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Two New Dihydrochalcones from *Lindera erythrocarpa*.

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The leaves, wood, and roots of *Lindera erythrocarpa* MAKINO (Japanese name, "Kanakugi-no-ki") (Lauraceae) were investigated and seven compounds were isolated. Among them, five conpounds were known; 5,6-dehydrokawain, pinostrobin, methyl cinnamate, helilandin B, and pashanone. The remaining two new compounds were dihydrochlcones, dihydropashanone and dehydrokanakugiol, which were elucidated by chemical and spectroscopic means. The structure of dihydropashanone was determined as 2′,6′-dehydroxy-4′,5′-dimethoxydihydrochalcone and dihydrokanakugiol was 2′-hydroxy-3′,4′,5′,6′-tetramethoxydihydrochalcone.

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Inhibitory Effects of Glucocorticoids on Increased Vascular Permeability Caused by Passive Cutaneous Anaphylaxis and Some Chemical Mediators in Rats.

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Effects of hydrocortisone, prednisolone and dexamethasone on IgE antibody-mediated homologous passive cutaneous anaphylaxis (PCA) and mediator-induced skin reactions were investigated. PCA and skin reactions were evoked at the same time in the dorsal skin of a rat. Administrations of glucocorticoids inhibited not only the PCA but also the skin reactions caused by histamine, serotonin and leukotriene C_4 significantly. It is suggested, therefore, that glucocorticoids inhibit the increase of vascular permeability non-specifically. This action of glucocorticoids might contribute at least in part to its inhibitory effect on the PCA.

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Liver Injury Model in Mice for Immunopharmacological Study.

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Three experimental liver injury models were produced in mice by rabbit anti-basic liver protein antibody, rabbit anti-liver specific protein antibody, and bacterial lipopolysaccharide. In these models, serum glutamate transaminase activities were elevated, and submassive hepatocellular necrosis and infiltration of granulocytes and lymphocytes into the portal tract and sinusoid in the necrotic lesion of the liver were observed. Administration of prednisolone and cyclophosphamide suppressed the elevation of transaminase levels in all models. We concluded that these models are suitable for investigating the remedy for liver diseases.