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Personalized medicine for resistant cancer-A potential new role for herbal medicine

Cancer is currently the number one killer of all diseases worldwide. One important factor for this high mortality is the development of chemotherapy resistance due to genetic heterogeneity and tumor physiology (environment). Despite advances in modern technique of developing new medicinal entities by targeting the mechanisms one site with one single drug at a time, such approach has not resulted in major impact of cancer mortality as of to date. Herbal medicine (HM) usually contains multiple components some of which can possess anticancer properties capable of targeting multiple mechanisms. Thus HM can offer a new opportunity to overcome drug resistance and/or improving efficacy, especially when combined with conventional anticancer agents and applied to individual patients via a personalized medicine approach. The steps required for successful implementation of combined herb-drug approach for personalized treatment of resistant cancer is challenging and will be presented and discussed.

Biography

Moses S S Chow graduated from University of California and currently is Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Director, Center for Advancement of Drug Research and Evaluation (CADRE) at the College of Pharmacy, Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona, California. His previous academic appointments included professor, University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy and Director, Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has supervised/co-supervised over 40 Masters and PhD degree students and Post-doctoral fellows. He has published as author/co-author over 300 hundred articles, book chapters, monographs in pharmacokinetic studies, translational research and development of new drugs, including Chinese medicine. He has served as a consultant to NIH and USPs as well as visiting professor to a number of Pharmacy Schools in Asia. He has served as Board member and Secretary of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology, President of American Chinese Pharmaceutical Association and Founding President and Board member of Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy (AASP).

mchow@westernu.edu