



## *Uncaria tomentosa* Reduces Lipid Peroxidation and DNA-Damage from Chemotherapy

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**SUMMARY.** Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) has been used to improve the quality of life for a large number of cancer patients worldwide. Among these CAMs, the use of *Uncaria tomentosa* has demonstrated antioxidant properties and enhanced neutrophil recovery after chemotherapy. *U. tomentosa* exhibits protective antimutagenic effects and shows an enhancement in DNA repair; therefore, we measured the mitotic index of *Allium cepa* and characterized the antioxidant effects to determine the capacity of *U. tomentosa* to ameliorate chemotherapy-induced DNA damage. *U. tomentosa* extract showed no mutagenic effects and exhibited antimutagenic potential, reducing the DNA damage and anaphase-telophase chromosome aberrations that result from treatment with the chemotherapeutic oxaliplatin. A reduction in oxaliplatin-induced lipid peroxidation was also observed.

**KEY WORDS:** Antimutagenic, Cytogenetic analysis, DNA repair.

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