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Enhanced Macrophage Functions and Cytokine Production of Lymphocytes after Ingestion of Bon Narine in Female BALB/c Mice.

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The purpose of this investigation was to determine the effects of bon narine treatment on macrophage and lymphocyte functions in mice. Twelve week-old female inbred BALB/c mice were given bon narine p.o. at 30 mg/kg per day and sacrificed after three months. Macrophage production of nitric oxide and interleukin-1 β stimulated by lipopolysaccharide in the bon narine treated group was significantly increased. Stimulation indices in splenic lymphocytes by concanavalin A (Con A) in the bon narine treated group were significantly higher than that in the control group. Interleukin-2 and interferon- γ production stimulated by Con A were significantly increased in the bon narine treated mice. Interleukin-4 production of splenic lymphocytes stimulated by Con A was not different in the two groups. These findings might suggest that oral administration of bon narine effectively enhanced the macrophage and lymphocyte functions in mice.