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Mangiferin: A Promising Anticancer Bioactive

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Abstract

Of late, several biologically active antioxidants from natural products have been investigated by the researchers in order to combat the root cause of carcinogenesis, i.e., oxidative stress. Mangiferin, a therapeutically active C-glucosylated xanthone, is extracted from pulp, peel, seed, bark and leaf of *Mangifera indica*. These polyphenols of mangiferin exhibit antioxidant properties and tend to decrease the oxygen-free radicals, thereby reducing the DNA damage. Indeed, its capability to modulate several key inflammatory pathways undoubtedly helps in stalling the progression of carcinogenesis. The current review article emphasizes an updated account on the patents published on the chemopreventive action of Mangiferin, apoptosis induction made on various cancer cells, along with proposed antioxidative activities and patent mapping of other important therapeutic properties. Considering it as promising polyphenol, this paper would also summarize the diverse molecular targets of Mangiferin.

Keywords: Chemoprotective, Antioxidants, Anti-inflammatory, Apoptosis, Bioactive, Patent mapping, Multiple molecular targets, Extraction and isolation of polyphenols, Isomangiferin, Homomangiferin,

1. Introduction

Cancer has been affecting mankind since decades. Repeated victims of this most devastating disease are vital organs like lung, liver, breast, colorectum, prostate, oesophagous and stomach. It has been spreading like havoc and is expected to take tens of millions newer patients into the fold by 2020 [1]. The key element significantly aggravating cancer is oxidative stress. Primarily, the inability of the body to detoxify the generated free radicals leads to cancer. A great deal of research has been undertaken across the global laboratories to combat this deadly disease. Even after enormous efforts and dedicated research conducted in this domain, the struggle to beat cancer still seems to be an ongoing process, if not a distant dream. Although various anticancer drugs, incorporated in various delivery systems are continuously being introduced in the market, yet each one is associated with the vital concerns of poor bioavailability, high cost, accompanied with off-target side effects [2]. Antioxidants, in this regard, have caught the clairvoyant eye of researchers for their chemopreventive usage against cancer. Many biologically active antioxidants extracted from diverse flora have been explored and identified by the academicians and industrial researchers. Fundamentally, these tend to scavenge the free radicals by interrupting the oxidative chain reactions [3].

One of the naturally occurring glycosylxanthone that has gained rapid importance recently, in this context is Mangiferin (Mgf). It is a polyphenolic C-glycoside, basically extracted from the leaves, stem barks and fruits of Mango tree, *Mangifera indica* from Anacardiaceae family. It is a heat-stable molecule with molecular weight less than 500 daltons. It has attracted the attention of the scientists worldwide, as it possesses numerous pharmacological activities other than acting merely as an antioxidant [4]. It is known to be an anti-inflammatory, anti-viral, analgesic, immunomodulatory [5] [6], antidiabetic [7] and many more. Several literature instances have cited and reported the ability of Mgf to inhibit

the cancer cells by inducing apoptosis. It has been observed in various animal models that it could act as a potent antioxidant by reducing free radical species, thereby preventing the potential DNA damage [8]. Currently, Mgf is in advanced preclinical stages and its formulations are set to undergo clinical trials subsequently. The current review article will highlight the patents filed on Mgf emphasizing its role not only as an antioxidant, but also to uncover its other beneficial characteristics, propagating it as a promising futuristic bioactive.

2. Source of Mangiferin: Extraction and Isolation

Owing to its myriad pharmacological activities and easy availability, Mgf has allured the interest of the researchers to develop efficient extraction and isolation methods, which could result in its maximum yield. The prime source of Mgf is mango tree, which is found abundantly in nature [9]. Various ancient scriptures talk about the potential of this plant with high nutritive and medicinal values, associated with variegated families like Anacardiaceae [10], Podalyfrieae [11], Hypericoideae [12], etc (Figure 1).

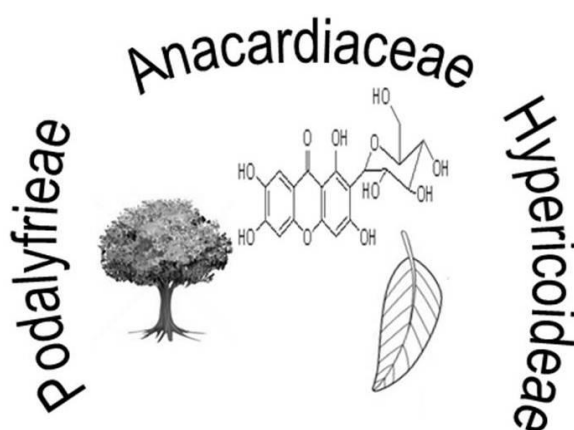


Figure 1: Existence of Mangiferin in three families.

Mgf can be extracted easily through decoctions and infusions of mango because of its hydrophilic nature. Various methods have been described in literature for the extraction and isolation of Mgf from diverse plant parts of mango. Some of the methods opted are Soxhlet extraction, microwave-assisted extraction, and subcritical

extraction using solvents. However, the pitfalls associated with the use of these traditional techniques are the usage of high amount of solvents for extraction, more time consumption and economically less feasible [13]. To overcome these hiccups, various new techniques like supercritical fluid extraction (SFE) [14] and pressurized liquid extraction (PLE) [15], have been lately opted by researchers to obtain maximal yield in shorter time span. These techniques are preferred, as these processes are fast and environment friendly owing due to usage of green solvents such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), ethanol or water. Fernández-Ponce *et al.* (2012) reported subcritical water extraction method for the extraction of Mgf from varied plant varieties like Osteen, Kensington, Kent and Ataulfo. The extract showed highly potent *in vitro* antioxidant activity [13]. However, another scientific group, Kim *et al.*, reported the extraction of Mgf from *Mahkota Dewa* employing same methodology, but making use of supercritical fluids [16]. Most commonly employed supercritical fluid is supercritical carbon dioxide (scCO₂), as it is documented to be ecologically safe, non-toxic and readily available [17]. The extraction yield from subcritical water method has been found to be quite close to the extraction yield using methanol as the extraction solvent, i.e., 21.7 mg/g [16]. Vrushali and Rathod (2014) described ultrasound three phase partitioning (UTPP) method for the extraction of Mgf from mango leaves. The method indicated the highest yield of 41 mg/g in 25 min vis-à-vis the conventional three-phase partitioning (TPP) that reported a yield of 28 mg/g in 2 h. The latter offers a swift and economical technique for extraction of Mgf [18]. Further, Kulkarni and Rathod in 2015 reported the microwave assisted three phase partitioning extraction (MTPP) method. The results obtained indicated higher yield of Mgf by MTPP (95%) in 5 mins as compared with the conventional technique like Soxhlet extraction which usually requires around 5 h. As per the results obtained, the MTPP method proved to be more proficient and faster for extraction of Mgf [19]. In general, it is reported that the content of Mgf in various parts of Mango tree is approximately found to be 4.4 mg/kg in mango pulp [20], 42 mg/kg in seed kernel [21], 1690 mg/kg in mango peel [22] and most abundant 71.4 g/kg in stem bark [23].

Therefore, the usage of newer techniques holds tremendous promise to provide maximal yield for wider exploration at lab and industrial scales.

3. Structural elucidation and other isoforms

To chemically synthesize Mgf being quite tedious as well as expensive, the best way to obtain it is considered to be via its extraction from various biological sources. Chemically, Mgf is C2-D-glucopyranosyl-1,3,6,7- tetrahydroxyxanthone as shown in Figure 2.

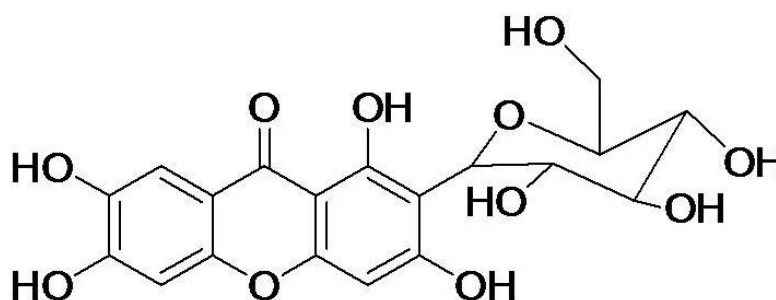


Figure 2. Structure of Mangiferin

In its chemical structure, C-glucosyl xanthone contains aromatic ring attached to the C-C bond of a glucose moiety, contributing towards its high polarity and water solubility. By and large, Mgf gratify Lipinski's rules, as for properties like molecular weight less than 500 with log P 2.73, fewer donor *viz.* acceptor groups, i.e., less than 5 and 10 to suffice hydrogen bonding; thus signifying the possible modifications that can be accomplished by the medicinal chemists to alter its physiochemical properties [24]. The presence of catechol ring, free hydroxyl groups, redox active aromatic system due to xanthone moiety, is responsible for the antioxidant activity of Mgf. In addition, it possesses proficient iron-chelating properties, resulting in the prevention of hydroxyl radicals to go in Fenton-type reactions principally responsible for oxidation [9].

The other isomeric forms like isomangiferin and homomangiferin are also present along with Mgf in the mango plant. The co-occurrence of these xanthenes was reported earlier in 1975 by Saleh and El-Ansari. Isomangiferin, mostly present in

Anemarrhena asphodeloides, chemically represented as 4- β -D-glucopyranosyl- 1, 3, 6, 7-tetrahydroxy-9H-xanthen-9-one [25] whereas homomangiferin is 1,6,7-trihydroxy-3-methoxy-2-C- β -D-glucopyranosyl-xanthone (Figure 3 a,b).

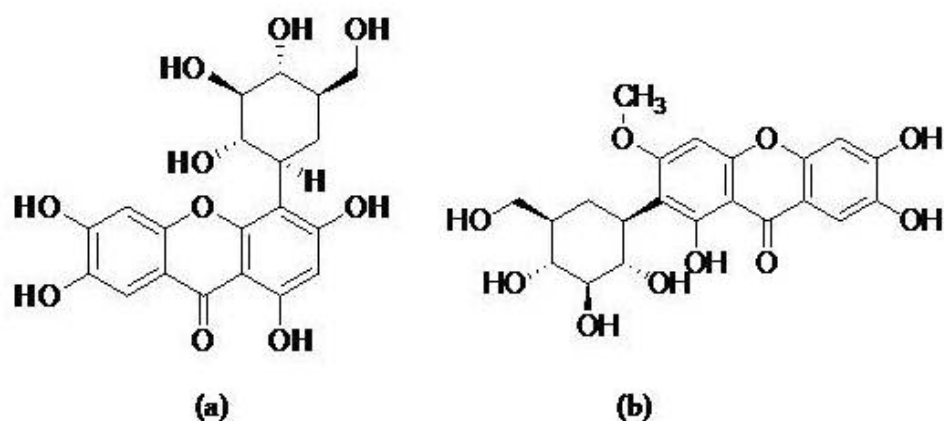


Figure 3. Mangiferin isomeric forms a) Isomangiferin b) Homomangiferin

4. Mechanism of action: As an antioxidant

The antioxidant potential of this xanthone derivative has been well established over the years. As already stated, polyphenols contribute to its free radical scavenging properties by arresting the generated free radicals. The possible responsible mechanistic pathways for the same include, the formation of iron chelates, inhibiting lipooxygenases and scavenging free radicals [26].

Iron is an essential micronutrient that plays a key role in normal cellular physiology. Once the concentration of iron reaches the threshold level, it may result in the generation of catalytic response towards formation of oxyradicals. These free radicals have the ability to disrupt the cellular membrane lipids, nucleic acid chains, carbohydrates and proteins, ultimately impairing the normal cellular functions of body [27]. Mgf, in this regard may reduce the oxidative damage by forming iron chelates. It is well-documented that noranthryriol, a product of Mgf metabolism, exhibits strong iron-chelating property [26]. It was been found that Mgf preserves the integrity of mitochondrial membrane by protecting it from lipid peroxidation.

Gilberto *et al.* (2007) reported that Mgf-Fe(III) complex protects the mitochondrial membrane thiols and glutathiones from oxidation [28]. Mgf, by scavenging these reactive species, maintains cellular integrity, thus minimizing the possible damage to erythrocytes [4].

5. Targets for antioxidant properties of Mgf: Molecular level

Since ages, polyphenols are known to modulate multiple molecular targets and signalling pathways. Mgf, serving as a potent polyphenol, has been shown to affect several biological processes, like inhibition of NF- κ B and other transcription factors, reactive oxygen species (ROS), angiogenesis, and apoptosis including mitochondrial bioenergetics [29]. It is reported that the anticancer activity is achieved by cell cycle arrest and direct apoptosis, while its chemoprotective action could be attributed due to its antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activities [30]. These targets enable the chemopreventive actions of Mgf by inhibiting the initiation, promotion and metastasis of cancer. Figure 4 and Table 1 highlights the various targets aimed by Mgf to curb cancer.

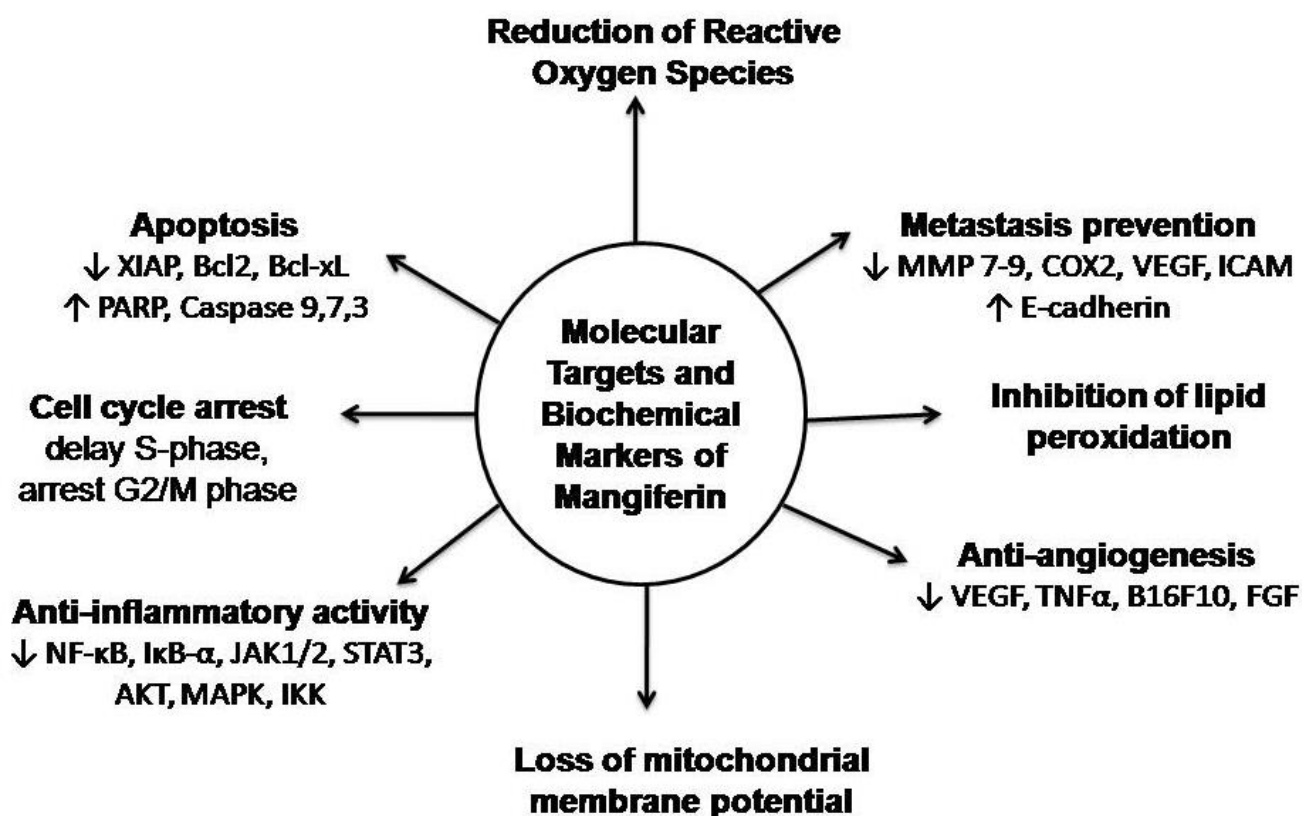


Figure 4. Diverse mechanisms for potential activity of Mangiferin

Table 1: Various molecular targets of Mgf to curb cancer

Target	Biochemical markers		References
Reactive oxygen species (ROS): Mgf is known to scavenge ROS generated in the cells. It is also known to inhibit xanthine oxidase, the enzyme responsible for oxidation.	ROS	↓	[31-33]
Anti-inflammatory: Mgf is a potent inhibitor of NF κ B, IL-6, IL-8, CXCR4, XIAP, TNF, ICAM1 and COX2.	NF- κ B	↓	[34]
	I κ B- α	↓	
	JAK1/2	↓	
	STAT3	↓	
	AKT	↓	
	MAPK	↓	

	IKK	↓	
Anti-angiogenesis: Mgf exhibits anti-angiogenic activity by inhibiting the growth of some tumors.	VEGF	↓	[35, 36]
	TNF α	↓	
	B16F10	↓	
	FGF	↓	
Apoptosis: Mgf induces apoptosis by suppressing NF- κ B activation and expressions of Bcl-xL and XAIP.	Caspase 9,7,3	↑	[37-41]
	XIAP	↓	
	Bcl2	↓	
	Bcl-xL	↓	
	PARP	↑	
Metastasis: Mgf inhibits the activation of β -catenin pathway and thus acts as an effective chemopreventive agent against breast cancer.	MMP 7-9	↓	[42]
	COX2	↓	
	VEGF	↓	
	ICAM	↓	
	E-cadherin	↑	
Cell cycle arrest: Mgf could delay S-phase, arrest G ₂ /M phase, leading to apoptosis. Mgf triggers cell-cycle arrest via down-regulating cdc2-cyclinB1 signalling pathway in breast cancer cells.			[40, 43]
Lipid peroxidation: Polyphenols could inhibit the onset of lipid peroxidation and evidently increase the serum antioxidant capacity, thus accounting for its chemopreventive action.			[44]
Mitochondrial membrane potential: Mgf induces loss of mitochondrial membrane potential and activates apoptotic proteins.			[45]

Apart from acting as antioxidant, Mgf possesses a repertoire of other useful properties. The specific patents in the light of each property have been obtained, and discussed underneath.

1. **Cosmeceuticals:** Gupta et al., 2004 invented a novel ion-pair delivery system in which a charge donor and a charge acceptor composition have been combined synergistically to enhance bioavailability, deposition, functional performance, and consumer aesthetics. This variegated composition was found to be safe and effective

with antioxidants such as non-sulphydryl donating groups which can enhance skin whitening efficacy [46].

Further, Gupta and Shyam (2006) explored efficacy of hydroxy acids esters as topical compositions serving as beneficial cosmetic and pharmaceutical agents [47]. Another invention by Peter and associates (2013) incorporates topically bioavailable antibacterial agent, Mg²⁺, as antioxidant agent which could improve micro-circulation. The combination cures acne, rosacea, controls excess sebum production and undesirable growth of bacteria or mites, as well as enhanced desquamation of follicular infundibulum cells [48].

Gupta and associates also disclosed an invention, with chirally correct polyene cyclodextrin acetals, and hemiacetals incorporated with antioxidants and anti-inflammatory ketones, that were effective in providing skin clarification and disfigurements, treat acne, and lighten skin darkening resulting from cancer, diabetes, radiation treatments and chemotherapy [49].

2. Arthritic disease: Park Dong-Suk *et al.*, 2009 unravelled an invention comprising of the extract of Mg²⁺ mixed herbs with *Lonicera japonica* and *Anemarrhena asphodeloides* showing potent anti-inflammatory activity for safe and effective management of arthritis. The extract contained chlorogenic acid, besides Mg²⁺ as the standard component [50].

3. Breast cancer: Wang Ching-chiung in 2011 disclosed an ethyl acetate layer of methanolic extract of *Aquilaria hulus* for preventing cancer. The invention was tested on a group of cancer cell lines like colorectal, gastric, prostate, breast, pancreatic, lung, bladder, colon, cervical and hepatocellular carcinoma [51]. Truog and Buschmann (2014) invented a pharmaceutical composition comprising of phenylbutyric acid derivative, and a chemopreventive agent thereof for use in the prevention of cancer [52].

Also, Halbrook (2013) documented Mg²⁺ as a compound and in compositions which could inhibit DNA-dependent protein kinase (DNA-PK). The present DNA-PK inhibitors can be used as diagnostic and therapeutic methods useful in the field of cancer therapy. The reduced exposure to radiation and chemotherapy drugs

improves a patient's prognosis with regard to unwanted adverse side effects that often accompany cancer treatments [53].

4. Colon and Lung cancer: Wang (2012), disclosed that an ethyl acetate layer of methanol extract of *Aquilaria hulls* effectively kills the cancerous cells. The extracts of the same has significant amount of cucurbitacins, which are effective in treating/preventing cancers [51]. Another research conducted by Siegelin and Altieri (2011) revealed a method of enhancing apoptosis in one or more mammalian cells, with at least one mitochondrial-targeted chaperone inhibitor and at least one agent selected from the group consisting of a death receptor agonist, an autophagy inhibitor, and a NF- κ B signalling pathway inhibitor, i.e., Mgf [54].

Further, Gerk in 2013, proposed a method for enhancing the bioavailability of orally bioactive phenolic compounds incorporated with one or more inhibitors like presystemic metabolism sulfotransferase (SULTs). Another clinical utilities of Mgf include diabetes, hyperlipidemia, cholestasis, obesity, metabolic syndrome, various cancers, inflammatory diseases, arthritis and anti-aging activities [55]. Meanwhile, surmounting the above inventions, Huang and Wu in 2014 discovered a novel method for treating gastrointestinal spasm in a subject having Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis. The method comprised of administering an effective amount of water soluble polyphenols consisting of tannins [56].

5. Leukemia: Khwaja and Friedman (1999) invented a delivery system comprising of St. John's Wort materials and unearthing methods for preparing medicinally useful and pharmaceutically acceptable forms which could determine the degree of the given biological activity for each of the marker fractions to provide a bioactivity fingerprint of the representative aliquot [57].

6. Multiple myeloma: Leonard (2011) disclosed a method for treating autoimmune conditions by administering a formulation comprising of mammalian IL-12 antagonist administered during autoimmune conditions, where there is an increase in the levels of IFN- γ or TNF- α . The said formulation has been prescribed particularly during multiple sclerosis, systemic lupus erythematosus, rheumatoid arthritis, autoimmune pulmonary inflammation, Guillain-Barre syndrome,

autoimmune thyroiditis, insulin dependent diabetes melitis and autoimmune inflammatory eye disease [58].

7. Hepatocellular: Omoigui (2006) invented novel compositions and methods containing Mgf for preventing and treating disorders like atherosclerosis, peripheral vascular disease, coronary artery disease, osteoporosis, type 2 diabetes, dementia and various forms of arthritis. Therapeutically effective dosage forms reported in literature for cancer primarily consist of Mgf in combination with statins, bisphosphonates, cholesterol lowering agents or techniques, interleukin-6 inhibitor, oligonucleotides, tyrosine kinases inhibitors and nuclear factor- κ B (NF- κ B) inhibitors etc [59].

8. Skin cancer: Huang and Wu (2014) investigated some polyphenols as antioxidants to scavenge unwanted reactive oxygen species which can affect cell-to-cell signalling, receptor sensitivity, inflammatory enzyme activity and even gene regulation in animals [60, 61]. Further, Gupta (2009), reported salient features of water insoluble polycyclic polyisoprenoids conjugated with sugar esters, wherein the alcohol part, and the sugar lactone moiety of said sugar esters are useful for treating multiple skin conditions and ailments [62].

9. Ovarian and Prostate cancer: Dasse (2008) reported that Mgf and various other antioxidants could inhibit the fatty acid amide hydrolase (FAAH) activity which could otherwise lead to increased levels of fatty acid amides to very well manage the ovarian cancer [63]. Supporting the same, Huang (2014) also provided methods incorporating these antioxidants that could treat and provide relief from prostate cancer pain [64].

Table 2 highlights various patents published, promoting the other fascinating properties of Mgf.

Table 2: Patents emphasizing the captivating properties of Mangiferin

S. No.	Title	Application number	Publication date	Inventors	Details	Reference
1.	Analgesic	KR2014/001252	10/30/2014	Kim Dong Hyun; Han Myung Joo	Neomangiferin, extracted from <i>Rhizoma coptidis</i> , can excellently prevent as well as treat colitis in animal models. Also it could be used as an ingredient for food and pharmaceuticals.	[65]
2.	Anthelminthic	EP2009/054349	10/15/2009	Talamond Pascale Chênes; Verts Eyragues; Mondolot Laurence Mourèze; Gargadennec Annick; De Kochko Alexandre; Hamon Serge; Fruchier Alain Fontaine; Montarnaud Campa Claudine	Glycosyl xanthone derivatives, particularly Mgf and isomangiferin extracted from plants of the Rubiaceae family, especially of the <i>Coffea</i> genus has proven medicinal properties.	[66]
3.	Antiallergic	JP2009/066203	04/01/2010	Fujifilm Corporation	Pulverized product has been extracted from the genus <i>Salacia</i> and has proved to be an	[67]

				UEDA, Fumitaka; Kakinuma Chihaya, Serizawa, Yuriko	immunopotentiator and antiallergic agent.	
4.	Antiamoebic	09/728051	09/02/2003	Winter Rolf W; Riscoe Michael K; Hinrichs, David J.	Xanthone derivatives, such as 3,5-bis-ε-(N,N-diethylamino) amyloxyxanthone, acts on <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> and <i>Leishmania Mexicana</i> . These compositions are additionally useful for forming soluble complexes with heme and porphyrins.	[68]
5.	Anti- arteriosclerosis	14/547537	05/21/2015	Deshpande Jayant; Ghanam Khadija; Ewart Stephen; Juturu Vijaya	A <i>Salacia</i> composition activates hormone sensitive lipase, and manages a healthy lipid profile through inhibition of HMG-CoA reductase enzyme.	[69]
6.	Antibacterial	13/440446	07/26/2012	Gupta Shyam K.	The present invention discloses certain derivatives of artemisinin and the active principles contained in <i>Artemisia annua</i> extracts with amino acids, peptides, amino sugars, and the salts thereof. The compounds of the present invention possess wide-spectrum antibacterial and antifungal activities.	[70]

7.	Antidiabetic	13/063804	04/24/2012	Krishnan Geetha G.	An herbal formulation for prevention and treatment of diabetes and associated complications, comprising of extracts from selected Indian medicinal herbs.	[71]
8.	Antifungal	12/116040	08/28/2008	Krishnan Venkataram	This invention relates to the field of polymeric materials that can be used in combination with a wide variety of antioxidants.	[72]
9.	Anti-hypertensive	14/084793	03/27/2014	Auriol Daniel; Nalin Renaud; Robe Patrick Lefevre Fabrice	The invention relates to the preparation of phenolic derivatives by enzymatic condensation of phenolics selected among pyrocatechol or its derivatives with the glucose moiety of sucrose as antihypertensive and cardioprotective agent	[73]
10.	Anti-inflammatory	JP20070001878 37	02/05/2009	Matsuda Hideaki; Nishida Shozo	The antiphlogistic agent as the remedy of the inflammatory diseases like arthritis comprise of Mgf as an active ingredient.	[74]
11.	Antimicrobial	12/116006	09/25/2008	Krishnan Venkataram	This invention relates to the field of polymeric materials that can be used in combination with a wide variety of substrates, to act as antimicrobial, antibacterial, and	[75]

					antifungal agents.	
12.	Antioxidant	13/084709	07/03/2012	Gupta Shyam K; Walker Linda	This invention relates to certain amides of amino acids, peptides, and amino sugars along with anti-inflammatory, agents like Mgf, inhibiting the concomitant onset of intra-cellular inflammation including activation/inactivation of matrix metalloproteases (MMP), tyrosinase, proteasomes, and other enzymes in mammals.	[76]
13.	Antiproliferative	13/023594	06/30/2011	Hoffmann Erika; Horres Roland; Faust Volker; Schreiber Helmut; Von Holst Armin; Hoffmann Michael	The present invention is directed to a method for coating catheter balloons with a defined amount of a pharmacologically active agent like Mgf as an antiproliferative agent.	[77]
14.	Antiviral	PCT/US2005/ 047105	07/27/2006	Ghosal Shibnath	The present invention relates to pharmaceutical or nutritional compositions of polyherbal extracts useful as anti-viral or immune-supporting agents ideal during the maintenance phase of the treatment, following an initial viral load reduction phase in	[78]

					which it is used as an adjuvant to conventional anti-viral drug therapy.	
15.	Arthritic	12/865995	01/06/2011	Park Dong-suk; Yoo Myung; Chul; Choi Do- young; Yang Hyung; Baek Yong-hyeon; Huh Jeong-eun; Kim Kyoung Soo; Cho Yong-baik; Jung In Ho; Hur Jong Hyun; Lee Jae Dong	The saponins, Mgf and isomangiferin, help in inhibition or prevention of arthritic diseases.	[79]
16.	Cardioprotective	13/063804	09/29/2011	Krishnan Geetha G	Many of the existing antidiabetic drugs lead to drug resistance in patients, where and the isoforms of Mgf have proved to be quite efficacious.	[80]
17.	Gastroprotective	13/772264	05/06/2014	Huang Alexander L; Wu Gin	Antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activities of Mgf are quite useful for treating gastrointestinal spasm.	[81]
18.	Immunomodulatory	AU2013/00030 3	09/26/2013	Thomas Ranjeny	For treating or preventing joint damage, Mgf could elicit an antigen-specific tolerogenic response.	[82]

19.	Lipolytic	IB2014/002990	05/28/2015	Deshpande Jayant; Khadija; Stephen; Juturu Vijaya	Polyphenols, extracted from Salacia composition described herein, significantly reduce appetite, activate hormone-sensitive lipase, and manage a healthy lipid profile through inhibition of HMG-CoA reductase enzyme, responsible for cholesterol metabolism.	[83]
20.	Neuroprotective	12/159781	05/21/2009	Matute Almau; Carlos Gomez; Maria Victoria Sanchez; Esparza Rosario Campos; Alfonso Elena Alberdi; Gottlieb Miroslav; Bilbao Gaskon Ibarretxe; Garcia Jose Maria Delgado; Gruart Masso Agnes I; Leal Campanario, Rocio	The invention relates to the use of morin and Mg for the treatment of a neurodegenerative disease and symptoms associated with ageing.	[84]
21.	Prevent osteoporosis	PCT/GB2004/001695	11/04/2004	Chambers Timothy John; Fuller Karen;	Bone loss disorders can be treated or prevented by administration of an agent which increases the	[85]

				Jagger Christopher John; Lean Jenny Maree	levels of oxidant defences.	
22.	Radioprotective	PCT/US1997/ 006988	10/23/1997	Khwaja Tasneem A; Friedman Elliot P	The botanical extracts are not only medicinally and pharmaceutically acceptable but also enable the subsequent fingerprints in the processing of botanical materials to produce drugs which could be radioprotective.	[86]

6. Conclusion and Future Prospects:

Albeit the literature available so far on Mgf is scanty, yet every single piece of information filed, confirms its significant effect on fundamental biological events and processes like stimulating mitochondrial respiration, while suppressing oxidative stress and inflammation. In the light of the above, the current review has attempted to summarize reported patents on chemopreventive and curative potential of Mgf. Its pivotal role to suppress multiple molecular targets in both chronic inflammation and cancer has also been highlighted. Apart from that, it holds great potential to be developed into a nutritional and/or pharmacological therapeutics, as it stimulates mitochondrial respiration, glycolysis and lipolysis. In simple words, we could state that it suppresses gluconeogenesis and lipogenesis. These prominent pharmacological actions have been corroborated by numerous patents documented till date. Also, it is capable of eliciting broad spectrum beneficial biological effects, like analgesic, antipyretic, immunomodulator, antiviral, anthelmintic, antiallergic, antihistaminic, cardioprotective and antiamebic, by modulating multiple targets [87].

The futuristic research should be focussed on extensive mechanistic investigations into various other unexplored bioactivities, its complete pharmacokinetic exploration to establish ADME patterns, as well as on eagerly awaited pre-clinical and clinical evaluation of pure Mgf, its homologues and isomers, complex extracts or fractions from plants rich in xanthone C-glucosides. An important aspect of research that still needs to be undertaken is to elucidate the issues related to biosynthesis of Mgf and other hydroxyxanthenes in plant cells, describing their physiological and endogenous role in plants and the change in content with environmental factors [88]. Detailed investigations and clinical trials, nevertheless, are needed to completely understand its exact mechanism of action against different malignancies and to fully exploit its potential therapeutic effects [89]. As it has low potency and bioavailability, it certainly needs extensive exploration in terms of structure-activity relationship studies. Cheminformatic tools can be used to carry out further studies

establishing the ostensible relationship of structure and activity amongst Mgf and its derivatives. Experimental evidence as well as predictive computational studies, done so far raise a possibility that Mgf could be developed into a multi-target drug. Considering the pertinent information gathered through such patents, Mgf certainly proves to be a promising candidate for futuristic research and development as a part of the multi-potent drug delivery systems. Hence, it seems to be a promising molecule holding ample scope for researchers to work further in its aspects, to unexplored so far.

Conflicts of interest:

The authors declare no conflict interest.

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