

Cytotoxic constituents from *Strophanthus divaricatus*

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Strophanthus divaricatus is a small evergreen shrubs which is rarely found in Taiwan. The Genus *Strophanthus* is well known for producing cardiac glycosides and some of which exhibiting antitumor activity.

Isolates were purified by silica gel. Structural elucidation were accomplished by ¹H-, ¹³C-NMR, HMBC, HMQC, COSY, NOESY and MS spectra. Cytotoxicity were evaluated by MTT assay. Through the screening on the basis of the two different types of cancers, including oral cancer (SCC-2095) and acute myeloid leukemia (THP-1), the crude extract of *S. divaricatus* (SD) possessed cytotoxicity in this screening against these two cancer cell lines. The IC₅₀ value of SD is about at 0.96-1.37 μg/mL after 48hrs treatment. The isolation and characterization of one cardenolide cardiac glycoside, divostroside was also reported.

This potent anti-tumor action of SD suggested that might be potential value to do the further investigation of its anticancer activity.