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A Catechol Derivative (4-Methylcatechol) Accelerates the Recovery from Experimental Acrylamide-Induced Neuropathy

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Acrylamide (ACR) monomer produces neuropathy of the dying-back type and 4-methylcatechol (4-MC) is a potent stimulator of endogenous NGF synthesis. In the present study, we investigated the efficacy of 4-MC in promoting recovery from experimental ACR neuropathy in rats. Twenty-two Sprague-Dawley rats were made neuropathic by ACR injections. They showed hindlimb paralysis, increment of landing foot spread distance and a statistically significant reduction in motor nerve conduction velocity. 4-MC- administered ACR neuropathy rats showed improvement and increase in NGF content in the sciatic nerves. These findings suggest thet 4-MC can accelerate the recovery process clinically.

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Erinacines E, F, and G, Stimulators of Nerve Growth Factor (NGF)-Synthesis, from the Mycelia of Hericium erinaceum

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The structure of erinacines E, F and G from mycelia of Hericium erinaceum were determined by spectroscopic and/or X-ray analysis. Erinacines E and F exhibited potent stimulating activity against NGF synthesis by astroglial cells.

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Erinacine D, A Stimulator of NGF-Synthesis, from the Mycelia of *Hricium Erinaceum*

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A novel diterpenoid, erinacine D, was isolated from the cultured mycelia of Hericium erinaceum. The structure of the compound was determined by interpretation of the spectral data and chemical reacion. This compound showed stimulationg activity of nerve growth factor (NGF)- synthesis.