

## Review Article

# Phellodendri Cortex: A Phytochemical, Pharmacological, and Pharmacokinetic Review

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**Background.** *Phellodendri Cortex* (PC) or Huang Bai. According to the scientific database of China Plant Species and Chinese pharmacopeia 2015 edition, PC has two main species which are *Phellodendron amurense Rupr* (PAR) or “Guan Huang bai” in Chinese and *Phellodendron chinense Schneid* (PCS) or “Chuan Huang bai” in Chinese. The crude drugs of PAR and PCS are also called *Phellodendri amurenensis cortex* (PAC) and *Phellodendri chinense cortex* (PCC), respectively. The medicinal part of the plant is the dried trunk bark. PC has comprehensive therapeutic effects which include anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, anticancer, hypotensive, antiarrhythmic, antioxidant, and antipyretic agents. The exact ingredients in PC and its species are not fully summarised. **Aim of the Study.** This study was designed to review and evaluate the pharmacological actions of compounds and to explore the pharmacokinetic knowledge of PC and its species and to also identify the chemical compound(s) with a potential therapeutic effect on atopic dermatitis. **Methods.** “Huang Bai” and its English, botanical, and pharmaceutical names were used as keywords to perform database search in Encyclopaedia of traditional Chinese Medicines, PubMed, EMBASE, MEDLINE, Science Direct, Scopus, Web of Science, and China Network Knowledge Infrastructure. The data selection criteria included all the studies that were related to the phytochemical, pharmacological, and pharmacokinetic perspectives of PC and its species or their active constituents. More importantly, the voucher number has been provided to ensure the genuine bark of PC used as the medicinal part in the studies. **Results.** 140 compounds were summarized from PC and its species: specifically, 18 compounds from PCC, 44 compounds from PCS, 34 compounds from PAC, and 84 compounds from PAR. Obacunone and obaculactone are probably responsible for antiatopic dermatitis effect. PC and its species possess a broad spectrum of pharmacological actions including anti-inflammatory effect, antibacterial effect, antiviral effect, antitumor effect, antigout effect, antiulcer effect, neuroprotective effect, and antiatopic dermatitis effect. PC could widely distribute in plasma, liver, spleen, kidney, and brain. Berberine may be responsible for the toxic effect on the susceptible users with hemolytic disease or in the peripartum and neonatal period. **Conclusions.** The compounds of the crude bark of PC and its subspecies have showcased a wide range of pharmacological effects. Pharmacological efficacies of PC are supported by its diverse class of alkaloid, limonoid, phenolic acid, quinic acid, lignan, and flavonoid. Obacunone and obaculactone could be the bioactive compounds for atopic dermatitis management. PC and its subspecies are generally safe to use but extra care is required for certain conditions and group of people.

## 1. Introduction

*Phellodendri Cortex* (PC) is also known as “Huang bai” in Chinese and “Obaku” in Japanese. PC is a plant grown in China, Korea, Japan, Vietnam, and Far East of Russia. The earliest record of this plant was on “Shennong’s Classic of Materia Medica” [1]. According to the scientific database of China Plant Species and Chinese pharmacopeia 2015 edition, PC has two main species which are *Phellodendron amurense Rupr* (PAR) or “Guan Huang bai” in Chinese and

*Phellodendron chinense Schneid* (PCS) or “Chuan Huang bai” in Chinese. The crude drugs of PAR and PCS are called *Phellodendri amurenensis cortex* (PAC) and *Phellodendri chinense cortex* (PCC), respectively. PAR and PCS are naturally grown in the Northeast and Southwest part of China, respectively [2]. According to the latest information from “information system of Chinese rare and endangered plants,” PAR is categorized as one of the second degrees of endangered plants. PAR and PCS could be interchangeably used in clinical application because both species contain

similar chemical constituents [3]. According to the scientific database of China Plant Species and Chinese pharmacopeia 2015 edition, PC is categorized in the family of *Phellodendron Rupr.* The medicinal part of the plant is the dried trunk bark. PC had been viewed as one of the 50 fundamental herbs in Chinese herbalism. Traditionally, its medicinal part could exert therapeutic effects in various diseases such as meningitis, cirrhosis, dysentery, pneumonia, tuberculosis, etc. [4, 5]. Nowadays, PC has comprehensive therapeutic effects which include immune modulation, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, antibacterial, anticancer, hypotensive, antiarrhythmic, antioxidant, antigastric ulcer, and antipyretic agents, etc. [5]. According to the Clinical Chinese Materia Medica, 2006 edition, PC has a bitter flavor and cold nature and can enter the meridian of kidney, bladder, and large intestine. PC could clear heat, dry dampness, drain fire, eliminate steam, resolve toxin, and treat sores [6]. PC and its species contain various chemical derivatives. One of the important ones is alkaloids which contain berberine and jatrorrhizine. Both compounds were proven to be effective against some type of tumours, infections, neurological diseases [7]. To further acquire the knowledge on PC, a systematic review of its phytochemical, pharmacological, and pharmacokinetic properties is required. The aim of this study is to review and evaluate the pharmacological actions of compounds as well as to explore the pharmacokinetic knowledge of the PC and its species. The chemical compounds that exert therapeutic effect for atopic dermatitis are also desired.

## 2. Methods

Data were searched from the following databases until May 2018: Encyclopaedia of Traditional Chinese Medicines; PubMed; EMBASE; MEDLINE; ScienceDirect; SCOPUS; Web of Science; China Network Knowledge Infrastructure. The keywords used for the literature search included: Huang Bai and its English, botanical, and pharmaceutical names. The selection criteria included process controls of the herbal substances, reporting reference standards such as authentication of reference materials and profile chromatograms, and analytical procedures and validation data. Papers in English or Chinese language are included for this review. Scientific rigidity was determined by the chemical markers of herbs through the use of strict parameters in testing, quantitative, and qualitative measures of the bioactive components, such as high-performance liquid chromatography, fingerprint spectrum, correlations differentiation, and stability evaluation, reference standards, and toxicological assessments. Plant voucher specimens are a guarantee for traceability of the plant material and data verification for other researchers or commercial purposes [60]. The chemical formulas of the compounds of PC and its species were acquired from selected studies. Chemical structures and molecular weights were extracted from *ChemDraw professional 170*.

## 3. Results

A total of 125 papers were identified through the literature search. Fifty-two papers were excluded based on the

reasons for nonpharmacodynamic, nonphytochemistry, and nonpharmacological studies. 73 studies fitted the selection criteria. Among these articles, 32 studies are about pharmacodynamics, 38 studies are about phytochemistry, and 3 studies are about pharmacokinetics (Figure 1).

## 4. Bioactive Compounds

The crude barks of PC and its species contain alkaloids, isoquinoline alkaloid, limonoids, phenolic acid, quinic acid, lignans, and flavonoid, and so on. A summary of the bioactive compounds of the PC and its species reported in the included studies is presented in Table 1. Molecular formula, molecular weight, and chemical structure of the major constituted alkaloids of PC, including berberine, palmatine, and jatrorrhizine, are listed in Tables 2, 3, 4, and 5. They could exert a broad spectrum of pharmacological influence which contains antimicrobial, anti-inflammation, antitumor, antidepressant, and antiulcer effects [47]. Limonoids including limonin and obakunone play an important role in the anti-inflammatory effects of PC [11]. Phenolic acid or phenol carboxylic acids belong to aromatic acid compound substances which are characterized by a phenolic ring and an organic carboxylic acid function [61]. According to the description on Buchler quinine plant in Braunschweig, Germany, quinic acid is a natural sugary compound which can be found in multiple plants such as well-known coffee beans and tobacco leaves. Based on the description on PubChem, lignans affiliate a class of dibenzylbutane derivatives which exists in plants and in body fluids such as bile, serum, urine, etc. These compounds have anticancer potential. Quercetin belongs to flavonoids which can reduce coronary heart disease according to PubChem data. Two species of PC, PCS and PAR, can be differentiated based on the contents of the chemical compounds. Specifically, the 2005 edition of Chinese Medicinal encyclopedia described the PCS's minimal content of berberine hydrochloride and phellodendron hydrochloride to be 3.0% and 0.34%, respectively; the PAR's minimal content of berberine hydrochloride and palmatine hydrochloride is 0.60% and 0.30%, respectively [62].

## 5. Pharmacology

**5.1. Anti-Inflammatory Effects.** The PAR extract could efficiently adjust lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced release of nitric oxide (NO) and inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) production in microglia of both BV2 cells and mice. Besides, PAR extract could also attenuate the LPS-stimulated release of tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ) and interleukin 1 $\beta$  (IL-1 $\beta$ ) from microglia. More importantly, the latter mechanism is more significant than the previous one in terms of IL-1 $\beta$  release. The inhibition of NO suggested that the extract of PAR probably could affect NO-induced neuronal cell death [28]. Another study had also vindicated the anti-inflammatory effect of PC extract on ear swelling model of mice. Magnoflorine and phellodenrine belong to alkaloids isolated from PC that are the effective compounds against oxazolone-induced contact-delayed type hypersensitivity (DTH) reaction induced by picryl chloride. Another



FIGURE 1: PC study selection flowchart.

mechanism in this study is that PC could reduce myeloperoxidase (MPO) activity to its utmost by restraining leukocyte mobility and/or a secretory activity by phellodendron. In contrast, PC extract exerts no effect on phospholipase A<sub>2</sub> (PLA<sub>2</sub>) activity and less effect in arachidonic acid (AA) induced swelling [29]. PC showcased the inhibitory effect on the build-up of NO in LPS-stimulated macrophage Raw 264.7 cells and inhibited iNOS expression. In contrast, PC has no effect on cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) expression in LPS-induced RAW 264.7 cells [30]. PCC and PAC could not only shrink the size of edema, but also reduce the activity of MPO and the content of reactive oxygen species (ROS) caused by 12-O-tetradecanoyl-phorbol-13-acetate (TPA). They can also restrain the levels of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6, and COX-2 in mice treated by TPA. Remarkably, there are a number of chemical compounds in these two species of PC including berberine, palmatine, and phellodendrine. And they are viewed as the anti-inflammatory active candidates. In addition, they may jointly take effect in this regard [3]. The nonalkaloid PAR extract suppressed NO production; besides, limonin and obakunone significantly downregulated NO production and iNOS gene expression via an nuclear factor- $\kappa$ B (NF- $\kappa$ B)-mediated pathway [11]. PC could reverse the airway inflammation by reducing the infiltration of inflammatory cells and releasing of inflammatory mediators into the affected lung and airways. This could vindicate its applications on the infectious pulmonary diseases [31].

**5.2. Antimicrobial Effects.** For the antibacterial effect, the study showed both aqueous and ethanol extracts of PAR exerted an intermediate antimicrobial effect. Besides, PAR extracts had a slightly better effect on gram-positive bacteria than gram-negative one because of different sensitivity. The most sensitive bacteria is *Streptococcus pyogenes* [33]. For the bacteria in the oral cavity, PC could have a strong inhibitory effect on *Porphyromonas gingivalis*; moderate inhibitory effect on *Streptococcus mutans*; partial effect on *Streptococcus sanguis*; no effect on *Streptococcus mitis* [34]. *Propionibacterium acnes* which are the culprit for acne is active to PC which is one of the crude herbs in the clinical trial and the second best herb in terms of antiacne activity in this study [39]; *Mycoplasma hominis* which causes infections on humans genital tracts and respiratory tracts is susceptible to PC, and the susceptibility rate is 93% [35]. Salmonellosis which is responsible for food poisoning is vulnerable to PC extract because it can lower the IgG levels and induce TNF- $\alpha$  expression in RAW264.7 cells [36]. In case of PAR, berberine could restrain the bacterial adhesion of *Staphylococcus aureus* and intracellular invasion into human gingival fibroblasts [37]. Moreover, berberine could attenuate the aminoglycoside resistance of *P. aeruginosa*, *A. xylosoxidans*, and *B. cepacia* in the MexXY-dependent manner. It also inhibits MexXY- or MexVW-mediated resistance of *P. aeruginosa* mutants, synergistically restrains MexXY-mediated gentamicin resistance in *P. aeruginosa* mutants, and enhances the synergistic effect of piperacillin and amikacin in

TABLE 1: Summary of chemical constituents isolated from PC and its different species (140 compounds).

Compound derivatives	Chemical compounds	Methods	References	Original species
Alkaloid	Berberine	(i) UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS	(i) [8]	(i) PAC
		(ii) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	(ii) [9]	(ii) PCS and PAR
		(iii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(iii) [10]	(iii) PAC
		(iv) HPLC-TLC-NMR-EL-MS	(iv) [11]	(iv) PAR
		(v) HPLC-DAD-MS	(v) [12]	(v) PAR
		(vi) N/A	(vi) [13]	(vi) PAC and PCS
	8,13-dioxo-14-butoxycanadine	CC	[14]	PCS
		UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS	[8]	PAC
	Berberubine	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PAC
		HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	Berberastine	CE	[16]	PCS
		N/A	[17]	PAC
	Bis-[4-(dimethylamino)phenyl]methanone	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
		HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
$\Delta^7$ -dehydrosoforamine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
3,4-dihydro-1-[(4-hydroxyphenyl)methyl]-7-methoxy-2-methyl-8-isoquinolinol	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
3,4-dihydro-1-[(4-hydroxyphenyl)methyl]-7-methoxy-2-methyl-6-isoquinolinol	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
7,8-dihydroxyrutaecarpine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
4-dimethylamino-4-isopropylbenzene	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
Evodiamine	(i) UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS	(i) [8]	(i) PAC	
	(ii) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	(ii) [9]	(ii) PCS and PAR	
Palmatine	(iii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(iii) [10]	(iii) FCC	
	(iv) HPLC-DAD-MS	(iv) [12]	(iv) PAR	
Tetrahydropalmatine	(v) N/A	(v) [18]	(v) PCS	
	UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS	[8]	PAC	
Tetrahydroberberine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR	
	(i) UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS	(i) [8]	(i) PAC	
Phellodendrine	(ii) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	(ii) [9]	(ii) PCS and PAR	
	(iii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(iii) [10]	(iii) PAC	
	(iv) HPLC-DAD-MS	(iv) [12]	(iv) PAR	
	(v) N/A	(v) [18]	(v) PAC and PCS	



TABLE 1: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Chemical compounds	Methods	References	Original species
	Magnocurarine	(i) HPLC-ESI-MS/MS (ii) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (iii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS (iv) HPLC-DAD-MS (v) N/A	(i) [15] (ii) [9] (iii) [10] (iv) [12] (v) [19]	(i) PAR (ii) PCS and PAR (iii) PCC (iv) PAR (v) PCS
	Magnoflorine	(i) UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS (ii) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (iii) HPLC-DAD-MS (iv) N/A	(i) [8] (ii) [9] (iii) [12] (iv) [19]	(i) PCS and PAR (ii) PCS and PAR (iii) PAR (iv) PAC
	Jatrorrhizine or Neprotin, 2,9,10-Trimethoxy-5,6-dihydroisoquinolino[2,1-b]isoquinolin-7-ium-3-ol	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS CC	[15] [20]	PAR PAR
	Y-Fagarine	CC	[20]	PAR
	Canthin-6-one	CC	[20]	PAR
	4-methoxy-N-methyl-2-quinolone	CC	[20]	PAR
	Oxypalmatine	CC	[20]	PAR
	Candicine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	Lotusine	(i) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (ii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(i) [9] (ii) [10]	(i) PCS and PAR (ii) PAC
	N-methylhigenamine-7-O-glucopyranoside	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	N-methylhigenamine-7-O-β-D-glucopyranoside	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	(-)-Oblongine	(i) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (ii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(i) [9] (ii) [10]	(i) PCS and PAR (ii) PCC
	Isomer-of-berberine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	Isomer-of-magnoflorine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PCS and PAR
	Isomer-of-palmatine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	Tetrahydroreticuline	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	Tetrahydrojatrorrhizine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PCS and PAR
	Menisperine	(i) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (ii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS (iii) N/A	(i) [9] (ii) [10] (iii) [19]	(i) PCS and PAR (ii) PCC (iii) PAC
	(+) N-methylcorydine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	N-methyl Tetrahydropalmatine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	N-methylfindersine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	Litubine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	Hydroxyl-palmatine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	11-hydroxypalmatine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	13-hydroxypalmatine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	7-hydroxy-8-methoxydihydrotaecarpine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	Tetrahydropalmatine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	Xanthoplanine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	N-methylphoebeine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	Columbamine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
	Dihydroxyl-jatrorrhizine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PCS and PAR
	Epiberberine	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR

TABLE 1: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Chemical compounds	Methods	References	Original species
	(6aS)-1,2,10,11-tetrahydro-6,6-dimethyl-5,6,6a,7-tetrahydro-4H-dibenzo[de, g]quinolinium	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PCC
	Dasycarpamin	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PCC
	Pteleine	HPLC-UV	[21]	PAR
	(-)-(R)-platydesmin	HPLC-UV	[21]	PAR
	Noroxyhydrastinine	HPLC-UV	[21]	PAR
	Chilenine	HPLC-UV	[21]	PAR
	Rutecarpine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	Skimmianine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	Tembetarine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	Tetramethyl-O-scutellarin	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PCC
	5,8,13,13a-Tetrahydro-2,9,10,11-tetrahydroxy-3-methoxy-7-methyl-6H-dibenzo[a,g]quinolinium	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	Y-hydroxybutenolide derivatives II	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PCC

TABLE 1: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Chemical compounds	Methods	References	Original species
Isoquinoline alkaloid	Armepavine	UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS	[8]	PAC
	Demethyleberberine	UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS	[8]	PAC
	8-oxoberberine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	8-oxoepiberberine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
	8-oxopalmitine	HPLC-ESI-MS/MS	[15]	PAR
Limonoid	Oxyberberine	HPLC	[20]	PAR
	Oxypalmitine	HPLC	[20]	PAR
N-acyl amines	Kihadanin B	N/A	[19]	PAC
	Niloticin	N/A	[18]	PAC
	Niloticin acetate	N/A	[18]	PCS
	Obaculactone or limonin	(i) UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS (ii) CC (iii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS (iv) HPLC-TLC-NMR-EI-MS (v) N/A	(i) [8] (ii) [20] (iii) [10] (iv) [11] (v) [18]	(i) PAC (ii) PAR (iii) PCC (iv) PAC (v) PAC
Derivative of obaculactone	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS (i) CC	[10] (i) [20]	PCC (i) PAR	
Obacunone or Obacunoic acid		(ii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(ii) [10]	(ii) PCC
		(iii) HPLC-TLC-NMR-EI-MS	(iii) [11]	(iii) PAC
		(iv) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	(iv) [9]	(iv) PAR
		(v) N/A	(v) [18]	(v) PAC
12 $\alpha$ -hydroxylimonin	Piscidinol A	CC	[20]	PAR
		N/A	[18]	(i) PCS
Rutaevin		(i) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	(i) [9]	(i) PAR
		(ii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(ii) [10]	(ii) PCC
Coniferin	Vanilloside	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
		HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR
N-methyltetrahydrocolumbamine	Herculin	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PCC
		N/A	[19]	PAC

TABLE 1: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Chemical compounds	Methods	References	Original species	
Phenolic acid	Ferulic acid	(i) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (ii) HPLC-TLC- NMR- EI-MS	(i) [9] (ii) [11]	(i) PCS and PAR (ii) PAC	
	Methyl ferulate Protocatechuic acid	CC CC	[4] [4]	PCS PCS	
Quinic acid	Quinic acid	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PAC	
	Neo-chlorogenic acid	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PCS and PAR	
	3-O-feruloylquinic acid	(i) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (ii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(i) [9] (ii) [10]	(i) PCS and PAR (ii) PAC	
	3-O-feruloylquinic acid glucoside	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PCC	
	4-O-feruloylquinic acid	HPLC	[22]	PCS	
	5-O-feruloylquinic acid	HPLC	[22]	PCS	
	Chlorogenic acid	(i) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (ii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS (iii) HPLC (iv) HPLC-DAD-MS	(i) [9] (ii) [10] (iii) [23] (iv) [12]	(i) PCS and PAR (ii) PAC (iii) PAR (iv) PAR	
	Methyl 3-O-feruloylquininate	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR	
	Methyl 5-O-feruloylquininate	NMR	[24]	PAR	
	3-Feruloyl-4-caffeoylquinic acid Sanleng acid	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> NMR	[9] [25]	PAR PAC	
Hydroxycinnamic acid	Caffeic Acid Methyl Ester	HPLC	PCS		
Phytosterol	$\beta$ -Sitosterol	N/A	[18]	PAC	
	(+/-)-lyoniresinol	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PAR	
Lignan	(+/-)-5,5'-dimethoxylyaricresinol-4-O-glucoside	(i) HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup> (ii) UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	(i) [9] (ii) [10]	(i) PCS and PAR (ii) PCC	
	Syringaresinol di-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PCS and PAR	
	(-)-Syringaresinol	CC	[4]	PCS	
	Flavonoid	Amurensin	N/A	[13]	PAC
		Quercetin	HPLC-TLC- NMR- EI-MS	[11]	PAC
		Phellamurin	N/A	[18]	PAC
		Phellatin	N/A	[18]	PAC
		Phellavin	N/A	[18]	PAC
		Phellodendroside	N/A	[18]	PAC
		$\beta$ -anhydronoricaritin	UV	[26]	PAR
Icariside-1		UV	[26]	PAR	
Phellamuretin		UV	[26]	PAR	
Phelloside		UV	[26]	PAR	
Dihydrophelloside		UV	[26]	PAR	
Isovaleric acid		UV	[26]	PAR	
Kaempferol		UV	[26]	PAR	
D-glucose		UV	[26]	PAR	
Rutaceae		Norcariside	N/A	[18]	PAC
Stigmastane	7-Dehydrostigmasterol	N/A	[17]	PAC	
Coumarin	3-acetyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dimethoxy-1H-2-benzopyran-1-one	CC	[27]	PCS	

TABLE 1: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Chemical compounds	Methods	References	Original species
Monosaccharide	Syringin	NMR	[25]	PAC
	Daucosterol	NMR	[25]	PAC
Paraben	N-propyl paraben	HPLC	[5]	PC
Phenolic lactone	Phellolactone	CC	[4]	PCS
Ferulate	N-butyl Ferulate	CC	[4]	PCS
	Amurenlactone A	CC	[4]	PCS
Hydroxybenzaldehyde	Amurenamide A	NMR	[25]	PAC
	4-hydroxybenzaldehyde	CC	[4]	PCS
Phenolic aldehyde	Vanillin	CC	[4]	PCS
Glycoside	Sinapyl aldehyde-4-O-beta-D-glucopyranoside	NMR	[24]	PAR
	3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenol O-β-D-glucopyranoside	HPLC	[22]	PCS
	2-methoxy-4-(2-propenyl)phenyl-beta-D-glucopyranoside	HPLC	[22]	PCS
	2-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-ethanol-1-O-β-D-apiofuranosyl (1-6)-O-β-D-glucopyranoside	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PCS and PAR
	2-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-ethanol-1-O-β-D-glucoside	UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS	[10]	PCC
Phenolic glycoside	3,5-dihydroxybenzoicacid-O-xylopyranosyl-glucopyranoside	HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS <sup>2</sup>	[9]	PCS and PAR
	Tachioside	HPLC	[22]	PCS
Glucoside	Salidroside	HPLC	[22]	PCS
	4-hydroxybenzyl alcohol	HPLC	[22]	PCS
Phenol	Methyl syringate	HPLC	[22]	PCS
	(6S)-dehydrovomifoliol	HPLC	[22]	PCS
Dehydrovomifoliol	(6R,7aR)-epiloliolide	HPLC	[22]	PCS

PAC: phellodendri amurenensis cortex

PCS: phellodendron chinense schneid

PAR: phellodendron amurense rupr.

PCC: phellodendri Chinensis cortex

UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS: ultra-performance liquid chromatography coupled with electrospray ionization/quadrupole-time-of-flight mass spectrometry

CC: column chromatography

CE: capillary electrophoresis

HPLC/MSD: high-performance liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometric detection

UPLC-Q/TOF-MS: ultra-performance liquid chromatography with quadrupole TOF-MS

HPLC-ESI-MS2: high-performance liquid chromatography with electrospray ionization mass spectrometry coupled with photodiode array detection

UPLC-Q/TOF-HDMS: ultra-performance liquid chromatography-quadrupole/time-of-flight high-definition mass spectrometry

UV: UV detection

EI-MS: Electron ionization mass spectrometry

NMR: Nuclear magnetic resonance

TLC: Thin-layer chromatography

HPLC-DAD-MS: high-performance liquid chromatography coupled with diode array detection and mass spectrometry



TABLE 2: Molecular formula, molecular weight and chemical structures of compounds derived from PCC species (18 compounds).

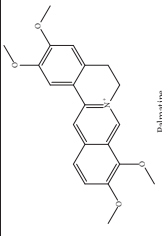
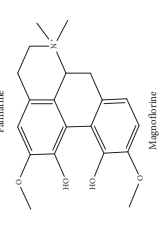
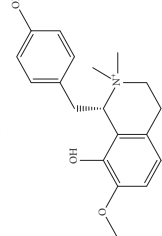
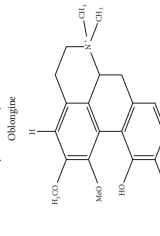
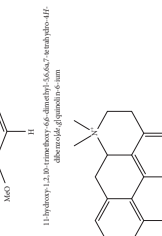
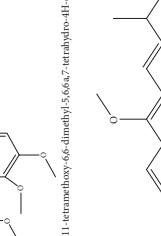
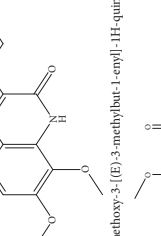
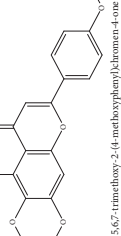
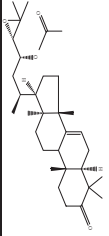
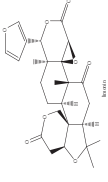
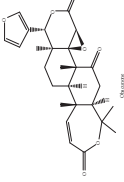
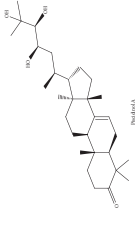
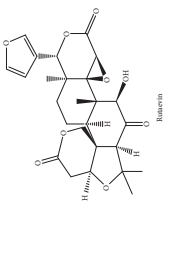
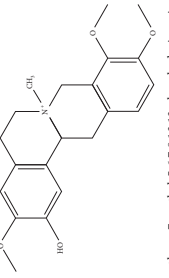
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Alkaloid	Palmatine	$C_{21}H_{22}NO_4^+$	352.41 g/mol	
	Magnoflorine	$C_{20}H_{24}NO_4^+$	342.41 g/mol	
	(-)-Oblongine	$C_{19}H_{24}NO_3^+$	314.40 g/mol	
	Menisperine	$C_{21}H_{26}NO_4^+$	356.44 g/mol	
	(6aS)-1,2,10,11-tetramethoxy-6,6-dimethyl-5,6,6a,7-tetrahydro-4H-dibenzo[de, g]quinolinium	$C_{22}H_{28}NO_4$	370.47 g/mol	
	Dasyarpamin	$C_{17}H_{21}NO_4$	303.36 g/mol	
	Tetramethyl-O-scutellarin	$C_{19}H_{18}O_6$	342.35 g/mol	
				

TABLE 2: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	Y-hydroxybutenolide derivatives II			
	N/A			
Limonoid	Niloticin acetate	C <sub>32</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	498.75 g/mol	
	Obaculactone or limonin	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	470.52 g/mol	
	Derivative of obaculactone			N/A
	Obacunone or Obacunoic acid	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	454.519 g/mol	
	Piscidinol A	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	474.73 g/mol	
	Rutaevin	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	486.52 g/mol	
	N-methyltetrahydrocolumbamine	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>26</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	356.44 g/mol	

2-hydroxy-3,9,10-trimethoxy-7-methyl-5,6,7,8,1,3,13a-hexahydroisocoumarin(3,2-d)isoquinolin-7-ium

TABLE 2: Continued.

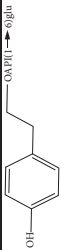
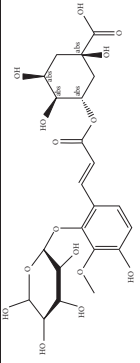
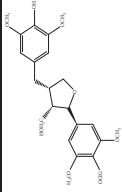
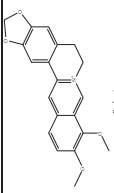
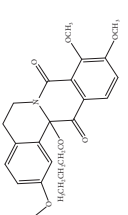
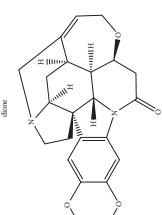
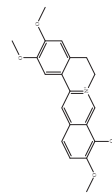
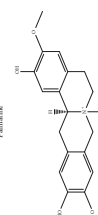
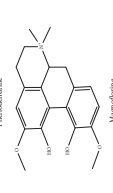
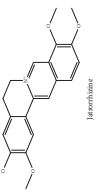
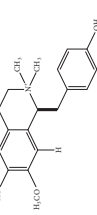
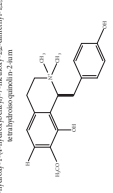
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Phenolic acid	2-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-ethanol-1-O-β-D-glucoside	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O	136.19 g/mol	 2-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-ethanol-1-O-beta-D-apiofuranosyl (1-6)-O-beta-D-glucopyranoside
Quinic acid	3-O-feruloylquinic acid glucoside	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O <sub>15</sub>	532.45 g/mol	 3-O-feruloylquinic acid glucoside
Lignan	(+/-)-5,5'-dimethoxylariciresinol-4-O-glucoside	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>38</sub> O <sub>13</sub>	582.6 g/mol	 (+/-)-5,5'-dimethoxylariciresinol-4-O-glucoside

TABLE 3: Molecular formula, molecular weight and chemical structures of compounds derived from PCS species (44 compounds).

Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Alkaloid	Berberine	$C_{20}H_{18}NO_4^+$	336.37 g/mol	
	8,13-dioxo-14-butoxycanadine	$C_{24}H_{25}NO_7$	439.46 g/mol	
	Brucine	$C_{23}H_{26}N_2O_4$	394.47 g/mol	
	Palmatine	$C_{21}H_{22}NO_4^+$	352.41 g/mol	
	Phellodendrine	$C_{20}H_{24}NO_4^+$	342.41 g/mol	
	Magnoflorine	$C_{20}H_{24}NO_4^+$	342.41 g/mol	
	Jatrorrhizine or Neprotin, 2,9,10-Trimethoxy-5,6-dihydroisoquinolino[2,1-b]isoquinolin-7-ium-3-ol	$C_{20}H_{19}NO_4$	337.38 g/mol	
	Lotusine	$C_{19}H_{24}NO_3^+$	314.40 g/mol	
	(-)-Oblongine	$C_{19}H_{24}NO_3^+$	314.40 g/mol	

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TABLE 3: Continued.

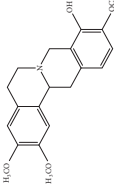
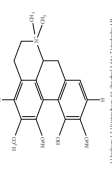
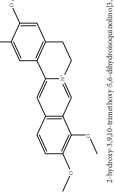
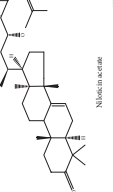
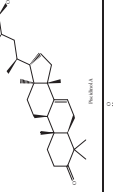
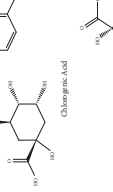
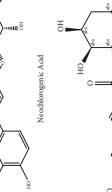
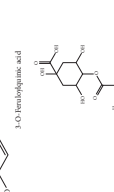
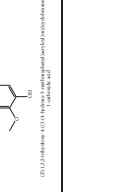
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	Isomer-of-magnoflorine		N/A	
	Tetrahydrojatrorrhizine	$C_{20}H_{23}NO_4$	341.41 g/mol	
	Menisperine	$C_{21}H_{26}NO_4^+$	356.44 g/mol	
	Columbamine	$C_{20}H_{20}NO_4^+$	338.38 g/mol	
	Niloticin acetate	$C_{32}H_{50}O_4$	498.75 g/mol	
	Piscidinol A	$C_{30}H_{50}O_4$	474.73 g/mol	
Quinic acid	Chlorogenic acid	$C_{16}H_{18}O_9$	354.31 g/mol	
	Neo-chlorogenic acid	$C_{16}H_{18}O_9$	354.31 g/mol	
	3-O-feruloylquinic acid	$C_{17}H_{20}O_9$	368.34 g/mol	
	4-O-feruloylquinic acid	$C_{17}H_{20}O_9$	368.34 g/mol	



TABLE 3: Continued.

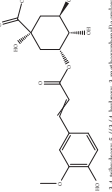
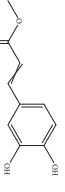
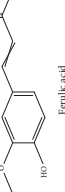
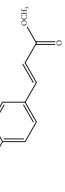
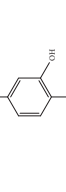
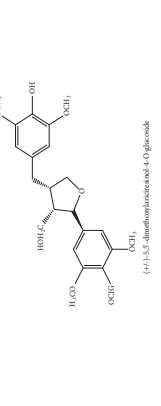
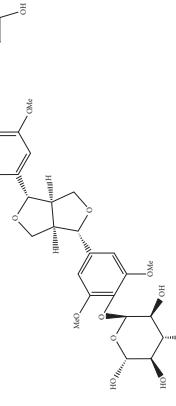
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	5-O-feruloylquinic acid	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	368.34 g/mol	 <small>(1R,3R,4S,5R)-3,4-dihydroxy-5-(3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)acryloyloxy)hexahydro-1H-indole-1-carboxylic acid</small>
Hydroxycinnamic acid	Caffeic Acid Methyl Ester	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	194.19 g/mol	 <small>Caffeic Acid Methyl Ester</small>
Phenolic acid	Ferulic acid	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	194.19 g/mol	 <small>Ferulic acid</small>
	Methyl ferulate	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	208.21 g/mol	 <small>methyl (E)-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)acrylate</small>
	Protocatechuic acid	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	154.12 g/mol	 <small>3,4-dihydroxybenzoic acid</small>
Lignan	(+/-)-5,5'-dimethoxylariciresinol-4-O-glucoside	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>38</sub> O <sub>13</sub>	582.6 g/mol	 <small>(+/-)-5,5'-dimethoxylariciresinol-4-O-glucoside</small>
	Syringaresinol di-O-beta-D-glucopyranoside	C <sub>33</sub> H <sub>44</sub> O <sub>18</sub>	728.70 g/mol	 <small>(2R,3R,5S,6S)-6-(4-((1S,3R,4S,6R)-4-(3,5-dimethoxy-4-((2S,3R,4S,5S,6R)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-6-(hydroxymethyl)tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)pyran-2,3,4,5-tetra- dimethoxyphenoxy)phenyl)oxy-2H-pyran-2,3,4,5-tetra-</small>

TABLE 3: Continued.

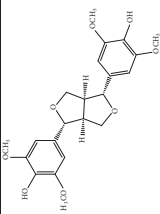
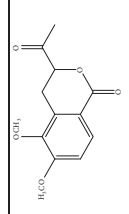
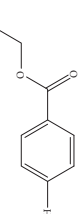
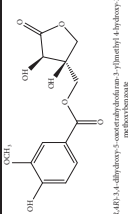
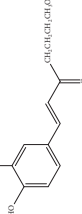
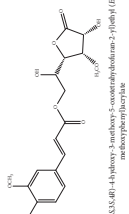
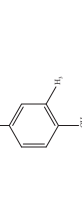
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	(-)-syringaresinol	$C_{22}H_{26}O_8$	418.44 g/mol	
Coumarin	3-acetyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dimethoxy-1H-2-benzopyran-1-one	$C_{13}H_{14}O_5$	250.25 g/mol	
Paraben	N-propyl paraben	$C_{10}H_{12}O_3$	180.20 g/mol	
Phenolic lactone	Phellolactone	$C_{13}H_{14}O_8$	298.25 g/mol	
Ferulate	N-butyl Ferulate	$C_{14}H_{18}O_4$	250.29 g/mol	
	Amurenlactone A	$C_{17}H_{20}O_9$	368.34 g/mol	
Hydroxybenzaldehyde	4-hydroxybenzaldehyde	$C_7H_8O_2$	124.14 g/mol	

TABLE 3: Continued.

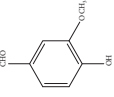
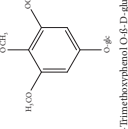
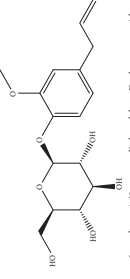
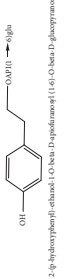
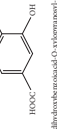
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Phenolic aldehyde	Vanillin	$C_8H_8O_3$	152.15 g/mol	 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde
Glycoside	3,4,5-trimethoxyphenol O-β-D-glucopyranoside	$C_9H_{11}O_3$	167.18 g/mol	 3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenyl O-β-D-glucopyranoside
	2-methoxy-4-(2-propenyl)phenyl-beta-D-glucopyranoside	$C_{16}H_{22}O_7$	326.35 g/mol	 2-methoxy-4-(2-propenyl)phenyl-beta-D-glucopyranoside
	2-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-ethanol-1-O-β-D-apiofuranosyl (1-6)-O-β-D-glucopyranoside	$C_9H_{12}O$	136.19 g/mol	 2-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-ethanol-1-O-β-D-apiofuranosyl (1-6)-O-β-D-glucopyranoside
	3, 5-dihydroxybenzoic acid-O-xylopyranosyl-glucopyranoside	$C_8H_8O_3$	152.15 g/mol	 3,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid O-xylopyranosyl glucopyranoside

TABLE 3: Continued.

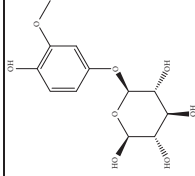
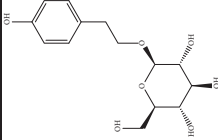
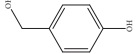
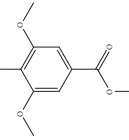
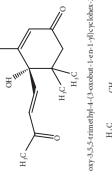
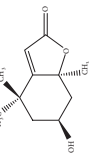
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Phenolic glycoside	Tachioside	$C_{12}H_{16}O_8$	288.25 g/mol	 (2S,3S,4S,5S,6R)-6-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenoxy)tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2,5,6-triol
Glucoside	Salidroside	$C_{14}H_{20}O_7$	300.31 g/mol	 2,2,3,5,6,5,6,6-(4-hydroxyphenylethoxy)tetrahydro-2H-pyran-3,4,5-triol
	4-Hydroxybenzyl alcohol	$C_7H_8O_2$	124.14 g/mol	 4-(hydroxymethyl)phenol
Phenol	Methyl Syringate	$C_{10}H_{12}O_5$	212.20 g/mol	 methyl 4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethoxybenzoate
Dehydrovomifoliol	(6S)-dehydrovomifoliol	$C_{13}H_{18}O_3$	222.28 g/mol	 (6S)-4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethyl-4-(1-oxo-1,4-dioxane-1-yl)pyridone-2-one
	(6R,7aR)-epiloliolide	$C_{11}H_{16}O_3$	196.25 g/mol	 (6S,7S)-6-hydroxy-4,4,7a-trimethyl-5,6,7,7a-tetrahydrobenzofuran-2(4H)-one

TABLE 4: Molecular formula, molecular weight and chemical structures of compounds derived from PAC species (34 compounds).

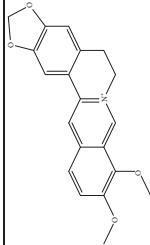
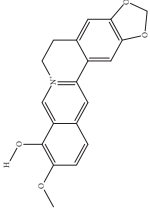
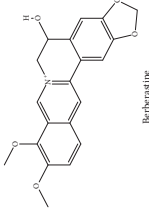
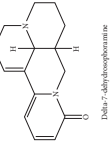
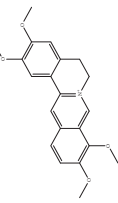
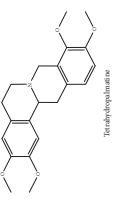
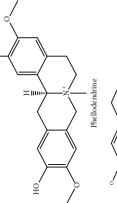
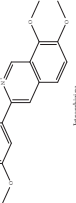
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Alkaloid	Berberine	$C_{20}H_{18}NO_4^+$	336.37 g/mol	
	Berberrubine	$C_{19}H_{16}NO_4^+$	322.34 g/mol	
	Berberastine	$C_{20}H_{18}NO_5^+$	352.37 g/mol	
	$\Delta^7$ -Dehydrosoyaphoramine	$C_{15}H_{18}N_2O$	242.32 g/mol	
	Palmatine	$C_{21}H_{22}NO_4^+$	352.41 g/mol	
	Tetrahydropalmatine	$C_{21}H_{25}NO_4$	355.43 g/mol	
	Phellodendrine	$C_{20}H_{24}NO_4^+$	342.41 g/mol	
	Jatrorrhizine or Neprotin, 2,9,10-Trimethoxy-5,6-dihydroisoquinolino[2,1-b]isoquinolin-7-ium-3-ol	$C_{20}H_{19}NO_4$	337.38 g/mol	



TABLE 4: Continued.

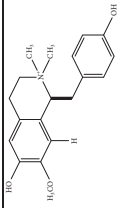
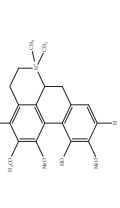
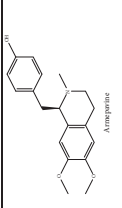
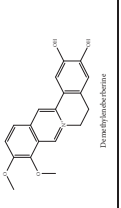
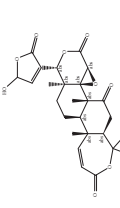
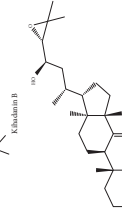
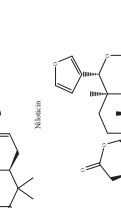
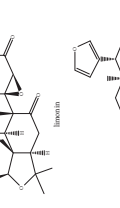
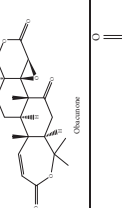
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	Lotusine	$C_{19}H_{24}NO_3^+$	314.40 g/mol	
	Menisperine	$C_{21}H_{26}NO_4^+$	356.44 g/mol	
Isoquinoline alkaloid	Armepavine	$C_{19}H_{23}NO_3$	313.40 g/mol	
	Demethyleberberine	$C_{19}H_{18}NO_4^+$	324.36 g/mol	
Limonoid	Kihadanin B	$C_{26}H_{30}O_9$	486.52 g/mol	
	Niloticin	$C_{30}H_{48}O_3$	456.71 g/mol	
	Obaculactone or limonin	$C_{26}H_{30}O_8$	470.52 g/mol	
	Obacunone or Obacunoic acid	$C_{26}H_{30}O_7$	454.52 g/mol	
N-acyl amines	Herculin	$C_{16}H_{29}NO$	251.41 g/mol	

TABLE 4: Continued.

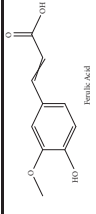
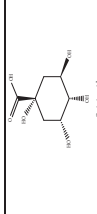
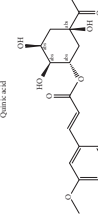
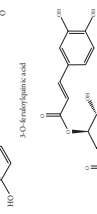
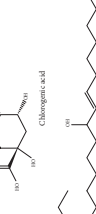
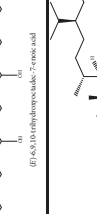
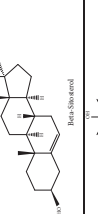
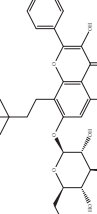
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Phenolic acid	Ferulic acid	$C_{10}H_{10}O_4$	194.19 g/mol	
Quinic acid	Quinic acid	$C_7H_{12}O_6$	192.17 g/mol	
	3-O-feruloyl quinic acid or 5-O-feruloyl quinic acid	$C_{17}H_{20}O_9$	368.34 g/mol	
	Chlorogenic acid	$C_{16}H_{18}O_9$	354.31 g/mol	
	Sanleng acid	$C_{18}H_{34}O_5$	330.47 g/mol	
Phytosterol	$\beta$ -sitosterol	$C_{29}H_{50}O$	414.72 g/mol	
Flavonoid	Amurensin	$C_{26}H_{30}O_{12}$	534.51 g/mol	
	Quercetin	$C_{15}H_{10}O_7$	302.24 g/mol	

TABLE 4: Continued.

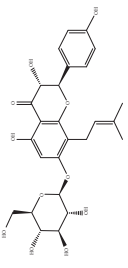
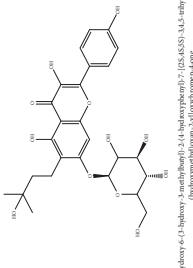
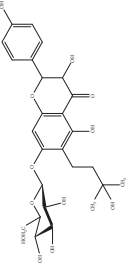
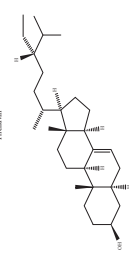
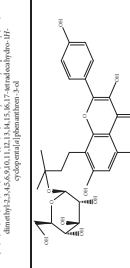
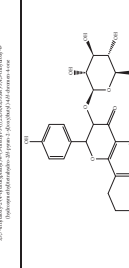
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	Phellamurin	$C_{26}H_{30}O_{11}$	518.52 g/mol	
	Phellatin	$C_{26}H_{30}O_{12}$	534.51 g/mol	
	Phellavin	$C_{26}H_{32}O_{12}$	536.53 g/mol	
	7-dehydrostigmaterol	$C_{29}H_{50}O$	414.72 g/mol	
Rutaceae	Noricarside	$C_{26}H_{30}O_{12}$	534.51 g/mol	
Stigmastane	Phelloendroside	$C_{26}H_{30}O_{11}$	518.52 g/mol	

TABLE 4: Continued.

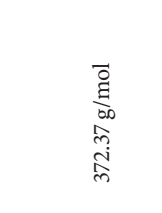
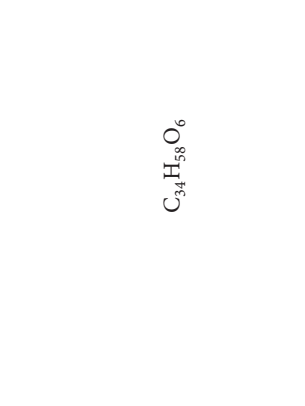

Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Monosaccharide	Syringin	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	372.37 g/mol	 <p>Chemical structure of Syringin, a monosaccharide derivative. It features a central pyranose ring with multiple hydroxyl groups and a side chain containing a methoxy group and a propenoic acid moiety.</p>
Ferulate	Daucosterol	C <sub>34</sub> H <sub>58</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	562.83 g/mol	 <p>Chemical structure of Daucosterol, a ferulate. It consists of a complex steroid nucleus with multiple hydroxyl groups and a long side chain containing a ferulate moiety.</p>
Ferulate	Amurenamide A	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>25</sub> NO <sub>9</sub>	387.39 g/mol	 <p>Chemical structure of Amurenamide A, a ferulate. It features a complex steroid nucleus with multiple hydroxyl groups and a long side chain containing a ferulate moiety.</p>

TABLE 5: Molecular formula, molecular weight and chemical structures of compounds derived from PAR species (84 compounds).

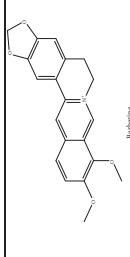
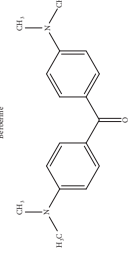
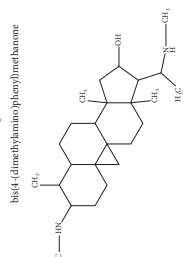
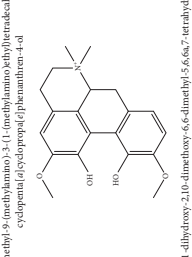
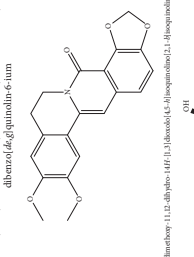
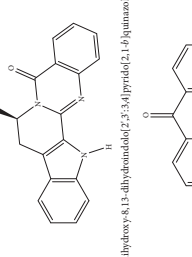
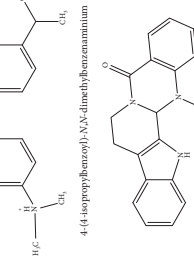
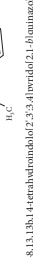
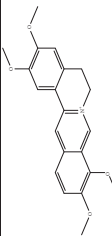
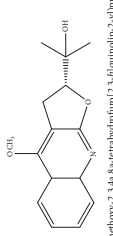
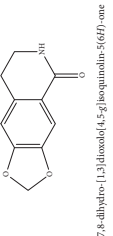
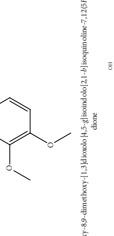
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Alkaloid	Berberine	$C_{20}H_{18}NO_4^+$	336.37 g/mol	
	Bis-[4-(dimethylamino)phenyl]methanone	$C_{17}H_{20}N_2O$	268.36 g/mol	
	Dihydrocyclobuxine-D	$C_{25}H_{44}N_2O$	388.64 g/mol	
	3,4-Dihydro-1-[(4-hydroxyphenyl)methyl]-7-methoxy-2-methyl-8-isoquinolinol	$C_{20}H_{24}NO_4^+$	342.41 g/mol	
	3,4-Dihydro-1-[(4-hydroxyphenyl)methyl]-7-methoxy-2-methyl-6-isoquinolinol	$C_{20}H_{17}NO_5$	351.36 g/mol	
	7,8-Dihydroxyrutacarpine	$C_{18}H_{13}N_3O_3$	319.32 g/mol	
	4-Dimethylamino-4-isopropylbenzene	$C_{18}H_{22}NO^+$	268.38 g/mol	
	Evodiamine	$C_{19}H_{17}N_3O$	303.37 g/mol	

TABLE 5: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	Palmatine	$C_{21}H_{22}NO_4^+$	352.41 g/mol	
	Pteleine	$C_{13}H_{13}NO_3$	231.25 g/mol	
	(-)-(R)-platydesmin	$C_{15}H_{19}NO_3$	261.32 g/mol	
	Noroxyhydrastinine	$C_{10}H_9NO_3$	191.19 g/mol	
	Chilenine	$C_{19}H_{15}NO_7$	369.33 g/mol	
	Phellodendrine	$C_{20}H_{24}NO_4^+$	342.41 g/mol	
	Magnocurarine	$C_{19}H_{24}NO_3^+$	314.40 g/mol	

7-hydroxy-1-(4-hydroxybenzyl)-6-methoxy-2,2-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-ium

TABLE 5: Continued.

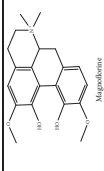
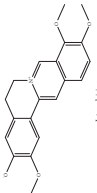
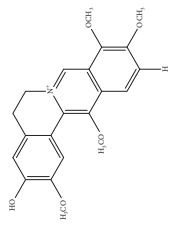
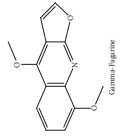
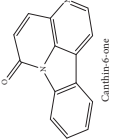
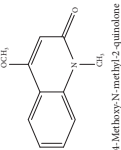
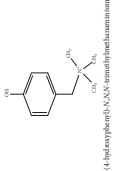
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	Magnoflorine	$C_{20}H_{24}NO_4^+$	342.41 g/mol	
	Jatrorrhizine or Neprotin, 2,9,10-Trimethoxy-5,6-dihydroisoquinolino[2,1-b]isoquinolin-7-ium-3-ol	$C_{20}H_{19}NO_4^+$	337.38 g/mol	
	13-Methoxyjatrorrhizine	$C_{21}H_{22}NO_5^+$	368.41 g/mol	
	Y-Fagarine	$C_{13}H_{11}NO_3$	229.24 g/mol	
	Canthin-6-one	$C_{14}H_8N_2O$	220.23 g/mol	
	4-Methoxy-N-methyl-2-quinolone	$C_{11}H_{11}NO_2$	189.21 g/mol	
	Candicine	$C_{10}H_{16}NO^+$	166.24 g/mol	

TABLE 5: Continued.

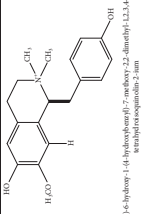
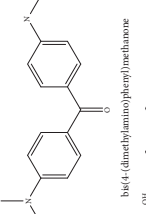
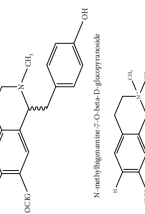
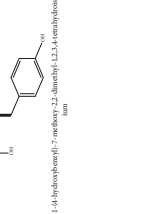
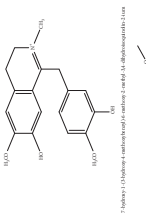
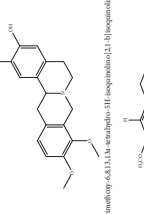
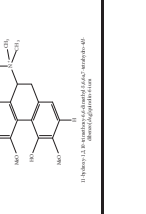
Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Lotusine	$C_{19}H_{24}NO_3^+$	314.40 g/mol	 <small>(S)-hydroxy-1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-7-methoxy-2,2-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropiperidine-5-amine</small>
N-Methylhigenamine-7-O-glucopyranoside	$C_{17}H_{20}N_2O$	268.36 g/mol	 <small>bis(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)acetanone</small>
N-methylhigenamine-7-O-β-D-glucopyranoside	N/A	N/A	 <small>N-methylhigenamine-7-O-beta-D-glucopyranoside</small>
(-)-Oblongine	$C_{19}H_{24}NO_3^+$	314.40 g/mol	 <small>(S)-hydroxy-1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-7-methoxy-2,2-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropiperidine-5-amine</small>
Isomer-of-berberine Isomer-of-magnoflorine Isomer-of-palmatine	N/A	N/A	
Tetrahydroreticuline	$C_{19}H_{22}NO_4^+$	328.39 g/mol	 <small>7-methoxy-1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-methoxy-2,2-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropiperidine-5-amine</small>
Tetrahydrojatrorrhizine	$C_{20}H_{23}NO_4$	341.41 g/mol	 <small>2-(10-oxo-6,6,11,13-tetrahydro-5H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-1-hydroxypropane-1-ol</small>
Menisperine	$C_{21}H_{26}NO_4^+$	356.44 g/mol	 <small>10-hydroxy-1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-methoxy-2,2-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropiperidine-5-amine</small>



TABLE 5: Continued.

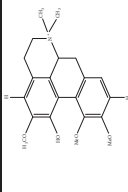
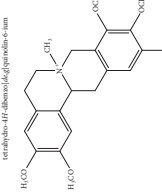
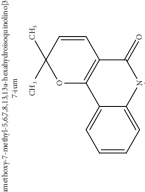
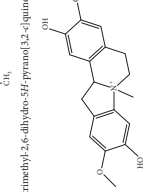
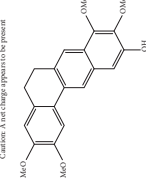
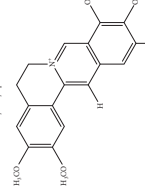
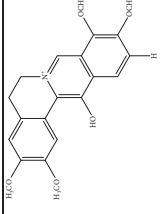
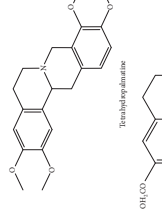

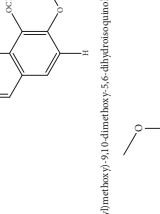
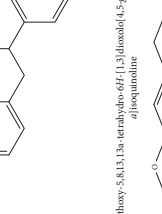
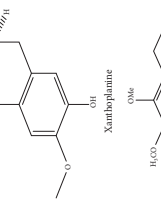
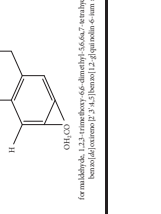
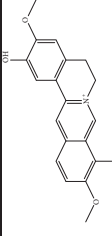
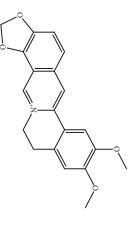
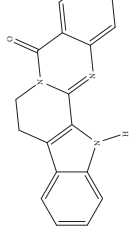
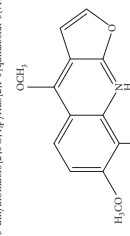
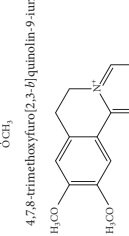
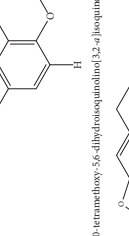
Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
(+) N-methylcorydine	$C_{21}H_{26}NO_4^+$	356.44 g/mol	
N-Methyl Tetrahydropalmatine	$C_{22}H_{28}NO_4^+$	370.47 g/mol	
N-Methylflindersine	$C_{15}H_{15}NO_2$	241.29 g/mol	
Litcubine	$C_{19}H_{22}NO_4^+$	328.39 g/mol	
Hydroxyl-palmatine	$C_{22}H_{22}O_5$	366.41 g/mol	
11-Hydroxylpalmatine	$C_{21}H_{22}NO_5^+$	368.41 g/mol	

TABLE 5: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	13-Hydroxypalmatine	$C_{21}H_{22}NO_5^+$	368.41 g/mol	
	7-Hydroxy-8-methoxydihydroreturtaecarpine	N/A	N/A	
	Tetrahydropalmatine	$C_{21}H_{25}NO_4$	355.43 g/mol	
	5,8,13,13a-Tetrahydro-2,9,10,11-tetrahydroxy-3-methoxy-7-methyl-dibenzo[a,g]quinolizinium	$C_{21}H_{20}NO_6^+$	382.39 g/mol	
	Tetrahydroberberine	$C_{20}H_{21}NO_4$	339.39 g/mol	
	Xanthoplanine	$C_{21}H_{26}NO_4^+$	356.44 g/mol	
	N-methylphoebine	$C_{22}H_{26}NO_5^+$	384.45 g/mol	

6-methoxy-1,2,3-trimethoxy-4,6-dimethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-11H-benzofuro[2,3-b]quinoline 6-methyl

TABLE 5: Continued.

Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
Columbamine	$C_{20}H_{20}NO_4^+$	338.38 g/mol	 18,19-dimethoxy-5,6-dihydroisoquinoline[2,3-b]isoquinolin-7-ium-8-ol Caution: A net charge appears to be present
Dihydroxyl-jatrorrhizine	N/A	N/A	
Epiberberine	$C_{20}H_{18}NO_4^+$	336.37 g/mol	 Epiberberine
Rutecarpine	$C_{18}H_{13}N_3O$	287.32 g/mol	
Skimmianine	$C_{14}H_{14}NO_4^+$	260.27 g/mol	 8,13-dihydroindole[2,3-b]pyrrole[2,1-f]quinolin-5(7H)-one
Tembetarine	$C_{21}H_{22}NO_4^+$	352.41 g/mol	 4,7,8-trimethoxyfuro[2,3-b]quinolin-9-ium H <sub>3</sub> CO H <sub>3</sub> CO H <sub>3</sub> CO
8-Oxoberberine	$C_{20}H_{17}NO_5$	351.36 g/mol	 2,3,5,10-tetramethoxy-5,6-dihydroisoquinoline[2,3-b]isoquinolin-7-ium OMe OMe OMe

9,10-dimethoxy-5,6-dihydro-8H-[1,3]dioxol[4,5-g]isoquinolin[2,3-b]isoquinolin-8-one

TABLE 5: Continued.

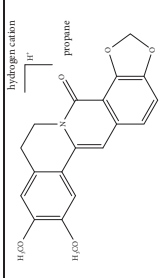
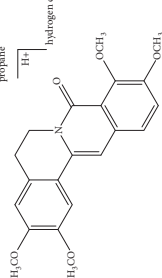
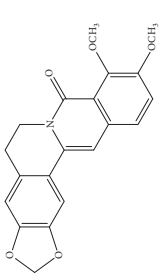
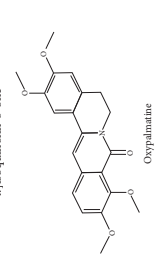
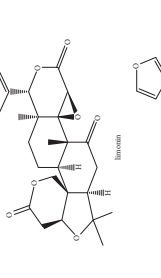
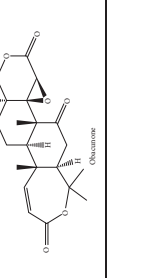
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	8-Oxoepiberberine	$C_{20}H_{17}NO_5$	351.36 g/mol	 <p>8,9-dimethoxy-1,12-dihydro-14H(1,3-dioxolo[4,5-f]isoquinolin[2,1-b]isoquinolin-14-one</p>
	8-Oxopalmatine	$C_{21}H_{21}NO_5$	367.40 g/mol	 <p>2,3,9,10-tetramethoxy-5,6-dihydro-8H-isoquinolino[3,2-c]isoquinolin-8-one</p>
	Oxyberberine	$C_{20}H_{17}NO_5$	351.36 g/mol	 <p>9,10-dimethoxy-5,6-dihydro-8H(1,3-dioxolo[4,5-g]isoquinolin[3,2-c]isoquinolin-8-one</p>
	Oxypalmatine	$C_{21}H_{21}NO_5$	367.40 g/mol	 <p>Oxypalmatine</p>
Limonoid	Obaculactone or limonin	$C_{26}H_{30}O_8$	470.52 g/mol	 <p>limonin</p>
	Obacunone or Obacunoic acid	$C_{26}H_{30}O_7$	454.52 g/mol	 <p>Obacunone</p>

TABLE 5: Continued.

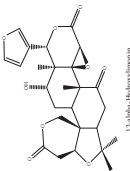
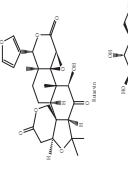
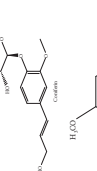
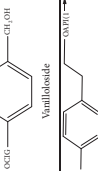
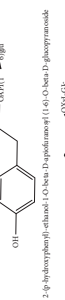
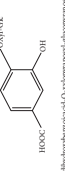
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	12 $\alpha$ -hydroxyliimonin	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	470.52 g/mol	
	Rutaevin	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>9</sub>	486.52 g/mol	
	Coniferin	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	342.34 g/mol	
	Vanilloside	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	316.31 g/mol	
Phenolic acid	2-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-ethanol-1-O- $\beta$ -D-apiofuranosyl (1-6)-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O	136.19 g/mol	
	3, 5-dihydroxybenzoic acid-O-xylopyranosyl- glucopyranoside	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	152.15 g/mol	

TABLE 5: Continued.

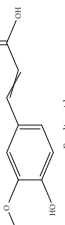
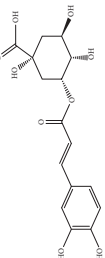
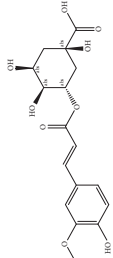
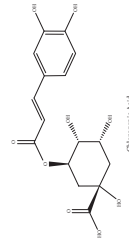
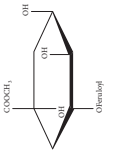

Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	Ferulic acid	$C_{10}H_{10}O_4$	194.19 g/mol	 Ferulic acid
Quinic acid	Neochlorogenic acid	$C_{16}H_{18}O_9$	354.31 g/mol	 Neochlorogenic Acid
	3-O-feruloyl quinic acid or 5-O-feruloyl quinic acid	$C_{17}H_{20}O_9$	368.34 g/mol	 3-O-feruloyl quinic acid
	Chlorogenic acid	$C_{16}H_{18}O_9$	354.31 g/mol	 Chlorogenic Acid
	Methyl 3-O-feruloylquinamate	$C_{18}H_{22}O_9$	382.37 g/mol	 Methyl 3-O-feruloylquinamate
	Methyl 5-O-feruloylquinamate	$C_{18}H_{22}O_9$	382.37 g/mol	 Methyl 5-O-feruloylquinamate

TABLE 5: Continued.

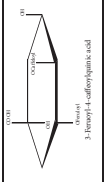
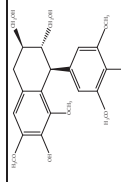
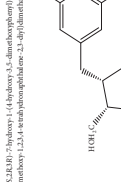
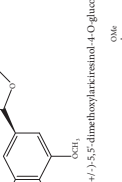
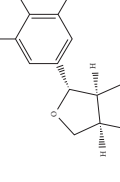
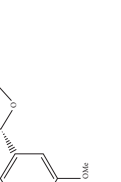
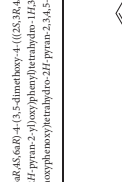
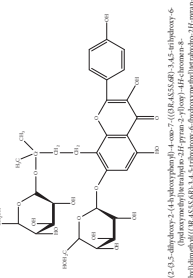
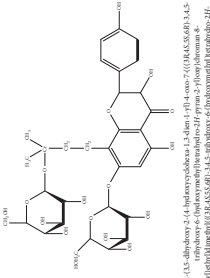

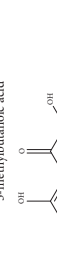
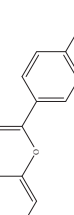

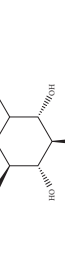
Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	3-Feruloyl-4-cafeoylquinic acid	$C_{28}H_{36}O_{12}$	530.48 g/mol	
Lignan	(+/-)-lyoniresinol	$C_{22}H_{28}O_8$	420.46 g/mol	
	(+/-)-5,5'-dimethoxylariciresinol-4-O-glucoside	$C_{28}H_{38}O_{13}$	582.6 g/mol	
	Syringaresinol di-O-beta-D-glucopyranoside	$C_{33}H_{44}O_{18}$	728.70 g/mol	
Flavonoid	$\beta$ -anhydronoricaritin	N/A		
	Icariside-I	$C_{26}H_{28}O_{11}$	516.50 g/mol	
	Phellamuretin	$C_{20}H_{20}O_6$	356.37 g/mol	

TABLE 5: Continued.

Compound derivatives	Compound	Molecular formula	Molecular weight	Chemical structures
	Phelloside	$C_{31}H_{40}CrO_{17}$	736.64 g/mol	 <p>(2,3,4,5-dihydroxy-2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-oxo-7-(3,4,5-trihydroxy-6-hydroxymethylchromen-2-yl)pyran-2-ylidene)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-6-hydroxymethylchromone</p>
	Dihydrophelloside	$C_{31}H_{44}CrO_{17}$	740.67 g/mol	 <p>(2,3,4,5-dihydroxy-2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-oxo-7-(3,4,5-trihydroxy-6-hydroxymethylchromen-2-yl)pyran-2-ylidene)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-6-hydroxymethylchromone</p>
	Isovaleric acid	$C_5H_{10}O_2$	102.13 g/mol	 <p>3-methylbutanoic acid</p>
	Kaempferol	$C_{15}H_{10}O_6$	286.24 g/mol	 <p>3,5,7-trihydroxy-2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-4H-chromen-4-one</p>
	D-glucose	$C_6H_{12}O_6$	180.16 g/mol	 <p>(3R,4S,5S,6R)-6-(hydroxymethyl)tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2,3,4,5-tetrol</p>
	Paraben	$C_{10}H_{12}O_3$	180.20 g/mol	 <p>propyl 4-hydroxybenzoate</p>
	Glycoside	$C_{13}H_{14}O_6$	266.25 g/mol	 <p>(E)-2,6-dimethoxy-4-(3-oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 2-hydroxyacetate</p>



multimedication resistant *P. aeruginosa* strains. The extract of PCS significantly downregulated minimal inhibitory concentrations ( $MIC_s$ ) of amikacin and gentamicin in the two multimedication resistant *P. aeruginosa* strains [38]. PC showed its potential on the inhibition of *Propionibacterium acnes* strains. Its  $MIC_{50}$  and  $MIC_{90}$  were 24  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  and 190  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ , respectively [39]. For fungal infections, the monomers of PC showed antifungal activity through compromising the integrity of fungal cell wall and cell membrane and increasing the expressions of energy metabolic genes. Therefore the life expectancy of *Microsporium Canis* is shortened. Furthermore, the mingling use of palmatine hydrochloride and berberine hydrochloride could effectively treat *Microsporium Canis* induced dermatomycosis in rabbit [40]. For virus infections, the ethanol extract of PAR exerted moderate effect against Herpes Simplex Virus by either interrupting virion envelope structures or disguising as indispensable viral compounds for absorption or infiltration of host cells [33]. Another study had proved that PAR has a broad spectrum of functions against virus-like VSV-GFP, PR8-GFP, NDV-GFP, HSV-GSP, H3-GFP, and EV-71 in vitro and also has effects on different strains of influenza A such as H1N1, H5N2, H7N3, and H9N2 in vivo mice model [41].

**5.3. Antitumor Effects.** There are 3 compounds in PCS that have been found to resist three types of tumours which included leukemic cell lines K562 and HEL, breast cancer cell line MDA, and prostate cancer cell line PC3. The compound [(21S, 23R) epoxy-24-hydroxy-21 $\beta$ , 25-diethoxy] tirucalla-7-en-3-one has a relatively strong effect as Adriamycin against four tumors with the measurement of  $IC_{50}$ ; *toonaciliatin K* and *piscidinol A* have a comparably moderate effect in this regard [42]. There are 9 most effective compounds of PC for prostate cancer, namely, *magnoflorine-O-glucuronide*, (*p-hydroxybenzyl*)-6, 7-dihydroxy-N-methyl tetrahydro isoquinoline-7-O-p-D-glucopyranosid, *magnoflorine*, *menisperine-O-glucuronide*, *menisperine*, *berberine*, *Jatrorrhizine*, *obaculactone*, and *obacunone* [43]. Polysaccharides from an aqueous extract of PCS act on cell-mediated stimulation and humoral immunity instead of tumor cell inhibition to exert tumoricidal activity. Specifically, some polysaccharides stimulate macrophages and NK cells via  $\beta$ -glucan-binding lectin site of complement receptor type 3 [44].

**5.4. Antigout Effects.** Si-Miao-Wan (SMW) formula had been proved to be effective for gout and gouty arthritis. In this formula, PC is the monarch herb which is the core ingredient to guide the other three herbs indicating that the alkaloids and organic acids in PC are the potential compounds for SMW. Alkaloids include candicine, oblongine, phellodendrine, tembetarine, magnoflorine, lotusine, n-methylterahydrocolumbamine, menisperine, noroxyhydrastinine, demethylenoberberine, tetrahydropalmatine, oxyberberine, armepavine, oxypalmatine, columbamine, jatrorrhizine, thalifendine, berberrubine, n-methyl canadine, palmatine, berberine, obaculactone, obacunone, and amurenlaetone B, and organic acids include neochlorogenic acid, chlorogenic acid, cryptogenic acid, cryptochlorogenin acid, caffeoyl- $\text{CH}_2$ -O-quinic acid, 3-O-feruloylquinic acid, ferulic

acid, and sanleng acid [45]. Er-Miao-Wan formula is a modified version of SMW, which had been elucidated for its chief ingredient PCS which exerts potent hypouricemic effect [46].

**5.5. Antiulcer Effects.** Peptic ulcers are associated with psychological stress and mental illness. The middle dosage of PC extract could significantly reduce the levels of serotonin in the brain and noradrenaline in the adrenal gland. Both serotonin and noradrenaline take effect in the mental depression. Besides, for the molecule in PC, berberine has the ability to inhibit monoamine oxidase-A and modulate the brain noradrenaline, serotonin, and dopamine levels [47]. Another study revealed that PC could protect the gastric mucosa by reinforcing the gastric mucosal barrier through endogenous sulfhydryl compounds and diethyldithiocarbamate-sensitive compounds [48].

**5.6. Antioxidant Effects.** The antioxidant activity of PAR is proportional to its extract's concentration. In another aspect, the ethanol extract exhibited a better antioxidant effect because of its high concentration of phenolics and flavonoids than aqueous extract [33]. Phellodendrine from PC could play an antioxidant role by modulating the AKT/NF- $\kappa$ B pathway in the zebrafish embryo. Besides, phellodendrine could undo the expression of AKT and NF- $\kappa$ B, IKK, and COX-2 [49].

**5.7. Sun Screening Effects.** The sun screening effects of PC have been demonstrated through an experiment which was designed for sun screening effect of 50% alcohol extracts of 100 Chinese herbal medicines. The study showed PC could absorb 91.8% of ultraviolet-C, 79.1% of ultraviolet-B, and 50.7% of ultraviolet-A. It is regarded as highly effective for sun screening if the absorption rate of ultraviolet is higher than 90%. Therefore, PC could be a strong candidate for sunproof of ultraviolet-C [50]. Also, PC could also improve skin oxidative lesion induced by ultraviolet radiation via decreasing lipid peroxidation and increasing antioxidant enzymes activities [51].

**5.8. Other Effects.** PC stimulates longitudinal bone growth and chondrocyte proliferation via upregulating bone morphogenetic protein-2 (BMP-2) and insulin-like growth factor (IGF-1) expression in the growth cartilage [52]. Besides, PC could activate the fibrinogen system to take the hemostatic effect. This validated charcoaled PC could stop bleeding [53]. The extract of PC also shows neuroprotective effect through adjusting the PC-12 cell apoptosis which was induced by 1-methyl-4-phenylpyridinium ( $MPP^+$ ) and hindered the release of cytochrome C into the cytosol [54]. PAR could ease the symptoms of atopic dermatitis by decreasing the numbers of mast cells, serum levels of TNF- $\alpha$ , and INF- $\gamma$  and the expression levels of cytokines [56]. PAR could delay or even prevent the progression of diabetic nephropathy by correcting the high blood sugar state, antioxidant enzyme system, and kidney malfunction and reversing histopathological changes inflicted by diabetes on kidney [57]. To further elaborate its mechanism on the compound level,

berberine could attenuate the renal malfunction by inhibiting renal aldose reductase and decreasing oxidative stress [58]. Magnoflorine and phellodendrine could inhibit the immune response by suppressing local graft versus host reaction and induction phase of picryl chloride-induced delayed-type hypersensitivity [59]. To counter asthma attack, the extract of PCS inhibits tracheal smooth muscle contraction induced by high  $K^+$ . Meanwhile, it could also block tracheal smooth muscle concentration induced by Nifedipine [6]. The pharmacological activities of PC and its related derivatives have been listed in Table 6.

## 6. Pharmacokinetics

According to Chinese Pharmacopeia (Edition 2015), phellodendrine has been used as one of the evaluating indexes of PC. Phellodendrine could be rapidly absorbed in tissues such as plasma, liver, spleen, kidney, and brain. Besides, kidney is the major distribution tissue and the target organ of phellodendrine. Furthermore, the experimental study on animal suggested that this constituent has no long-term build-up effect on the tissues. Intriguingly, the extract of phellodendrine could be found in the animal brain tissue indicating that this constituent may penetrate the common medication's biggest hurdle: blood-brain barrier. The maximum concentration time is at 5 minutes after intravenous administration. The elimination half-life is no longer than 2 hours [63]. Another constituent from PC is magnoflorine which shows low bioavailability and high absorption and elimination rates after oral and intravenous administration of this constituent in pure compound form. While its bioactivity can be dramatically increased, absorption and elimination rates can be significantly decreased after oral administration of the PC decoction. Similarly, with oral administration of mixture, magnoflorine (40 mg/kg) and berberine (696.4 mg/kg, the equivalent dosage in PC decoction), the bioavailability and absorption and elimination rates have a similar trend. It suggested berberine plays an important role in the drug-drug interaction with magnoflorine in the PC decoction. On the other hand, these findings also warn us that the mingling use of berberine and magnoflorine possibly increases the risk of toxicity which possibly gives some support to the theory that herbal medicine may achieve better therapeutic effects and fewer side effects [64]. When it comes to the different type of processed PC, they have different kinds of effects. For the raw PC, it could downregulate CYP1A2 and activate CYP3A4. As for rice-wine and salt-water processed PC, they can alter the activities of cytochrome P450. Also, rice-wine processed PC alone can counter the inhibitory effect of CYP1A2 and promote the induction of CYP3A4 [65].

**6.1. Toxicity and Contraindication.** Several studies have been conducted regarding the toxicology of PC applications. So far, no conclusive result has been reached due to the controversial results from different studies. The common allegation for PC application is neonatal jaundice and kernicterus. Due to this concern, it even causes the complete ban on the use of related herbs including PC in Singapore since 1978. Besides, according to the latest Singaporean official regulations for

health supplements guideline, PC is still on the list of prohibited or restricted ingredients. However, according to a cohort study, under the guidance of Chinese medicine practitioners, the application of PC's berberine is clinically safe even in patients who have hematological diseases with profound cytopenia and multiple comorbidities. Despite these, some precautionary measures such as bilirubin and hemoglobin monitoring are still required for the patients who have underlining hemolytic disease. On the other hand, the restriction for PC is necessary for the users in their peripartum and neonatal period due to the concern of its aggravation risk for neonatal jaundice and kernicterus [66].

**6.2. Processing, Differentiation, and Authentication.** Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) processing or preparation or "Pao Zhi" in Chinese is a unique technique and process in TCM. Pao Zhi is a technique to turn the raw herbs into decoction pieces. This technique must be performed under the guidance of TCM's theory to satisfy the different requirements of medicinal materials and special production processes. The quality of Pao Zhi directly affects the therapeutic effects of herbal medicine [67]. It has a time-honored history because as early as 5 B.C. during the Jin dynasty, "Leigong Treatise on the Preparation" was composed as a book for Pao Zhi. It systematically summarized the herbal processing techniques until the Jin dynasty. Intriguingly, it stated that the right way of using the bark of PC is to remove the coarse bark [68]. In the Song dynasty, Pao Zhi had regulated a mandatory process for Chinese medicinal product [67].

In terms of PC's processing, TCM doctors in history emphasized the importance of PC's processing and recorded 16 kinds of methods for PC's processing in the books. Nowadays, the most common types of processing are raw PC, PC fried with salt, PC fried with wine, PC fried with honey, and fried-to-charcoal PC [69]. However, it still lacks official standard when it comes to quantity and quality of the processed PC and its subspecies; some of the existing pioneer studies could explain this ambiguous and abstract concept in a scientific way. Besides, for PC's quality control, the most practical approach is to use thin layer chromatography (TLC) for qualitative and high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) for quantitative measurement [70]. According to the results of thin layer chromatography, water percentage in the raw PC is less than 10.0%, PC fried with salt is less than 8.0%, PC fried with wine is less than 7.0%, and PC fried with honey is less than 8.0%. Total ash content in the raw PC is less than 8.0%; acid insoluble ash content is less than 0.8%; PC fried with salt is less than 8.0%; acid insoluble ash content is less than 0.6%; PC fried with wine is less than 8.0%; acid insoluble ash content is less than 0.8%; PC fried with honey is less than 8.0%; acid insoluble ash content is less than 0.4%. For alcohol-soluble extract, the raw PC is more than 16.0%, PC fried with salt is more than 20.0%, PC fried with wine is more than 16.0%, and PC fried with honey is more than 22.0%. For percentage of phellodendrine, the raw PC is more than 0.41%, and berberine is more than 3.92%; PC fried with salt is more than 0.36%, and berberine is more than 3.89%; PC fried with

TABLE 6: Pharmacological activities of PC and processed PC.

Pharmacological Activity	Tested Substance	<i>In vivo/</i> <i>In vitro</i>	Model or sample	Active concentration	Administration (In vivo)	References
Anti-inflammatory effect	PAR extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vitro</i>	BV2 cells (Mouse microglial cell line)	100 µg/ml		[28]
	PCC extract	<i>In vivo, in vitro</i>	12-O-Tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate-induced mouse ear edema	(i) TPA and AA tests: 0.5 mg/ear (ii) TPA multiple application: 1 mg/ear (iii) DTH test: 1 mg/ear	Topical application	[29]
	PCC extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vivo, in vitro</i>	lipopolysaccharides-induced systemic inflammation mice model and macrophage RAW 264.7 cells	1,10,100 µg/mL	Oral administration	[30]
	Ethanol extract of PCC with voucher specimens	<i>In vivo</i>	12-O-tetradecanoyl-phorbol-13-acetate- induced ear edema in mice	200-400 mg/kg	Administered intragastrically	[3]
	PAR methanol extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vitro, in vivo</i>	ICR mice and male Wistar rats	IC <sub>50</sub> : Methanol extract 20.9 ± 3.8 µg/mL; Non-alkaloids 22.0 µg/mL; Limonin 15.8 ± 5.2 µm; Obakunone 2.6 ± 1.1 µm	Oral administration	[11]
	PCC methanol extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vivo</i>	Lipopolysaccharides- induced acute airway inflammation on a mouse model	100, 200 and 400 mg/kg	Administered by gavage	[31]
Anti-bacterial effect	Demethyleneberberine	<i>In vivo</i>	Acute colitis mice model	150,300 mg/kg	Oral administration	[32]
	Ethanol Extract of PAR; Aqueous extract of PAR	<i>In vitro</i>	Enterococcus faecium, Staphylococcus aureus, Streptococcus pyogenes, Escherichia coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa	MIC and MBC: 3,676 mg/ml and 7,353 mg/ml for ethanol extract; 6,25 mg/ml and 50 mg/ml for aqueous extract		[33]
	PCC extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vitro</i>	Streptococcus. mitis, Streptococcus. sanguis, Streptococcus. mutans, Streptococcus. gingivalis	2.5 g/ml		[34]
	PCC extract	<i>In vitro</i>	Mycoplasma hominis	0.24-250 mg/ml		[35]

TABLE 6: Continued.

Pharmacological Activity	Tested Substance	<i>In vivo</i> / <i>In vitro</i>	Model or sample	Active concentration	Administration (In vivo)	References
	Aqueous extract of PCC	<i>In vivo</i> , <i>In vitro</i>	<i>S. Typhimurium</i> 21 infected mouse model	2.5 or 5 mg/day	Administered by gavage	[36]
	Berberine in PAR	<i>In vitro</i>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	32 to 128 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$		[37]
	Berberine in PCS	<i>In vitro</i>	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	100 ml		[38]
	PCC	<i>In vitro</i>	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>	MIC50%: 24 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ MIC90%: 190 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$		[39]
Anti-fungal effect	Berberine hydrochloride, palmitate hydrochloride	<i>In vitro</i> , <i>In vivo</i>	<i>Microsporum Canis</i> –induced dermatitis in rabbits	MIC <sub>s</sub> 1 mg/ml	Administered through the sterile pipette tip	[40]
Anti-viral effect	Ethanol extract of PAR; Aqueous extract of PAR	<i>In vitro</i>	African green monkey kidney cells	6.73 $\pm$ 0.87 mg/ml for aqueous extract; 4.26 $\pm$ 0.59 mg/ml for ethanol extract		[33]
	Aqueous extract of PAR with voucher specimens	<i>In vitro</i> , <i>in vivo</i>	H1N1, H5N2, H7N3 or H9N2 infected BALB/c mice	0.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{g}$ in a total volume of 200 $\mu\text{l}$ at 1, 3 and 5 days before infection	Oral administration	[41]
Anti-tumor effect	PCS extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vitro</i>	(i) Leukemic cell lines K562 (ii) Leukemic cell lines HEL (iii) Breast cancer cell line MDA (iv) Prostate cancer cell line PC3	(i) IC <sub>50</sub> of Compound 1: 7.66 $\pm$ 2.08; (ii) IC <sub>50</sub> of compound 3: 14.30 $\pm$ 1.93; (iii) IC <sub>50</sub> of compound 4: 11.81 $\pm$ 2.79		[42]
	PCC extract	<i>In vivo</i> , <i>in vitro</i>	Prostate cancer cell infected Male BALB/c-nude mice model	1.6 g/kg per day for 28 days	Administered intragastrically	[43]

TABLE 6: Continued.

Pharmacological Activity	Tested Substance	<i>In vivo</i> / <i>In vitro</i>	Model or sample	Active concentration	Administration (In vivo)	References
	Aqueous extract of PCS with voucher specimens	<i>In vitro</i> <i>In vivo</i>	Sarcoma 180 ascites cells implanted Mice model	2 mg/100g; 5 mg/100g; 10 mg/100g	Injected intraperitoneally daily for 10 days	[44]
Anti-gout effect	Compounds of Si-Miao-Wan (containing PCC)	<i>In vivo</i>	Male Sprague-Dawley rats	1.0 ml/100 g	Oral administration	[45]
	PCS extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vivo</i>	Uricase inhibitor potassium oxonate induced male ICR mice model	480 mg/kg	Oral or intraperitoneal administration	[46]
Anti-ulcer effect	Ethanol extract of PCC with voucher specimens	<i>In vivo</i> <i>In vitro</i>	Acetic acid-induced chronic gastric ulcers on Sprague Dawley rats model	30 mg/kg/day	Administered intragastrically once a day for seven days.	[47]
	Aqueous extract of PCC	<i>In vivo</i>	Ethanol-induced gastric lesions on Male Wistar rats model	100 mg/kg	Oral administration	[48]
			For anti-microbial Enterococcus faecium, Staphylococcus aureus, Streptococcus pyogenes, Escherichia coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa;			
Anti-oxidant effect	Ethanol extract of PAR; Aqueous extract of PAR	<i>In vitro</i>	Anti-herpes simplex virus tested on African green monkey kidney cells	25 mg/ml		[33]
	Phellodendrine isolated from PCC extract	<i>In vivo</i>	AAPH-induced oxidative stress on zebrafish embryo model	200 µg/mL	Waterborne exposure	[49]

TABLE 6: Continued.

Pharmacological Activity	Tested Substance	<i>In vivo/ In vitro</i>	Model or sample	Active concentration	Administration (In vivo)	References
Sun screening effect	PCC extract + 50% ethanol	<i>In vitro</i>	PC extract+50% ethanol	0.5 mg/ml		[50]
	PCC extract	<i>In vivo</i>	UVB lamp inflicted skin lesions on the dorsal of the rats model	200, 400 or 800 mg/kg, once daily for 11 days	Oral administration	[51]
Bone-growth effect	PCC extract	<i>In vivo</i>	72 intact 21-day-old female Sprague-Dawley rats	100 and 300 mg/kg	Oral administration	[52]
Hemostatic effect	PCC Carbonisatus-carbon dots	<i>In vivo In vitro</i>	Mouse tail amputation and liver scratch on male Kunming mice models	5, 2 and 1 mg/kg	Subcutaneous administration	[53]
Neuroprotective effect	PCC extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vitro</i>	PC-12 cells	10 and 30 $\mu$ g/mL		[54]
	PCC and PAC extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vitro</i>	PC-12 cells	0.1 and 1 g/ml for 2 hours		[55]
Counter-atopic dermatitis effect	Salt processed PAC extract with voucher specimens	<i>In vivo</i>	2,4-dinitrochlorobenzene induced skin lesions on the NC/Nga mice model	200 $\mu$ l	Topical administration	[56]
Counter-diabetic nephropathy effect	PAR aqueous extract	<i>In vivo</i>	Streptozotocin-induced diabetes on male Sprague-Dawley rats model	379 mg/kg	Oral administration	[57]
	Berberine	<i>In vivo</i>	Streptozotocin-induced diabetes on male Wistar rats model	200 mg/kg once a day for 12 weeks	Oral intubation	[58]
Immunity suppressing effect	Phellodendrine and cyclophosphamide isolated from PCC in saline water	<i>In vivo</i>	ddy mice, BALB/c mice, and Hartlay guinea pigs	(i) 0.1 ml/10 g for mice (ii) 1 ml for guinea pigs	Administered intraperitoneally	[59]
Anti-asthmatic effect	n-butyl alcohol extract of PCS with voucher specimens	<i>In vivo</i>	BALB/c mice asthmatic model induced by saline solution	The IC <sub>50</sub> of n-butyl alcohol extract of PCS was 12.2 $\pm$ 1.3 $\mu$ g/mL	intranasally	[6]



honey is more than 0.37%, and berberine is more than 3.90% [69].

Previously, the differentiation of PCS and PAR is based on the experiences of the herbal professionals to distinguish the minor differences from their appearances in naked eyes and microscope. Due to the increasing mixing applications and counterfeits, more efficient and accurate approaches are required. It is noticeable that the mass fractions of obaculactone and obacunone have a plunging order among raw PC, PC fried with wine, and PC fried with salt. Therefore, it is reasonable to deduce limonin and obacunone have been undergoing a series of chemical reactions during herbal processing. For differentiation of PCS and PAR, the mass fractions of limonin and obacunone have a significant difference between PCS and PAR. The mass fraction of obaculactone and obacunone in PAR is 10 times higher than in PCS. As a result, limonin and obacunone could be utilized as the differential targeted chemical constituents for PC's differentiation [71]. HPLC method demonstrates that PC and charcoaled PC have a significant disparity in terms of characteristic chromatograms and chemical constituents. The peak numbers and proportions of characteristic chromatograms are reducing with the increasing temperature of charcoaled PC. On the other hand, due to the heating effect, berberine hydrochloride will transfer into berberrubine by losing one methyl. As a result, berberrubine is vindicated to be another targeted chemical constituent for charred PC identification [72]. For authentication of PC and its subspecies, berberine hydrochloride could be used as another targeted chemical constituent except for limonin and obacunone as mentioned above [73].

## 7. Discussion

This review work has illustrated the diverse bioactive properties of PC and its species associated with active pharmacological actions in vitro and in vivo. Its clinical applications which are demonstrated in these experimental studies indicated the potency of the bioactive compounds and its pharmacological effects.

The diverse derivatives are the backbone for the pharmaceutical efficacies of PC and its species. The alkaloids play a very significant role in this regard not only because they account for a great proportion of constituents in the whole herb, but also because these constituents are relatively well-studied compared to other constituents in other derivatives. Berberine, magnoflorine, palmatine, and phellodendrine are viewed as the anti-inflammatory active candidates in experimental studies. Besides, palmatine and berberine could exert antimicrobial effects. Berberine also has the ability to inhibit monoamine oxidase-A and modulate the brain noradrenaline, serotonin, and dopamine for antiulcer efficacy. The nonalkaloid in PAR extract suppressed NO production; besides, limonin and obacunone significantly downregulated NO production and iNOS gene expression via an NF- $\kappa$ B-mediated pathway. [(21S, 23R) Epoxy-24-hydroxy-21 $\beta$ , 25-diethoxy] tirucalla-7-en-3-one, toonaciliatin K, and piscidinol have tumor-shrinking effects on four types of tumors. Polysaccharides from an aqueous extract of PCS act

on cell-mediated stimulation and humoral immunity to exert tumoricidal activity.

Phellodendrine and magnoflorine have well absorption rate in the animal organs which could indicate their safety for human trials. However, berberine could interact with magnoflorine or other constituents which could further increase the tissue absorption rates. This should be noticed by other clinical trials or advanced studies to avoid adverse effects. It is also noticeable that different processing techniques or "Pao Zhi" could render the herb with different kind of therapeutic effects. For the raw PC, it could downregulate CYP1A2 and activate CYP3A4. As for rice-wine and salt-water processed PC, they can alter the activities of cytochrome P450. Also, for rice-wine processed PC alone, it can counter the inhibitory effect of CYP1A2 and promote the induction of CYP3A4. For toxicology, there is no affirmative conclusion in terms of PC and its species' absolute clinical safety. Therefore, safety precautionary measures are still required for vulnerable groups of people. For the processed PC and its species, berberrubine, limonin, and obacunone became targeted chemical constituents for authentication of charred PC, PC, and its subspecies. Furthermore, obacunone and obaculactone are probably responsible for antiatopic dermatitis effect [56].

## 8. Conclusions

In summary, the compounds of the crude bark of PC and its species have showcased a wide range of pharmacological effects. Pharmacological efficacies of PC are supported by its diverse class of alkaloids, limonoids, phenolic acid, quinic acid, lignans, and flavonoid. Through this review, in total, 140 chemical compounds had been summarized. Among these compounds are 18 compounds from PCC, 44 compounds from PCS, 34 compounds from PAC, and 84 compounds from PAR. However, more studies are still needed to demonstrate more knowledge to allow a better understanding of this herb and its species.

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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