

Anti-pancreatic lipase and antioxidant activity of selected tropical herbs.

Abstract

The anti-pancreatic lipase and antioxidant activity of *Momordica charantia*, *Morinda citrifolia* fruit, and *Centella asiatica* extract were evaluated for potential use as an anti-obesity agent. Antioxidant activity of the extracts was determined using 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl and ferric-reducing antioxidant power assays. Inhibition of pancreatic lipase was measured in vitro. Results from this study showed that *Momordica charantia*, *Morinda citrifolia* fruit, and *Centella asiatica* extract exhibited different levels of antioxidant activity, with IC₅₀ ranging from 0.90 ± 0.1 to 3.7 ± 0.8 mg/mL of extracts. All extracts were found to inhibit pancreatic lipase activity, with *Momordica charantia*, *Morinda citrifolia* fruit, and *Centella asiatica* extract demonstrating 21.0 ± 1.3 , 25.8 ± 0.1 , and $25.3 \pm 0.4\%$ inhibition, respectively.

Keyword: Antioxidant; Catechin; Obesity; Pancreatic lipase; Tropical herbs.