Cardiovascular Properties of Yangambin, a Lignan Isolated from Brazilian Plants

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ABSTRACT

Yangambin was initially selected from a number of lignans isolated from Brazilian plants for its ability to antagonize Platelet-Activating Factor (PAF, 1-O-hexadecyl-2-ace-tyl-sn-glyceryl-3-phosphorylcholine)-induced biological effects. Subsequently it was shown that, besides its antagonistic properties at PAF receptors, yangambin also prevents the cardiovascular collapse observed during anaphylactic and endotoxic/septic shocks, as well as the vascular and cardiac hyporesponsiveness to catecholamines in endotoxic shock. It is suggested that this naturally occurring compound could be of potential interest in the adjunctive management of the above mentioned pathologies. In the present article, we review the main studies investigating the pharmacological properties of yangambin related to the cardiovascular function.