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Heavenly blue flavonoids ameliorate alzheimer's disease in in vitro and in animal models

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Phenolic compounds are the principle bioactive compounds exist in Heavenly Blue (Ipomoea). Little was found in the literature concerning the previous phytochemical and biological studies of Ipomoea tricolor. Six compounds were identified from leaves of this plant: rhoifoloside (1), luteolin-7-O-β-D-glucoside (2), 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone-7-O-β-D-glucoside (3), apigenin (4), 5,7-dihydroxy-3,3',4'-trimethoxyflavone (5), and 2-hydroxymethylhydroquinone-6-carbaldehyde (6). The structures of these compounds were elucidated on the basis of chemical, chromatographic, and spectroscopic methods. All metabolites were reported for the first time in the genus Ipomoea. *In vitro* and in animal model

investigations of the flavones 1, 3, and 5 were assessed as modulators of Alzheimer's amyloid-beta peptide (Aβ) production. The results indicated that all the three flavones were able to modulate the Aβ concentration both *in vitro* and in animal model without any cytotoxic effect. A dose dependent inhibition of Aβ42 secretion was observed. The results showed no inhibition activity of these flavones against cyclooxygenase (COX)-1 and COX-2 up to 500 nM concentration and concomitant reduction in prostaglandin synthesis, indicating that the reduction in Aβ42 levels may be independent of COX activity.

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