

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

Bufalin

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Bufalin*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C107555.

An active ingredient and one of the glycosides in the traditional Chinese medicine ChanSu; it is also a bufadienolide toxin originally isolated from the venom of the Chinese toad *Bufo gargarizans*, with potential cardiotoxic and antineoplastic activity. Although the mechanism of action of bufalin is still under investigation, this agent is a specific Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase inhibitor and can induce apoptosis in cancer cell lines through the activation of the transcription factor AP-1 via a mitogen activated protein kinase (MAPK) pathway.