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Paeoniflorin extract reverses dexamethasone-induced testosterone over-secretion through downregulation of Cytochrome P450 17A1 expression in primary murine theca cells

Madeleine Ong[a], Jing Cheng[a,b], Xingliang Jin[a,b], Weiguo Lao[a], Michael Johnson[a], Yi Tan[a], Xianqin Qu[a,b*]

[a]School of Life Sciences, University of Technology Sydney, NSW, Australia;

[b]Reproductive Health Centre, the Second Affiliated Hospital and Yuying Children's Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University, Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China

[*]**Corresponding author. Xianqin Qu PhD, MD** School of Life Sciences University of Technology Sydney, PO Box 123, Broadway, NSW 2007, Australia. Tel.: +61-2-9514 7852. Xianqin.Qu@uts.edu.au

Abstract

Ethnopharmacological relevance

Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) is a complex endocrine and reproductive disorder. A main hallmark includes increased androgen production. The root of *Paeonia lactiflora* Pall. (Bai Shao) is used in Chinese herbal medicine for reproductive disorders, however its effects and mechanisms on ovarian theca cells has not yet been fully elucidated.

Aim of the study

The aim of this study was to evaluate effect of paeoniflorin extract (PFE), the main constituents of Bai Shao, on androgen production in ovarian theca cells.