

# Natural Products and Cervical Cancer

Subjects: **Oncology**

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Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer among women worldwide. Though several natural products have been reported regarding their efficacies against cervical cancer, there has been no review article that categorized them according to their anti-cancer mechanisms. In this study, anti-cancerous natural products against cervical cancer were collected using Pubmed (including Medline) and google scholar, published within three years. Their mechanisms were categorized as induction of apoptosis, inhibition of angiogenesis, inhibition of metastasis, reduction of resistance, and regulation of miRNAs. A total of 64 natural products suppressed cervical cancer. Among them, *Penicillium sclerotiorum* extracts from *Cassia fistula* L., ethanol extracts from *Bauhinia variegata candida*, thymoquinone obtained from *Nigella sativa*, lipid-soluble extracts of *Pinellia pedatisecta* Schott., and 1'S-1'-acetoxychavicol extracted from *Alpinia conchigera* have been shown to have multi-effects against cervical cancer. In conclusion, natural products could be attractive candidates for novel anti-cancer drugs.

cervical cancer

dietary natural products

apoptosis

angiogenesis

metastasis

resistance

microRNA

## 1. Introduction

Cervical cancer, which is a cancer arising from the cervix, is characterized by abnormal vaginal bleeding, vaginal discharge, pelvic pain, or pain during sexual intercourse [1]. Currently, cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer among women in the world [2]. According to Globocan 2018, the prevalence rate of cervical cancer is 3.2% of all cancers. The main treatments for cervical cancer are surgery such as pelvic lymphadenectomy and radical hysterectomy, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy [3]. Another therapy is targeted therapy, which regulates epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) [4][5] and cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) [6][7] for treating cervical carcinoma. However, these treatments showed possible side effects and complications: Surgery could cause bleeding, damage to the organs around the surgery, and a risk of clots in the deep veins of the legs, radiotherapy could yield menopause, infertility, discomfort, or pain with intercourse, and the side effects of chemotherapy may affect not only cancer cells but also rapidly dividing cells in systems of the whole body [8][9]. Moreover, the drugs that are usually prescribed for cervical cancer showed several side effects and drug resistance [10]. Cisplatin, which is one of the most effective anticancer drugs, has resistance capacity by a self-defense mechanism [11]. 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) is also reported for resistance and side effects when it comes to cervical cancer patients [12]. Thus, we have focused on discovering a new potent treatment for cervical cancer from natural products.

Natural products extracted from living organisms including plants and animals have several active ingredients, which are reported to be attractive alternatives to chemotherapeutic drugs or suitable for combined use with chemotherapeutic drugs [13][14]. For example, purified flaxseed hydrolysate (PFH), extracted from Lignan, induces apoptosis and inhibits angiogenesis and metastasis on HeLa cells [15]. Thymoquinone from *Nigella sativa* also showed apoptotic effect and anti-proliferation in SiHa and CaSki cells. Such natural products include *Bauhinia variegata candida* ethanol extracts, Praeruptorin-B, and well-known tea.

MicroRNA (miRNA, miR) are involved in the pathological development and metastasis of cancer [16][17]. Several natural products showed an anti-cancer effect by regulation of cancer-related miRNAs. Our team reported that *Spatholobus suberectus* Dunn extract induces apoptosis by regulation of miR-657/activating transcription factor 2 (ATF2) in U266, U937 cells [18]. Another natural product, *Salvia miltiorrhiza*, showed an anti-cancer effect via regulation of miR-216b [19]. 1'S-1'-acetoxychavicol acetate (ACA) from *Alpinia conchigera* has been reported to induce apoptosis on SiHa and CaSki cells by targeting SMAD4 and miR-210. Targeting miRNAs with natural products could be a promising strategy for cervical cancer [20]. However, there have been no studies that organize the mechanisms, efficacy, and concentration of natural products for cervical cancer in last five years. In this present study, we aim to review the nonclinical studies about the anti-cancer mechanisms of natural products. The natural products were organized by their mechanisms including apoptosis, anti-metastasis, anti-angiogenesis, resistance, and microRNA regulation.

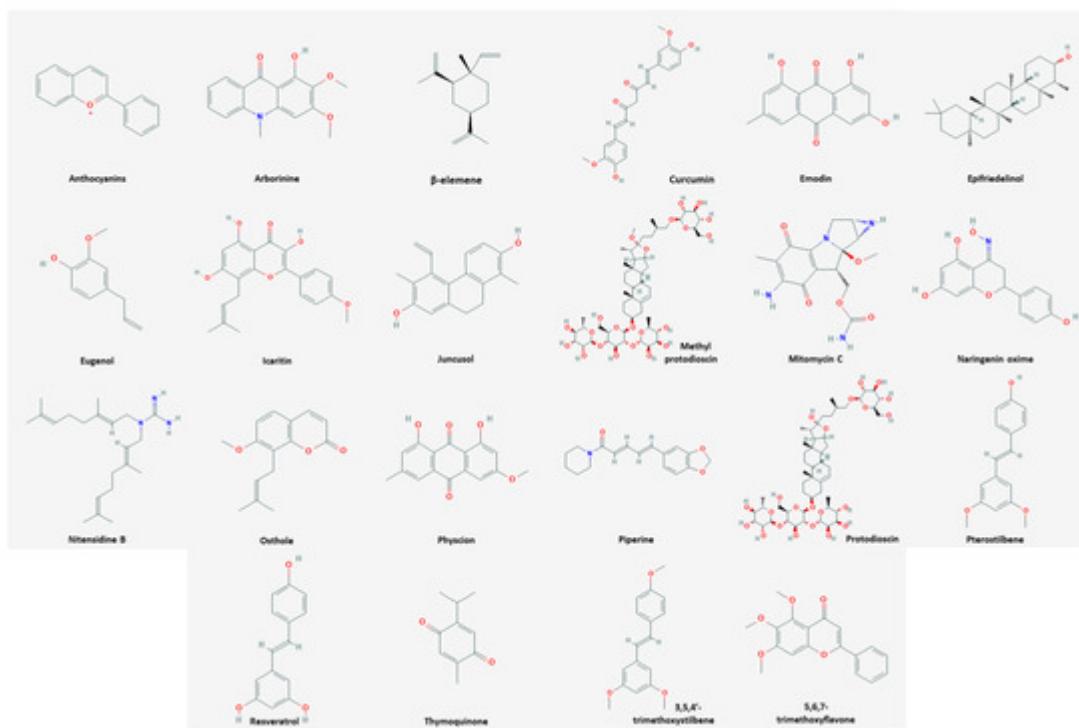
## 2. Results

### 2.1. Apoptosis

Apoptosis is a unique form of cell death and is an important process that regulates the homeostasis of cell survival [21]. Apoptosis eliminates potentially cancerous cells and this process is caused by atrophy of cells, synthesis of new proteins, and cell suicide genes; also, it has a great influence on the malignant phenotype [22]. For this reason, apoptosis is used as an anticancer mechanism for cancer research. A total of 47 studies have been performed to elucidate apoptosis-mediated anti-cancer pathway of natural products in Hela and SiHa cells. A total of 54 natural products were reviewed.

#### 2.1.1. Compounds

Among the natural products, 35 compounds showed an apoptotic effect against cervical cancer ([Table 1](#)). The chemical structures of the compounds are shown in [Figure 1](#).



**Figure 1.** Chemical structures of compounds derived from natural products inducing apoptosis.

**Table 1.** Apoptosis inducing natural products-compounds.

| Classification | Compound         | Source  | Cell Line/<br>Animal<br>Model | Dose;<br>Duration                               | Efficacy   | Mechanism   | Reference |
|----------------|------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|--|---|-----------|
| Etc.           | Acylhydrazone    |   | HeLa                          | 2.21 $\mu$ M;<br>48 h                           | Inhibition of<br>cancer<br>activity  |   | [23]      |
| Plant          | Anthocyanins     | Root tubers and leaves<br>of <i>Ipomoea batatas</i> | HeLa                          | 100, 200<br>$\mu$ g/mL;<br>48 h                 | Induction of<br>apoptosis,<br>cell cycle<br>arrest                               | $\uparrow$ CFP/YFP  | [24]      |
| Plant          | Arborinine       | <i>Glycosmis parva</i>                              | HeLa                          | 110<br>$\mu$ g/mL;<br>24 h                      | Induction of<br>apoptosis<br>Inhibition of<br>migration                          | $\uparrow$ caspase-3, -7<br>$\downarrow$ Bcl2-L1  | [25]      |
| Plant          | $\beta$ -elemene | <i>Curcuma zedoaria</i>                             | SiHa                          | 30, 40,<br>50<br>$\mu$ g/mL;<br>24, 48,<br>72 h | Inhibition of<br>proliferation<br>and<br>migration<br>Induction of<br>cell cycle | $\uparrow$ p15, p53, Bax<br>$\downarrow$ cyclin D1, Bcl-<br>2, MMP-2, -9,<br>$\beta$ -catenin,<br>TCF7, c-Myc | [26]      |

| Classification | Compound                   | Source   | Cell Line/<br>Animal Model | Dose;<br>Duration  | Efficacy   | Mechanism  | Reference |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|--|--|-----------|
|                |                            |  |                            |  | arrest and apoptosis                                     |  |           |
| Plant          | Copper oxide nanoparticles | <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> , <i>Murraya koenigii</i> , <i>Moringa oleifera</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i> | HeLa                       | 2, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100 µg/mL; 48 h                                | Inhibition of oxidative stress<br>Induction of apoptosis |  | [27]      |
| Plant          | Curcumin                   | <i>Curcuma longa</i>   | HeLa, C57BL/6, BALB/c      | In vitro: 2 µg/mL; 48 h<br>In vivo: 25 mg/kg                     | Induction of apoptosis and cell cycle arrest             | ↑p53, cytochrome c, PARP, caspase-3, -7, -9<br>↓Bcl-2, NF-κB | [28]      |
| Plant          | Emodin                     | <i>Rhamnus sphaerosperma</i> var. <i>pubescens</i>   | SiHa, C33A                 | 46.3, 92.8, 185 µg/mL; 6, 12, 24 h                               | Induction of apoptosis                                   | ↓NO-, O <sub>2</sub> -, HOCl/OCl-, p-Akt                     | [29]      |
| Plant          | Epifriedelolin             | <i>Aster tataricus</i> , <i>Vitex peduncularis</i> Wall.   | HeLa                       | 50, 100, 250, 500, 1000 µg/mL; 72 h                              | Induction of apoptosis                                   | ↑caspase-3, -8, -9<br>↓Bcl-2, -XL, survivin                  | [30]      |
| Plant          | Eugenol                    | <i>Syzygium aromaticum</i>   | HeLa, SiHa                 | 12.5, 25 µM; 24, 48 h  | Induction of apoptosis                                   | ↑Bax, PARP, caspase-3, ROS<br>↓Bcl-2, XIAP                   | [31]      |
| Plant          | Icaritin                   | <i>Epimedium</i>   | HeLa, SiHa                 | HeLa: 12.5, 25 µM; 24, 48, 72 h<br>SiHa: 17, 34 µM; 24, 48, 72 h | Induction of apoptosis<br>Inhibition of proliferation    | ↑ROS, Bax, c-caspase-3, -9<br>↓Bcl-2, XIAP                   | [32]      |
| Plant          | Juncusol                   | <i>Juncus inflexu</i>  | HeLa, SiHa, CaSkI          | 1, 3, 10, 30 µM; 24, 48, 72 h                                    | Induction of apoptosis<br>Inhibition of proliferation    | ↑caspase-3, -8, -9<br>↓EGFR, tubulin polymerization          | [33]      |

| Classification | Compound               | Source                                  | Cell Line/<br>Animal Model        | Dose;<br>Duration  | Efficacy  | Mechanism   | Reference |
|----------------|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|-----------|
| Plant          | Methyl protodioscin    | Rhizoma of <i>Polygonatum sibiricum</i> | HeLa                              | 18.31,<br>40, 49<br>μM; 24 h   | Induction of<br>apoptosis<br>and cell<br>cycle arrest<br>Inhibition of<br>proliferation | ↑ ROS   | [34]      |
| Plant          | Mitomycin C            | Ginger, Frankincense                    | HeLa                              | 10<br>μg/mL;<br>24 h   | Induction of<br>apoptosis<br>Inhibition of<br>proliferation                             |   | [35]      |
| Etc.           | Naringenin oxime       |   | HeLa,<br>SiHa                     | HeLa:<br>12, 24<br>μM; 24 h<br>SiHa: 18,<br>36 μM;<br>24 h                         | Induction of<br>apoptosis<br>Inhibition of<br>proliferation                             | ↑ caspase-3   | [36]      |
|                | Naringenin oxime ether |   |                                   |  |   |   |           |
| Plant          | Nitensidine B          | Leaves of <i>Pterogyne nitens</i> Tul.  | HPV16,<br>SiHa                    | 30, 60,<br>120 μM;<br>6, 12, 24<br>h   | Induction of<br>apoptosis   | ↑ caspase-3, -7<br>↓ aldolase A,<br>alpha-enolase,<br>pyruvate<br>kinase,<br>glyceraldehyde<br>3-p-<br>dehydrogenase                                      | [37]      |
| Plant          | Notoginsenoside R7     | <i>Panax notoginseng</i>                | HeLa,<br>BALB/c                   | In vitro:<br>5, 10, 20,<br>40 μM;<br>24, 36,<br>48 h<br>In vivo:<br>5, 10<br>mg/kg | Induction of<br>apoptosis<br>Inhibition of<br>proliferation                             | ↑ Bax, p-PTEN,<br>Akt<br>↓ Bcl-2, -XL,<br>caspase-3, -9,<br>raptor  | [38]      |
| Plant          | Osthole                | <i>Cnidium monnieri</i> (L.) Cusson     | HeLa,<br>SiHa,<br>C-33A,<br>CaSkI | 40, 80,<br>120, 160,<br>200, 240<br>μM; 24,<br>48 h                                | Induction of<br>apoptosis<br>Inhibition of<br>proliferation                             | ↑ Bax, c-<br>caspase-3, -9<br>proteins,<br>E-cadherin,<br>H2AX<br>↓ Bcl-2, MMP-2,<br>-9, β-catenin,<br>vimentin, N-<br>cadherin, IKKα,<br>p-IKKα, p65, p- | [39]      |

| Classification | Compound                                      | Source   | Cell Line/<br>Animal Model | Dose;<br>Duration  | Efficacy  | Mechanism   | Reference |
|----------------|---|--|----------------------------|--|---|---|-----------|
|                |   |  |                            |  |   | p65, p50, NF-<br>kB   |           |
| Plant          | Physcion                                      | <i>Rhamnus sphaerosperma</i> var. <i>pubescens</i> | SiHa,<br>C33A              | 43.8,<br>87.5, 175<br>µg/mL;<br>6, 12, 24<br>h             | Induction of<br>apoptosis   | ↓HOCl/OCl-, p-<br>Akt   | [29]      |
| Plant          | Phyto-synthesis<br>of silver<br>nanoparticles | Garlic, Green tea, Turmeric                        | HeLa                       | 2, 5, 10,<br>25, 50,<br>100<br>µg/mL;<br>48 h              | Induction of<br>apoptosis   | ↓free radical   | [40]      |
| Plant          | Piperine                                      | <i>Piper nigrum</i> L.                             | HeLa,<br>PTX               | 50 µM;<br>6, 24, 72<br>h<br>with<br>paclitaxel             | Induction of<br>apoptosis   | ↑Bax, Bcl-2, c-<br>PARP,<br>caspase-3<br>↓p-Akt, Mcl-1                              | [41]      |
| Plant          | Prenylflavonoids<br>C1                        | <i>Mallotus conspicuatus</i>                       | HeLa                       | 30 µM;<br>24 h   | Induction of<br>apoptosis   | ↑EGFP, ROS,<br>Bcl-2,<br>cytochrome c,<br>Apaf-1,<br>caspase-3, -9<br>↓c-Myc, hTERT | [42]      |
| Plant          | Prenylflavonoids<br>C5                        |  |                            | 10 µM;<br>24 h   |   |   | 50        |
| Plant          | Protodioscin                                  | <i>Dioscoreae</i> rhizome                          | HeLa,<br>C33A              | 4 µM;<br>24, 48 h  | Induction of<br>apoptosis<br>and<br>mitochondrial<br>dysfunction                        | ↑JNK, p38,<br>PERK, ATF4,<br>Bax, caspase-<br>3, -8, -9, PARP<br>↓Bcl-2             | [43]      |
| Etc.           | Pterostilbene                                 | [53]   | HPV E6,<br>TC1,<br>C57Bl/6 | In vitro:<br>30 µM;<br>48 h<br>In vivo: 1<br>mM; 5<br>days | Induction of<br>cell cycle<br>arrest  | ↑caspase-3<br>↓PCNA, VEGF   | [44]      |
|                | Resveratrol                                   |  |                            |  |   |   |           |
| Plant          | Tf-CT-ME                                      | <i>Tripterygium wilfordii</i>                      | HeLa                       | 0.5, 1, 2<br>µg/mL;<br>24 h                                | Induction of<br>cell cycle<br>arrest and<br>apoptosis<br>Inhibition of<br>proliferation | ↑c-caspase-3<br>↓Bcl-2/Bax  | [45]      |

proliferation were increased and mRNA levels of *caspase-2* and *caspase-3* were decreased in HeLa cells by treatment of ethanol extracts from *Bauhinia variegata candida* at dose of 15 µg/mL for an incubation time of 24 h [55]. Controlling mechanisms, it could reduce cell viability and inhibit migration and induce apoptosis. In conclusion, it contained components with potential tumor-selective cytotoxic action. Ethanol extracts isolated from *Botryidiopsidaceae* species induced apoptosis and inhibited oxidant, proliferation, migration, and invasion in HeLa cells [56]. It upregulated p53 and c-caspase-3 and downregulated Bcl-2 at doses of 6.25 µg/mL, 12.5 µg/mL, 25 µg/mL, and 50 µg/mL for an incubation time of 24 h. In conclusion, inhibitory effects of ethanol extracts on migration and invasion might occur via the modulation of genes related to the processes of cellular invasion and migration. Ethanol extracts from *Chloromonas* species upregulated c-caspase-3 and p53 and downregulated Bcl-2 in HeLa cells at dose of 12.5 µg/mL and 25 µg/mL for an incubation time of 24 h and 72 h [57]. The result meant that ethanol extracts dealt with cancer cells by increasing the pro-apoptotic protein and reducing the anti-apoptotic protein. It suggested that induction of apoptosis through the modulation of apoptosis associated genes and inhibition of proliferation and oxidant were involved in the

| Classification | Compound  | Source  | Cell Line/Animal Model | Dose; Duration                               | Efficacy [58]   | Mechanism  | Reference |
|----------------|---|---|------------------------|--|---|--|-----------|
| Seed           | Thymoquinone  | <i>Nigella sativa</i>   | SiHa, CaSki            | 10, 20, 40 $\mu$ M; 24, 36, 48 h             | Inhibition of migration and invasion  | $\uparrow$ Bax, E-cadherin<br>$\downarrow$ Bcl-2, Twist1, vimentin                                 | [46]      |
| Plant          | Triphala  | <i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz., <i>Terminalia bellerica</i> (Gaertn) Roxb., <i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> Linn. | HeLa                   | 25-150 $\mu$ g/mL; 48 h                      | Induction of apoptosis [29]   | $\uparrow$ ERK, p53<br>$\downarrow$ c-Myc, cyclin D1, p-Akt, p-NF- $\kappa$ B, p56, p-p44/42, MAPK | [47]      |
| Plant          | 1'S-1'-acetoxychavicol acetate  | <i>Alpinia conchigera</i>   | CaSki, SiHa            | 20, 30 $\mu$ M; 6, 12, 48 h                  | Induction of apoptosis [59]   | $\uparrow$ RSU1, GAPDH   | [48]      |
| Plant          | 2D of oleanolic acid and glycyrrhetic acid<br>3O [60]oleanolic acid and glycyrrhetic acid | <i>Ligustrum Lucidum Fructus, Glycyrrhiza uralensis</i>   | HeLa                   | 2, 4 $\mu$ M; 24, 48 h<br>1, 2 $\mu$ M; 48 h | Induction of apoptosis<br>Inhibition of proliferation                       | $\uparrow$ ROS   | [49]      |
| Etc.           | 3,5,4'-trimethoxystilbene<br>5,6,7'-trimethoxyflavone                                     |   | HeLa                   | 10 $\mu$ M; 48 h                             | Induction of apoptosis  |  | [50]      |
| Plant          | 5'-epi-SPA-6952A  | <i>Streptomyces diastatochromogenes</i>   | HeLa                   | 2, 4, 8, 16 $\mu$ g/mL; 24 h                 | Induction of apoptosis and cell cycle arrest<br>Inhibition of proliferation | $\uparrow$ Bax/Bcl-2, cytochrome c, caspase-3, -9, c-PARP, p53<br>$\downarrow$ MMP                 | [51]      |

(pap65) cleaves the PARP (c-PARP) monoubiquitinated to a cleaved cleavage product (Mc1) to very have a high rate of fluorescence protein (EGFP) that apoptotic processes. a. Exogenous factor Bax (Apaf-1); caspase 8 (op21), and caspase 3 (caspase 3) was increased kinase (JNK) protein kinase RNA-like endonuclease with a role in apoptosis. *Plyxisia* (P. griffithii) activate caspase 3 and caspase 7, (APAF-1) 2 proliferating cell counting the gene (PCNA) was situated and cell cycle inhibitor (MCID) expression. Consequently, extraction containing cardiotonic glycoside (cardiotonic glycoside) (C-15-*S*-ME) Hektracellule death inhibitor (glycoside) (GK) was isolated and characterized. The phosphatase 44 (p44) Pyrrrosia piloselloides showed anti-lipid peroxidative effects and suppressed apoptosis [68]. 1T (RS left) cytotoxicity of the 6-phytanyl ether hydrogentapetene (GAP625,  $50 \mu\text{g/mL}$ ). Meanwhile, *Pyrrosia piloselloides* water extracts were without influence. Panicker et al. reported that methanol extracts from *Teucrium mascatense* were shown to activate caspases and PARP on HeLa cells, following treatment with 25  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , 50  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , 125  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , and 250  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , for 72 h [69]. In addition, cell rounding, shrinkage, and detachment from other cells were shown by methanol extracts. This result suggested apoptosis and alteration of cell morphology were related to the pathway.

**Table 2.** Apoptosis inducing natural products-extracts.

| Classification | Extract         | Source  | Cell Line/<br>Animal Model | Dose;<br>Duration              | Efficacy   | Mechanism  | Reference |
|----------------|-----------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|-----------|
| Plant          | Aqueous extract | <i>Anemone nemorosa</i>   | HeLa                       | 20.33 ± 2.480 µg/mL; 24, 48 h  | Induction of apoptosis<br>Inhibition of proliferation                        | ↑PS translocation, c-caspase-3, -8, ROS (24 h)<br>↓MMP, ROS (48 h) | [52]      |
| Plant          | Aril extract    | <i>Strelitzia nicolai</i>   | HeLa                       | 250 µg/mL; 24, 48, 72 h        | Inhibition of oxidative stress<br>Induction of apoptosis                     |  | [53]      |
| Plant          | Ethanol extract | <i>Astragalus membranaceus</i> ,<br><i>Angelica gigas</i> ,<br><i>Trichosanthes kirilowii</i> Maximowicz. | HeLa                       | 100, 200, 400 µg/mL; 24, 48 h  | Induction of apoptosis and cell cycle arrest<br>Inhibition of cell viability | ↑c-caspase-3, -8, PARP-1<br>↓Bax, cyclin D, CDK2, CDK4, CDK6, p27  | [54]      |
| Plant          | Ethanol extract | <i>Bauhinia variegata candida</i>   | HeLa                       | 15 µg/mL; 24 h                 | Inhibition of cell viability and migration<br>Induction of apoptosis         | ↑c-caspase-3, -8, RIP, TNF-R1<br>↓MMP-2, MMP-9                     | [55]      |
| Plant          | Ethanol extract | <i>Botryidiodiaceae</i> species   | HeLa                       | 6.25, 12.5, 25, 50 µg/mL; 24 h | Inhibition of oxidative stress and   | ↑p53, c-caspase-3<br>↓Bcl-2  | [56]      |

| Classification | Extract               | Source   | Cell Line/<br>Animal<br>Model  | Dose;<br>Duration                                       | Efficacy   | Mechanism   | Reference |
|----------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-----------|
|                |                       |  |                                |   | migration<br>Induction of apoptosis                      |   |           |
| Plant          | Ethanol extract       | <i>Chloromonas</i> species                         | HeLa                           | 12.5, 25 µg/mL; 24, 72 h                                | Inhibition of oxidative stress<br>Induction of apoptosis | ↑c-caspase-3, p53<br>↓Bcl-2                               | [57]      |
| Plant          | Ethanol extract       | <i>Dendrobium chrysanthum</i>                      | HeLa, Swiss albino mice        | In vitro: 450 µg/mL; 24 h<br>In vivo: 50, 100 mg/kg     | Induction of apoptosis                                   | ↑Bax, p53<br>↓Bcl-2                                       | [58]      |
| Plant          | Ethanol extract       | <i>Rhamnus sphaerosperma</i> var. <i>pubescens</i> | SiHa, C33A                     | 25, 50, 100 µg/mL; 6, 12, 24 h                          | Induction of apoptosis                                   | ↓HOCl/OCl-, p-Akt   | [29]      |
| Plant          | Ethyl acetate extract | <i>Gynura formosana</i> Kitam.                     | HeLa                           | 30 µg/mL; 72 h  | Inhibition of proliferation                              | ↑LC3-II/LC3-I, ↓P62/GAPDH, MCM7/GAPDH                     | [59]      |
| Fungus         | Ethyl acetate extract | <i>Penicillium sclerotiorum</i>                    | HeLa                           | 5, 25, 50 µg/mL; 24 h                                   | Induction of apoptosis and cell cycle arrest             | ↑Bax, p53, Apaf-1<br>↓Bcl-2                               | [60]      |
| Plant          | Ethyl acetate extract | <i>Streptomyces</i> species                        | SiHa                           | 20, 40, 60 µg/mL; 24 h                                  | Induction of apoptosis and autophagy                     | ↑caspase-3, -9, Bax, LC3-II<br>↓PARP, LC3-I, Beclin1, p62 | [61]      |
| Plant          | Extract               | Blueberry  | SiHa                           | 50 mg/mL; 24 h with 4 Gy radiotherapy                   | Enhancement of radiotherapy                              | ↑p53<br>↓cyclin D, E, p21, survivin                       | [62]      |
| Plant          | Lipid-soluble extract | <i>Pinellia pedatisecta</i> Schott.                | HPV <sup>+</sup> TC-1, C57BL/6 | In vitro: 500 µg/mL; 72, 120 h<br>In vivo: 10, 20 mg/kg | Induction of cell cycle arrest and apoptosis             | ↑β-catenin, c-Myc, cyclin D1, PPAR1<br>↓Th2, Th17         | [63]      |
| Plant          | Methanol extract      | <i>Allium atroviolaceum</i>                        | HeLa                           | 20, 40, 60, 80, 100 µg/mL; 24, 48, 72 h                 | Induction of cell cycle arrest                           | ↑caspase-3, -5, -9<br>↓Bcl-2, CDK1, p53                   | [64]      |

## 2.2. Anti-angiogenesis

Angiogenesis is a major cause in the development and metastasis of a variety of tumor types [70]. Local angiogenesis provides oxygen and essential nutrients to the growing tumor, supports tumor expansion and invasion into nearby normal tissue, and is essential for distant metastasis [71]. To be specific, in cervical cancer,

| Classification | Extract          | Source                                     | Cell Line/<br>Animal Model | Dose;<br>Duration            | Efficacy<br>[72]   | Mechanism                                  | Reference |
|----------------|------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|-----------|
| Plant          | Methanol extract | <i>Corylus avellane</i> L.                 | HeLa                       | 250, 500 µg/mL; 24 h         | Inhibition of oxidative stress<br>Induction of apoptosis | ↑ caspase-3<br>↓ PARP-1                    | [65]      |
| Plant          | Methanol extract | <sup>[73]</sup><br><i>Cyperus rotundus</i> | HeLa                       | 25, 50, 100 µg/mL; 24, 48 h  | Induction of apoptosis                                   |  | [66]      |
| Plant          | Methanol extract | <i>Polyalthia longifolia</i>               | HeLa<br>[15]               | 22 µg/mL; 6, 12, 24, 36 h    | Induction of apoptosis                                   | ↑ Bax, BAD, caspase-3, p21, p53<br>↓ Bcl-2 | [67]      |
| Plant          | Methanol extract | <i>Pyrrosia piloselloides</i>              | HeLa,                      | 16.25 µg/mL; 24, 48, 72 h    | Inhibition of proliferation                              |  | [68]      |
| Plant          | Methanol extract | <i>Teucrium mascatense</i>                 | HeLa                       | 25, 50, 125, 250 µg/mL; 72 h | Induction of apoptosis<br>Inhibition of proliferation    | ↑ caspase-7, -8, -9, PARP                  | [69]      |

Induce cell cycle arrest and inhibit angiogenesis at a dose of 7.75 µg/mL. Seiraddinipour et al. reported that ethyl acetate extracts isolated from *Pistacia vera* L. downregulated TNF, Bcl-2, IAP, and TRAF in CaSki cells [74]. Through the mechanisms, it induced apoptosis and inhibited angiogenesis. The efficient dose was 81.17 ± 2.87 µg/mL, dealing with a timeframe of 72 h.

**Table 3.** Angiogenesis inhibiting natural products.

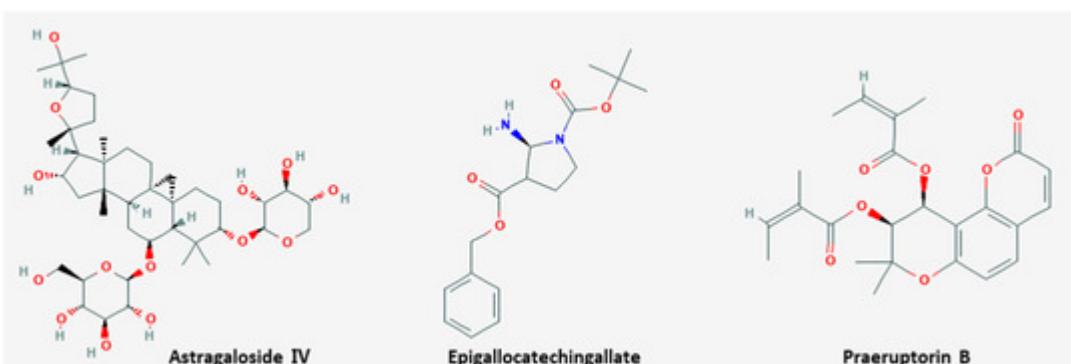
| Classification | Compound/<br>Extract          | Source                          | Cell<br>Line/<br>Animal<br>Model | Dose;<br>Duration                                      | Efficacy  | Mechanism                     | Reference |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Fruit          | PfLP                          | <i>Praecitrullus fistulosus</i> | HeLa<br>Swiss Albino mice        | In vitro:<br>50 µg/mL;<br>24 h<br>In vivo:<br>10 mg/kg | Induction of apoptosis<br>Inhibition of angiogenesis                | ↓ MMP-2, -9                   | [73]      |
| Plant          | Purified flaxseed hydrolysate | Lignan                          | HeLa                             | 17.4 µg/mL;<br>48 h                                    | Induction of apoptosis<br>Inhibition of angiogenesis and metastasis | ↑ caspase-3<br>↓ MMP-2, VEGF  | [15]      |
| Fungus         | Ethyl acetate extract         | <i>Penicillium sclerotiorum</i> | HeLa                             | 7.75 µg/mL;<br>24 h                                    | Induction of cell cycle arrest and apoptosis                        | ↑ Bax, p53, Apaf-1<br>↓ Bcl-2 | [60]      |

| Classification | Compound/Extract      | Source                  | Cell Line/<br>Animal Model | Dose;<br>Duration        | Efficacy   | Mechanism               | Reference                              |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| Plant          | Ethyl acetate extract | <i>Pistacia vera L.</i> | CaSkI                      | 81.17 ± 2.87 µg/mL; 72 h | Inhibition of angiogenesis<br>[75]<br>Induction of apoptosis<br>Inhibition of angiogenesis | ↓ TNF, Bcl-2, IAP, TRAF | 3cl-2 was [74]<br>nism that ion of the |

Substance ( $7.75 \mu\text{g/mL}$ ) was significantly lower than that of other anti-angiogenesis studies [60]. By increasing the expression of Bax, p53, and Apaf-1 and inhibiting Bcl-2, it was shown to induce not only anti-angiogenesis, but also *Praecitrullus fistulosus* lectin protein (PfLP); inhibitor of apoptosis protein (IAP); TNF receptor-associated factor cell cycle arrest and apoptosis at doses of 5  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , 25  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , and 50  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ . (TRAF).

## 2.3. Anti-Metastasis

Metastasis is the propagation of transformed cells from the organ of origin to other parts of the body and the successive proliferation of tumor colonies [76]. The mechanism includes complicated processes, such as cancer cell detachment from extracellular matrix, migration, invasion, and extravasation to the circulation, and most cancer patients die from metastasis rather than primary tumors [77]. Six natural products including EGCG inhibited metastasis (Table 4). The chemical structures of compounds are shown in Figure 2.



**Figure 2.** Chemical structures of compounds derived from natural products inhibiting metastasis.

**Table 4.** Metastasis inhibiting natural products.

| Classification | Compound/Extract | Source          | Cell Line/<br>Animal Model | Dose;<br>Duration | Efficacy                      | Mechanism                   | Reference |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Plant          | Astragaloside IV | Radix Astragali | SiHa                       | 200 µg/mL; 24 h   | Inhibition of cell metastasis | ↑ E-cadherin<br>↓ p38, PI3K | [78]      |

| Classification | Compound/Extract        | Source                               | Cell Line/Animal Model | Dose; Duration         | Efficacy  | Mechanism                      | Reference |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Plant          | Epigallocatechingallate | Green tea                            | HeLa                   | 50 µg/mL; 48 h         | Inhibition of cell metastasis and proliferation<br>Induction of apoptosis | ↓ MMP-2, -9, VEGF              | [79]      |
| Plant          | Praeruptorin B          | <i>Peucedanum praeruptorum</i> Dunn. | HeLa, SiHa             | 40, 60 µM; 24 h        | Inhibition of cell metastasis   | ↓ NF-κB, MMP-2, -9             | [80]      |
| Seed           | Thymoquinone            | <i>Nigella sativa</i>                | CaSki, HeLa            | 5 µM; 24 h             | Induction of apoptosis, migration and invasion                            | ↑ E-cadherin<br>↓ Twist1, Zeb1 | [46]      |
| Plant          | Ethanol extract         | <i>Bauhinia variegata candida</i>    | HeLa                   | 25 µg/mL; 24 h         | Inhibition of cell viability, migration and invasion                      | ↓ MMP-2, -9                    | [55]      |
| Plant          | Ethanol extract         | <i>Terminalia catappa</i>            | HeLa, SiHa             | 25, 50, 75 µg/mL; 24 h | Inhibition of cell metastasis   | ↓ MMP-9, ERK1/2                | [81]      |

cervical cancer cells by reducing VEGF, CDK2, and ERK1/2. Praeruptorin-B isolated from *Peucedanum praeruptorum* Dunn. downregulated NF-κB, MMP-2, and -9 in HeLa and SiHa cells [80]. Inhibition of cell metastasis could be observed following the treatment of praeruptorin-B at doses of 40 µg and 60 µg over 24 h. Moreover, it blocked Akt phosphorylation without affecting the MAPK pathway. These results suggested that praeruptorin-B could be good at anticancer activity, especially in cervical cancer cells. Thymoquinone from *Nigella sativa* was shown to induce apoptosis, migration, and invasion in CaSki and HeLa cells [46]. It was efficient when CaSki cells and HeLa cells were treated at a concentration of 5 µM for 24 h. Furthermore, it included the mechanism of increasing E-cadherin level and decreasing the level of Twist1 and Zeb1. Ethanol extracts from *Bauhinia variegata candida* decreased the level of MMP-2 and -9 on HeLa cells [55]. This mechanism was caused when HeLa cells were treated at a concentration of 25 µg/mL for 24 h. Subsequently, it reduced cell viability, migration, and invasion. Lee et al. reported that the decline of MMP-9 and ERK1/2 was observed after the exposure of *Terminalia catappa* ethanol extracts on HeLa and SiHa cells [81]. This process was efficient when the dose was 25 µg/mL, 50 µg/mL, and 75 µg/mL, dealing with a timeframe of 24 h and it led to inhibition of cell metastasis. In conclusion, ethanol extracts blocked the MMP-9 through ERK1/2 pathway by anti-metastatic effects.

A total of six substances derived from natural products inhibited the metastasis of cervical cancer, and MMP control was the most important mechanism. Four substances regulated MMP, MMP-2 was inhibited in three substances, and MMP-9 was inhibited in four substances. E-cadherin is a protein remarkably related to tumor invasion,

metastatic transmission, and poor patient prognosis [82]. It was derived from two substances, and in addition, it showed anti-metastasis action through inhibitory mechanisms such as p38, VEGF, and Twist1. In particular, ethanol extracts from *Bauhinia variegata candida* exhibited multi-effect, inhibited migration and invasion at 25 µg/mL, and also induced apoptosis at 15 µg/mL [55]. However, the concentration of the natural product was so high (200 µg/mL) that there was a study involving cytotoxicity concerns [78].

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