

Flaxseed Lignan-Enriched Complex Products in Chronic Disease

Benefits of flax lignans

Lignans are naturally occurring biologically active polyphenolic compounds present in flaxseed. The major lignan in flaxseed is SDG (Secoisolariciresinol diglucoside) and flaxseed is the richest known source of this compound (Fig.1). Cell models, animal studies, epidemiological studies, and randomized human clinical trials have all demonstrated significant potential for flaxseed lignan supplementation in management of or risk reduction for a number of chronic diseases including cancer, heart disease, BPH, hypertension, and inflammatory bowel disease.

Commercial Opportunity

Archer Daniels Midland has expressed a willingness to work with any company interested in resuming production of BeneFlax®. We are seeking the interest of investors to revive the technology and resume production of BeneFlax® or a BeneFlax® like product. We believe that the market is now more receptive to this product than it was 8 years ago and the new science including the current studies at the University of Saskatchewan supports an expanded range of uses for BeneFlax® including as a sole therapeutic, an adjuvant therapy, or chemopreventative for chronic disease such as risk factors for cardiovascular disease (e.g. hypercholesterolemia, hypertension) and inflammatory conditions of the gastrointestinal tract, such as inflammatory bowel disease.

Natural Health Product

- Potential use in several chronic diseases
- Identification of metabolite and novel method of action

Background

In 2007 Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) began marketing a flaxseed lignan enriched complex (38% SDG) called BeneFlax® with both FDA and Health Canada approval. Later, ADM stopped production of BeneFlax® to focus on soy isoflavonoids. However there has been a growing body of science to support the value of lignan supplementation in management of chronic diseases. Bioactive enriched products like BeneFlax® are likely to show meaningful therapeutic or chemopreventative properties.

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