Phellinus linteus

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Medicinal Effects of *Phellinus linteus*

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Meanwhile, professor Song Chi-Hyun and his research team found the anti-complement activity of polysaccharide hot water extracted from *Phellinus linteus*' fruit body and the immune activity of the polymer(high polymer substance) produced from the fruit body.

Figure 3. **Anti-complementary activity of polymer produced from natural/ cultivated basidiocarps, submerged culture of mycelium and culture broth of *Phellinus linteus* (Song et al., 1998)**

Origin of Polymer	Anti-complementary activityi¾SD
Natural Basidiocarps	65.7i¾2.54
Cultivated Basidiocarps	63.9i¾6.48
Mycelia	41.95i¾2.86
Culture broth	21.87i¾7.45

(Source: Song Chi-Hyun et al., "Immuno-stimulating Activity of *Phellinus linteus*", *The Korean Journal of Mycology* 26(1), p.86-90, 1998)

This research could be expected to put a sort of end to controversies surrounding the efficacy of natural vs cultivated Phellinus mushrooms: "Artificially cultivated *Phellinus linteus* may be short on efficacy. Only natural ones are genuine *Phellinus linteus*.". However, more research is yet to be done about it.

Figure 4. Artificial Cultivation of *Phellinus linteus*

(Source: Latest Pictorial Book of Infesting Pests for Mushrooms, p.738))

In order to review the toxic, anti-tumor and immunostimulating mechanisms in the lab animals, using artificially cultivated *Phellinus linteus* mycellia, Dr. Gong Young-Yun and his team measured the survival time of the lab mice which were transplatnted with sarcoma-180 tumor cells intraperitoneally and daily given water extract of *Phellinus linteus* from one day after tumor transplantation for 3 weeks. As a result, the lab mice with 10mg/kg and 30mg/kg survived 24.7 days and 24.8 days, respectively, on average, and compared with the survival time for control group (19.1 days on average).

Figure 5. **Survival of Tumor-Transplanted Mice Treated with Sample (Gong, 1991)**

Groups	Dose (mg/kg)	No. of Mice	Mean Survival Time (Days)	ILS (%)
Control	-	10	19.1i¾0.81	-
Sample	10	10	24.7i¾1.48	39.2
	30	10	24.8i¾2.34	39.4

(Source: Gong Young-Yun et al., "Experimental Studies on Activity of the Cultured Mycellia of *Phellinus linteus*", *Korean Journal of Pharacognosy* 22(4), 223~239, 1991)

Studies on the anti-tumor effect on the human body have been mainly concentrated on the extracts of cultured mycellia of *Phellinus linteus* which is known as "Mesima". Professor Kim Jin-Pok of Seoul National University and his colleagues administered Mesima to stage ¥² gastric patients after radial gastrectomy and then examined its immunostimulating effect. They reported that the Mesima administration significantly increased the number of T-lymphocytes and helper T-cells compared with the control group. Besides, in 1996, Dr. Kim Byung-Soo of Yonsei University and Dr. Kim Young-Jin separately reported their study results on the effect of Mesima on the cure of stomach cancer. Before this, Dr. Yamana of Hiroshima Hospital in Japan reported in 1988 that Mesima's immunostimulating effect in cancer patients was confirmed.
A wave of clinical tests proved that Mesima was effective especially against cancers in the digestive system such as stomach, gullet, duodenum, colon and rectum. In addition, Dr. Yoo Ik-Dong succeeded in finding out how to maximize anti-tumor effects, minimizing the side effects of adriamycin, an anti-tumor medicine, at the same time, by administering the adriamycin together with Mesima extracted from mycellial culture broth of *Phellinus linteus*.

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