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Authors: Buse Cevatemre, Merve Erkısa, Nazlihan Aztopal, Didem Karakas, Pınar Alper, Chrisiida Tsimplouli, Evangelia Sereti, Konstantinos Dimas, Elif I. Ikitimur Armutak, Ebru Gurel Gurevin, Ayca Uvez, Mattia Mori, Simone Berardozzi, Cinzia Ingallina, Ilaria D'Acquarica, Bruno Botta, Bulent Ozpolat, Engin Ulukaya

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A promising natural product, pristimerin, results in cytotoxicity against breast cancer stem cells *in vitro* and xenografts *in vivo* through apoptosis and an incomplete autopaghy in breast cancer

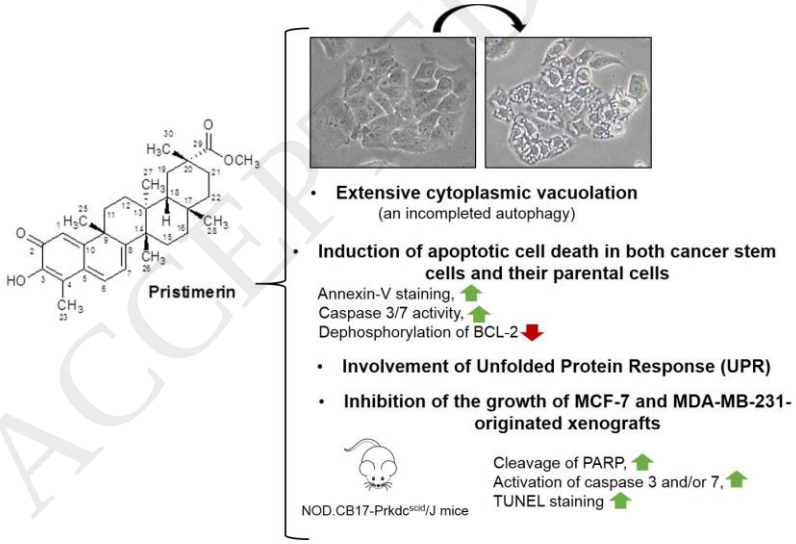
Buse Cevatemre[1], Merve Erkısa[1,2]†, Nazlihan Aztopal[1,2]†, Didem Karakas[1,2], Pınar Alper[1,2], Chrisiida Tsimplouli[3], Evangelia Sereti[3], Konstantinos Dimas[3], Elif I. Ikitimur Armutak[4], Ebru Gurel Gurevin[5], Ayca Uvez[4], Mattia Mori[6], Simone Berardozzi[6,7],Cinzia Ingallina[6,7], Ilaria D'Acquarica[7], Bruno Botta[7], Bulent Ozpolat[8], Engin Ulukaya[2*]

[1] Uludag University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Biology, Bursa, Turkey
[2] Istinye University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Clinical Biochemistry, Istanbul, Turkey
[3] Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Thessaly, Larissa, Greece
[4] Department of Histology and Embryology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Istanbul University, 34320, Istanbul-Turkey
[5] Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Istanbul University, 34134, Istanbul-Turkey
[6] Center for Life Nano Science@Sapienza, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, viale Regina Elena 291, 00161 Roma, Italy.
[7] Dipartimento di Chimica e Tecnologie del Farmaco, Sapienza University of Roma, piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Roma, Italy.
[8] Department of Experimental Therapeutics, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, United States of America.

† These authors contributed equally to this work.

***Corresponding author:**
Engin Ulukaya (MD, PhD),
Prof. of Clinical Biochemistry
Medical School of Istinye University
Address: Istinye Uni. Tip Fak. Tibbi Biyokimya A.D.
34010 Topkapi, TURKEY
Tel: +905334305932
Email: eulukaya@istinye.edu.tr

Graphical abstract



Abstract

Several natural products have been suggested as effective agents for the treatment of cancer. Given the important role of CSCs (Cancer Stem Cells) in cancer, which is a trendy hypothesis, it is worth investigating the effects of pristimerin on CSCs as well as on the other malignant cells (MCF-7 and MDA-MB-231) of breast cancer. The anti-growth activity of pristimerin against MCF-7 and MCF-7s (cancer stem cell enriched population) cells was