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Sinecatechins

National Cancer Institute

Source

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A proprietary formulation composed of a defined, decaffeinated green tea extract, containing polyphenolic flavonol catechins, isolated from the plant *Camellia sinensis* with antiviral, antioxidant, and potential chemopreventive activities. The primary catechins found in green tea are epicatechin (EC), epigallocatechin (EGC), epicatechin-3 gallate (ECG), and epigallocatechin-3-gallate (EGCG), the most potent. As potential chemopreventive agents, catechins scavenge free radicals; inhibit enzymes involved in cell replication and DNA synthesis; interfere with cell-to-cell contact adhesion; and inhibit various intracellular communication pathways required for cell division. In addition, it has been postulated that EGCG may trap growth factors such platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) on cell membranes, immobilizing growth factors on cell membranes and preventing ligand-receptor crosslinking and growth factor receptor activation.