

Review of: "Effects of Cinnamon on Cancer Prevention and Progression"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Comments to Anderson et al.

This is an original paper, in line with the journal's aim, where the main objective is to explore the effect of cinnamon on cancer prevention and progression. Even if I appreciate the effort of the authors, as well as the interesting idea of cinnamon utilization in cancer care, I think that the data regarding this topic were not described using an exhaustive approach to consolidate the authors' assumptions. Sometimes, the paper seems to be written hastily and carelessly, not in line with the scope of a review that must be exhaustive to facilitate the readers' ability to have an overview of the current advances in the chosen specific topic of interest. In addition, no figure summarizing the related pathways regulated (activated or inhibited) by cinnamon, as well as tables with a clear description of the cinnamon components (which ones?) and related functions, biological samples (which kind of tumours?), miRNA (which ones?), or other information to facilitate the readers' comprehension, is available.

Often in the work, reference is made to the role of cinnamon (or unspecified components), as well as to genes or proteins without mentioning who these biomarkers are, or cancer diseases without mentioning which kind of tumor disease it is, necessary information since the molecular responses are associated with specific types of tumors and even molecular subtypes.

The only descriptions of molecular pathways in the text are related to well-known pathways already described in the bibliography, such as NF-kB (correct the acronym in the text, often misspelled), AP-1 (and its components Jun and Fos proteins), VEGF, etc., and it is not explored how cinnamon or its components can regulate (by activating or inhibiting) these pathways and therefore what the role of cinnamon is in the prevention and progression of cancer, as described in the title.

Finally, regarding the reference section, the authors must provide the year of publication of all the references, which overall must have been published in the last 5 years: the authors should provide more updated bibliographic data to support more updated considerations.

To summarise, I suggest rejecting this work in its present form, encouraging the authors to give the readers more robust and well-presented data on these interesting topics.

Best Regards,



Giorgio Russo