Harris CC. Inflammation and cancer: an ancient link with novel potentials. Int J Cancer 2007;121(11):2373-80. doi: 10.1002/ijc.23737

99. Aggarwal BB, Shishodia S, Sandur SK, Pandey MK, Sethi G. Inflammation and cancer: how is the hot link? Biochem Pharmacol 2006;72(11):1605-21. doi: 10.1016/j.bcp.2006.06.029

100. Ohnishi S, Ma N, Thanan R, Pinlaor S, Hammam O, Murata M, et al. DNA damage-related carcinogenesis and cancer stem cells. Oxid Med Cell Longev 2013;2013:387014. doi: 10.1155/2013/387014

101. Colotta F, Allavena P, Sica A, Garlanda C, Mantovani A. Cancer-related inflammation, the seventh hallmark of cancer: links to genetic instability. Carcinogenesis 2009;30(7):1073-81. doi: 10.1093/carcin/bgp127

102. Samadi AK, Bilسان A, Geerrorgakis AG, Amedei A, Amin A, Bishaye A, et al. A multi-targeted approach to suppress tumor-promoting inflammation. Semin Cancer Biol 2015;35 Suppl:S151-s84. doi: 10.1016/j.semcancer.2015.03.006

103. Marnett LJ, DuBois RN. COX-2: a target for the colon cancer chemopreventive evaluation. Annu Rev Pharmacol Toxicol 2002;42:55-80. doi: 10.1146/annurev.pharmtox.42.082301.164620

104. Goulet AC, Einsparh JG, Alberts DS, Beas A, Burk C, Vinekar J, et al. Molecular mechanisms underlying chemopreventive and cancer prevention. Cell 2009;11(5):373-81. doi: 10.1111/j.1477-2579.2009.00059.x

105. Lee SK, Hong CH, Huh SK, Kim SS, Oh OJ, Min HY, et al. Suppressive effect of natural sesquiterpenoids on inducible cyclooxygenase (COX-2) and nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) activity in mouse macrophage cells. J Environ Pathol Toxicol Oncol 2002;21(2):141-8. doi: 10.1615/JEnvironPatholToxicolOncol.v21.i2.70

106. Goel A, Kunnumakkara AB, Aggarwal BB. Curcumin as "Curecumin": from kitchen to clinic. Biochem Pharmacol 2008;75(4):787-809. doi: 10.1016/j.bcp.2007.08.016

107. Vande Heiden MG, Cantley LC, Thompson CB. Understanding the Warburg effect: the metabolic requirements of cell proliferation. Science 2009;324(5930):1029-33. doi: 10.1126/science.1168089

108. Porporato PE, Dhup S, Dadhich RK, Copetti T, Sonveaux P. Anticancer targets in the glycolytic metabolism of tumors: a comprehensive review. Front Pharmacol 2011;2:49. doi: 10.3389/389/fphar.2011.00049

109. Cairns RA, Harris IS, Mak TW. Regulation of cancer cell metabolism. Nat Rev Cancer 2011;11(2):85-95. doi: 10.1038/nrc2981

110. Harris IS, Treloar AE, Inoue S, Sasaki M, Gorrini C, Lee KC, et al. Glutathione and thioredoxin antioxidant pathways synergize to drive cancer initiation and progression. Cancer Cell 2015;27(2):211-22. doi: 10.1016/j.ccell.2014.11.019

111. Li L, Fath MA, Scarbrough PM, Watson WH, Spitz DR. Combined inhibition of glycosylation, the pentose cycle, and thioredoxin metabolism selectively increases cytotoxicity and oxidative stress in human breast and prostate cancer. Redox Biol 2015;4:127-35. doi: 10.1016/j.redox.2014.12.001

112. Ob ET, Kim CW, Kim HG, Lee JS, Park HJ. Brusatol-mediated inhibition of c-Myc increases HIF-1α degradation and causes cell death in colorectal cancer under hypoxia. Theranostics 2017;7(14):3415-31. doi: 10.7150/thno.20861

113. Gunnink LK, Alabi OD, Kuiper BD, Gunnink SM, Schuitman SJ, Strohbehn LE, et al. Curcumin directly inhibits the transport activity of GLUT1. Biochimie 2016;125:179-85. doi: 10.1016/j.biochi.2016.03.014

114. Lau ST, Lin ZX, Leung PS. Role of reactive oxygen species in brucine D-mediated p38-mitogen-activated protein kinase and nuclear factor-kappaB signalling pathways in human pancreatic adenocarcinoma cells. Br J Cancer 2010;102(3):583-93. doi: 10.1038/bjc.6605487

115. Lai ZQ, Ip SP, Liao HJ, Lin ZX, Leung PS. Role of reactive oxygen species in brucine D-mediated p38-mitogen-activated protein kinase and nuclear factor-kappaB signalling pathways in human pancreatic adenocarcinoma cells. Br J Cancer 2010;102(3):583-93. doi: 10.1038/bjc.6605487

116. Lai ZQ, Ip SP, Liao HJ, Lin ZX, Leung PS. Role of reactive oxygen species in brucine D-mediated p38-mitogen-activated protein kinase and nuclear factor-kappaB signalling pathways in human pancreatic adenocarcinoma cells. Br J Cancer 2010;102(3):583-93. doi: 10.1038/bjc.6605487

117. Lou SY, Lin ZX, Leung PS. Role of reactive oxygen species in brucine D-mediated p38-mitogen-activated protein kinase and nuclear factor-kappaB signalling pathways in human pancreatic adenocarcinoma cells. Br J Cancer 2010;102(3):583-93. doi: 10.1038/bjc.6605487
125. Larasati YA, Yoneda-Kato N, Nakamae I, Yokoyama T, Meiyanto E, Kato JY. Curcumin targets multiple enzymes involved in the ROS metabolic pathway to suppress tumor cell growth. Sci Rep 2018;8(1):2039. doi: 10.1038/s41598-018-20179-6

126. O’Neil MJ. The Merck index: an encyclopedia of chemicals, drugs, and biologicals. Cambridge, UK: Royal Society of Chemistry; 2013.

127. Salmani JM, Asghar S, Lv H, Zhou J. Aqueous solubility and degradation kinetics of the phytochemical anticancer thymoquinone; probing the effects of solvents, pH and light. Molecules 2014;19(5):5925-39. doi: 10.3390/molecules19055925

127. Block KI, Gyllenhaal C, Lowe L, Amedei A, Amin A, Amin A, et al. Designing a broad-spectrum integrative approach for cancer prevention and treatment. Semin Cancer Biol 2015;35 Suppl:S276-s304. doi: 10.1016/j.semcancer.2015.09.007