

Table 5.1 Summary of Conifer Diterpenes with Medicinal Properties

Compound Class Compound (source): Phytochemical investigations and Resources	
Abietene diterpenes (genera: <i>Prumnopitys</i> , <i>Callitris</i>)	
Callitrisic acid	
genus: <i>Callitris</i> resins ie. <i>C. columellaris</i> , <i>C. intratropica</i> , <i>C. macleayana</i> , <i>C. rhomboides</i> , <i>C. verrucosa</i> , <i>C. oblonga</i> (trace)	
Characteristic biomarker of <i>Callitris</i> Sandarac resins (also found in some <i>Juniperus</i> , <i>Calceolaria</i> , <i>Rabdosia</i> , and <i>Illicium</i> species)	Simoneit et al. (2018)
Antiviral	Gonzalez et al. (2015)
Anti-inflammatory	Gonzalez et al. (2015)
Ferruginol	
Miro (<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>); Jade Cypress (<i>Callitris glaucophylla</i>)	
Antimicrobial: defensive compound found in many of the Cupressaceae family eg. <i>Taiwania cryptomerioides</i>	Ma et al. (2019)
Medicinal: hepatoprotective, significant antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, cardioprotective	Banerjee et al. (2003); Sadgrove & Jones (2014); Gonzalez et al. (2015)
Antimicrobial: significant antifungal and antibacterial activity; active against wood decay fungi	He et al. (1997); Ho et al. (2012); Bufalo et al. (2016); Ma et al. (2019); Mothana et al. (2019)
Antiviral: ferruginol and analogues were evaluated for activity against Herpes Virus and Dengue Virus; active against SARS and Zika virus	Gonzalez et al. (2015); Roa-Linares et al. (2016); Sousa et al. (2020)
Gastrointestinal tract: gastroprotective, wound healing showing significant healing for gastric ulceration comparable to conventional drugs; suggestive of a broader spectrum of wound healing activity	Rodriguez et al. (2006); Areche et al. (2008)
Cardiovascular system: antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, cardioprotective, restorative to cardiac function following heart attack	Zhang et al. (2021)
Nervous system: cholinesterase inhibition; neuroprotective with memory supportive, anti-Alzheimer's potential	Gonzalez et al. (2015); Zolezzi et al. (2018)
Anticancer: strong anti-tumour promotion properties; active against thyroid, ovarian, prostate, liver, pancreatic and lung cell lines, also leukaemia and anti-melanoma; potential for the prevention and treatment of prostate cancer	Son et al. (2005); Bispo de Jesus et al. (2008); Gonzalez et al. (2015); Ho et al. (2015); Xiong et al. (2017); Yang et al. (2017); Jia et al. (2019); Luo et al. (2019)
Insecticidal: anti-termite activity	Chang et al. (2001); Ma et al. (2019)
Antiparasitic: anti-plasmodial with significant antimalarial potential, leishmanicidal, nematocidal, trypanocidal	Gonzalez et al. (2014 & 2015); Tabefam et al. (2018)
Drug synergy: antibiotic potentiation; eg. significant potentiation of oxacillin against MRSA (80-fold increase in activity)	Smith et al. (2007a); Sadeer & Mahomoodally (2021)
Pisiferal, pisiferol (and derivatives)	
Jade Cypress (<i>Callitris columellaris</i> syn <i>C. glaucophylla</i>); originally isolated from Sawara Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i>)	
Antimicrobial: significant antibacterial activity potential use for skin disorders	Smith et al. (2007a);

including acne and dandruff, as well as dental care products (dentrifices)	Sadgrove & Jones (2014)
Anticancer: activity against leukaemia cell lines (also pisiferdiol)	Aburai et al. (2010)
5-episiferol (<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>): anti-mycobacterial (good activity); also potentiate the activity of tetracycline antibiotics	Smith et al. (2007a)
Pisiferic acid (and derivatives)	
<i>Callitris columellaris</i> (syn <i>C. glaucophylla</i>) Originally isolated from Sawara Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i>); also found in the genera <i>Callitris</i> and <i>Salvia</i> .	
Antimicrobial: antioxidant, antibacterial against Gram+ve bacteria; active against MRSA; preservative potential, also for the treatment of skin disorders	Yatagai & Nakatani (1994); Sadgrove & Jones (2014); Gonzalez et al. (2015); Sadgrove et al. (2020)
Antifungal: active against rice blast fungus	
Pesticide: anti-mite, fly deterrent	Yatagai & Nakatani (1994)
Antitumour: cytotoxic, apoptosis-induction	Gonzalez et al. (2015)
Pharmaceutical: antioxidant compounds carnosic acid and carnosol were synthesised from pisiferic acid	Tada et al. (2010)
O-methyl pisiferic acid: antibacterial and insecticidal activities, antifungal potential (inhibitory activity against chitin synthase 2)	Kang et al. (2008)
Totarane diterpenes (genus: <i>Podocarpus</i>)	
Totarol	
<i>Podocarpus nagi</i> and <i>P. totara</i> ; also the Cypress family (Cupressaceae)	
Chemical associations: precursor to formation of antifungal nagilactones; totarol can be used by plants to produce nagilactones as antimicrobial defensive compounds	
Antimicrobial: potent antifungal, antibacterial and antioxidant properties with potential for use in drug-resistant bacterial infections eg. MRSA (see below) and as an antimicrobial food preservative	Haraguchi et al. (1996a & 1996b); Muroi & Kubo (1996); Evans et al. (1999); Mateo et al. (2000); Micol et al. (2001); Smith et al. (2007b); Yamaji et al. (2007); Kim et al. (2012); Foss et al. (2013); Gualerzi et al. (2013); Shi et al. (2015 & 2018)
Antimicrobial: active against <i>Streptococcus mutans</i> , penicillin resistant <i>Streptococcus pneumonia</i> , Erythromycin-resistant <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> , high-level-gentamicin-resistant <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> , vancomycin-resistant <i>E. faecalis</i> , <i>Salmonella menston</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Enterobacter aerogenes</i> , <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> , <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> , <i>Brevibacterium ammoniagenes</i> , <i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>	Abdillahi et al. (2008 & 2010)
Cosmetic and skin conditions: potential antibacterial uses	Abdillahi et al. (2010)
Antimycobacterial: anti-tuberculosis potential (<i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i> bark; <i>Juniperus communis</i> roots, <i>Juniperus procera</i>)	Muhammad et al. (1995); Constantine (2001); Mossa et al. (2004); Gordien et al. (2009)
Antimicrobial (synergist): good activity against Gram-positive bacteria eg. <i>Propionibacterium acnes</i> , <i>S. aureus</i> (including MRSA); activity significantly enhanced by combination with anacardic acid or berberine chloride	Kubo et al. (1992); Muroi & Kubo (1996); Nicolson et al. (1999); Guo et al. (2015); Shi et al. (2015)
Cardiovascular benefits: good cholesterol-lowering activity with potential benefits for atherosclerosis and hypercholesterolaemia	Enomoto et al. (1997)
Antiviral: anti-influenza virus	Dang et al. (2015)
Dental and oral care: totarol coating on dental implants or abutment surfaces has	Xu et al. (2020a)

promise as a prophylactic approach against bacterial infection	
Pharmaceutical and health care: potential use in specialised drug delivery systems; also as an antimicrobial coating for surgical items such as sutures	Reinbold et al. (2016 & 2017); Gokarneshan (2018)
Liver function: antifibrotic, antiproliferative hepatoprotective potential	Lee et al. (2008)
Anti-tumour: cytotoxic activity; active against gastric cancer cells	Abdillahi et al. (2010); Xu et al. (2019)
Antiparasitic: antimalarial potential for totarol (and derivatives) with antiplasmodial activity against chloroquine resistant <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> .	Clarkson et al. (2003); Tacon et al. (2012); Dang et al. (2015)
Antiparasitic: anti- <i>Leishmania</i> activity; nematocidal (<i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>)	Samoylenko et al. (2008)
Antifouling activity against brine shrimp (<i>Artemia salina</i>)	Samoylenko et al. (2008)
Neuroprotective antioxidant: potential for use in ischaemic stroke	Gao et al. (2015)
Insecticidal: mosquito larvicide	Lee et al. (2000)
Macrophylllic acid	
Source: <i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i>	
Antimicrobial: potent broad-spectrum antibacterial activity	Bocks et al. (1963); Sato et al. (2008)
Kaurene diterpenes (family: Araucariaceae)	
Medicinal potential: broad-spectrum antibacterial, analgesic, blood sugar regulation (antidiabetic), anticoagulant (platelet anti-aggregation), anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory (including anti-allergy) properties	Garcia et al. (2007); Takahashi et al. (2014); Arruda et al. (2019)
Antiparasitic (anti-trypanosoma), pesticidal, insecticidal (against stored grain pests) and molluscicidal potential	
Antimalarial activity	Batista et al. (2013)
Kaurenoic acid (<i>ent</i> -kaur-16-en-19-oic acid)	
Chemical intermediate: important for the production of other kaurene diterpenes, as well as growth hormones in plants	
Chemical defence: diterpene resin acids are used by plants as defence against microbial infection and insect attack	Hamberger et al. (2011)
Drug development: candidate for the treatment of dental bacteria, hypertension, Alzheimer's disease, atherosclerosis	de Andrade et al. (2011); Villa-Ruano et al. (2016); Arruda et al. (2019)
Antimicrobial (antibacterial, antifungal), antiviral (anti-HIV)	Garcia et al. (2007); Takahashi et al. (2014); da Trindade et al. (2018)
Dental and oral care: antibacterial against oral bacteria (e.g. <i>Porphyromonas gingivalis</i>) with potential for periodontal disorders; antibiofilm against <i>Streptococcus mutans</i> ; synergistic antimicrobial activity with chlorhexidine dichlorohydrate	Souza et al. (2011); Jeong et al. (2013); Moreira et al. (2016); Moreti et al. (2017); Da Trindade et al. (2018); Martins et al. (2018)
Antibacterial: activity against <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , <i>S. epidermis</i> , <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> etc. remarkable activity against <i>S. pyogenes</i> , <i>S. pneumoniae</i> , <i>S. dysgalactiae</i> , <i>S. epidermidis</i> , <i>B. subtilis</i> , <i>S. aureus</i>	Abrao et al. (2015); da Trindade et al. (2018); Cicek et al. (2020)
Antibacterial: contribute to <i>Copaiba</i> oleoresin hydrogel efficacy against <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> for the treatment of vaginal infection and neonate transmission	Morguette et al. (2019)
Antimycobacterial: derivatives evaluated as anti-tuberculosis agents	Matos et al. (2015)
Antimicrobial: contribute to activity of various herbal medicines eg. <i>Xylopi</i> <i>staudtii</i> anti-dysentery activity against <i>E. coli</i> and <i>Shigella</i> spp.; <i>Copaifera</i> oleoresin (with other diterpenes) in skin and urinary tract disorders	Pfeifer Barbosa et al. (2019); Poufo Nguiam et al. (2021)

Anti-inflammatory, immunomodulatory, analgesic: potential for use in bacterial inflammation and infection eg. peritonitis; also arthritic conditions eg. osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis	Kim et al. (2017); Zhang et al. (2017); Attiq et al. (2018); Dalenogare et al. (2019); Islam et al. (2020); Borghi et al. (2021b); Zhao et al. (2021)
Anti-inflammatory, analgesic: contribute to efficacy of various herbal medicines eg. <i>Achyranthes japonica</i> root, <i>Annona tomentosa</i> , <i>Aralia continentalis</i> , <i>Sphagneticola</i> (<i>Wedelia</i>) <i>trilobata</i>	Choi et al. (2011); Mizokami et al. (2012); Carneiro et al. (2017); Kim et al. (2017); Borghi et al. (2021a, 2021b); Zhao et al. (2021)
Analgesic activity	Dalenogare et al. (2019); Montiel-Ruiz et al. (2020)
Anti-inflammatory: derivatives show potential for drug development	Xu et al. (2020b & 2021)
Respiratory tract: anti-inflammatory anti-asthmatic potential, immunomodulatory; potential in acute lung injury (sepsis)	Cho et al. (2010); Kim et al. (2016); Borghi et al. (2021a)
Cosmetic use and skin disorders: topical anti-inflammatory application for use in various skin conditions eg. dermatitis	Silva et al. (2015); Fucina et al. (2016)
Cardiovascular system: antispasmodic, hypotensive, vasorelaxant	Ambrosio et al. (2004); Tirapelli et al. (2004 & 2005)
Metabolic disorders: hypoglycaemic	Bresciani et al. (2004); Jung et al. (2012); Villa-Ruano et al. (2016)
Antiparasitic: trypanocidal, anti-leishmania; kaurane derivatives show potential for drug development	Haraguchi et al. (2011); Batista et al. (2007); Santos et al. (2013); Miranda et al. (2015); da Trindade et al. (2018); Kian et al. (2018); Rocha et al. (2020)
Liver function: hepatoprotective	Marcondes-Alves et al. (2019)
Neurological activity: anticonvulsant	Okoye et al. (2013)
Uterotonic and muscle relaxant activity on uterine muscle	De Alencar Cunha et al. (2003); Villa-Ruano et al. (2009)
Gastrointestinal function: anti-inflammatory potential for treatment of colitis	Paiva et al. (2003)
Agrochemical potential: derivatives show allelopathic activity	Rocha et al. (2017)
Anticancer: leukaemia, glioblastoma, breast cancer (interact with progesterone receptors), cervical, ovarian, colon, gastric and lung cancer.	Costa-Lotufo et al. (2002); Reynolds et al. (2006); Hueso-Falcón et al. (2010); de S Vargas et al. (2015); Cano et al. (2017); Cardoso et al. (2017); Da Costa et al. (2018); Arruda et al. (2019); Rocha et al. (2019)
Anticancer: drug development potential of derivatives as anticancer agents	Ma et al. (2017)
Labdane diterpenes includes aromatic diterpenes: manoyloxides and sclareol (conifers and diverse plant sources)	
Medicinal potential: similar bioactivity to kaurene diterpenes ie. cytoprotective, antioxidant, antitumour, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, anti-ulcer, antispasmodic, cardioprotective, antidiabetic	Demetzos & Dimas (2001)
Manoyloxides	
Lyme disease potential: anti- <i>Borrelia</i> activity	Rauwald et al. (2019)
Cosmetic: skin-whitening potential (anti-tyrosinase activity)	Langat et al. (2021)
Manool	
Anti-inflammatory, antioxidant with potential benefits for eye (retinal) function	Ravera et al. (2021)
Antibacterial, anticancer	De Oliveira et al. (2016)

Antibacterial: active against Gram-positive bacteria	Bisio et al. (2020)
Anticancer: chemopreventive, anti-inflammatory, antigenotoxic	Nicolella et al. (2021)
Hepatoprotective	Abdel-Kader et al. (2019)
Cardiovascular system: vasodilatory, vasorelaxant; antihypertensive potential	Vento et al. (2014); Castro & Pontes (2020); Monteiro (2020)
Sclareol (and derivatives)	See Chapter 5 for additional details
Antiviral: studies indicate activity in haemorrhagic fevers (filovirus)	Chen et al. (2019)
Antifungal: sclareolide-derivatives show potential as antifungal agents	Ma et al. (2018)
Anticancer: active against, breast, colon, lung, osteosarcoma and leukaemia; enhance chemosensitivity of cervical and breast cancer cells	Dimas et al. (1999); Duan et al. (2018); Cosco et al. (2019); Chen et al. (2020); Afshari et al. (20202); Li et al. (2020)
Bioavailability: enhance anticancer drug activity e.g. doxorubicin; reduce cisplatin resistance in lung cancer	Oliveira et al. (2018); Borges et al. (2019); Pan et al. (2020)
Anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, antiarthritic, immunomodulatory	Huang et al. (2012); Zhong et al. (2015); Tsai et al. (2018)
Cardioprotective: antihypertensive	Vento et al. (2014); Campos et al. (2017)
Metabolic disorders: anti-obesity potential	Cerri et al. (2019)
Lung function: protective effect against lung injury and infection	Ouyang et al. (2016); Hsieh et al. (2017); Ping et al. (2017)
Skin and cosmetic uses: anti-inflammatory, anti-wrinkle; collagen supportive; potential for use against skin inflammation (dermatitis); UV protective anti-photoaging potential	Lee et al. (2016); Park et al. (2016); Wu et al. (2019)
Eye function: antioxidant, protective effect on retinal function	Ravera et al. (2020)
Gynaecology: potential for use in dysmenorrhoea (difficult menstruation) treatment	Wong et al. (2020)
Anti-osteoporosis	Jin et al. (2019); Li (2021)
Antiparasitic: anti-schistosomiasis potential	Crusco et al. (2019)
Antiplasmodial: derivatives show antimalarial activity	Mahadeo et al. (2019)
Agrochemical: sclareol and derivatives show potential for use in plant pathogenic diseases eg. Arabidopsis, tobacco and tomato wilt disease	Seo et al. (2012)

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