

梅の抗アレルギー作用

— 細胞・動物実験と住民調査による研究 —

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目的：梅摂取とアレルギー疾患の関連を調査

- 梅には多くの健康増進や予防の効果が期待されている
- 梅を食べている人でアレルギー症状をもつ割合が低い？
人（住民の皆さん）を対象にアンケート調査を実施

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

Biological and epidemiological evidence of anti-allergic effects of traditional Japanese food *ume* (*Prunus mume*)

Ryohei Kono¹, Misa Nakamura², Sachiko Nomura¹, Naomi Kitano^{3,4}, Tomoko Kagiya⁵, Yoshiharu Okuno⁶, Ken-ichi Inada⁷, Akihiko Tokuda¹, Hiroto Utsunomiya¹ & Masami Ueno¹

Japanese apricot (*Prunus mume*; *ume*) is a traditional food in Japan that has been shown to have beneficial health effects. There is some evidence to suggest that *ume* is also effective against allergic disease. Here, we conducted a cross-sectional epidemiological pilot study to examine the association between *ume* intake frequency and allergic symptoms including rhinitis in 563 adults (288 men and 275 women) who resided in Wakayama, Japan. After adjusting for age, present illness and other factors, women with high *ume* intake had significantly lower odds ratio (OR) for the presence of symptoms of allergic rhinitis [OR: 0.49 with 95% confidence interval (CI): 0.25–0.97]. Therefore, we investigated the anti-allergic effect of *ume* on passive cutaneous anaphylaxis (PCA) reaction in immunoglobulin E (IgE)-sensitized mice. The animal study demonstrated that oral administration of *ume* extract attenuated the PCA reaction and mast cell degranulation. Furthermore, RBL-2H3 mast cells were used to investigate the anti-allergic effect of *ume* compounds. The following *ume* compounds inhibited IgE-mediated mast cell degranulation: vanillin, syringic acid, protocatechuic aldehyde, lyoniresinol and *p*-coumaric acid. These results suggested that *ume* has the potential to inhibit mast cell degranulation and may be associated with reduced risk of allergic symptoms in women.

The number of people suffering from an immunoglobulin E (IgE)-mediated (type I) response has increased worldwide. Allergic reactions including hay fever, food allergy and bronchial asthma to environmental antigens (known as allergens) such as pollen¹, certain foods² and house dust mites³ can result not only in a decline in quality of life but also in life-threatening reactions. Allergic diseases have become a social problem. Development of Japanese cedar or Japanese cypress pollen allergy has recently increased in Japan. The most common cause of pollinosis in Japan is Japanese cedar. A recent survey found that the prevalence of Japanese cedar pollinosis increased from 16.2% in 1998 to 20.1% in 2012. Functional foods, defined as foods that can provide additional health benefits beyond that of traditional foods, have attracted attention as a potential solution, and some studies have focused on the anti-allergic functions of food components. For example, catechin derived from Japanese green tea and flavonoids derived from citrus fruits were demonstrated to have potential anti-allergic effects^{4–6}. Identification

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梅の抗アレルギー作用に関する論文がscientific reportsに掲載されました

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- R. Kono et al, Sci Rep. 2018 Aug 3;8(1):11638.
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梅の言い伝えを科学的・医学的に研究

1. 制菌作用
2. 胃潰瘍
3. 動脈硬化
4. 免疫系（風邪）に対する影響と効果
5. 糖尿病
6. ガンに対する影響と効果
7. 骨粗鬆症予防効果
8. 不妊予防効果
9. 抗アレルギー作用

結果と結論

- **梅**の摂取頻度が高かった集団では、女性においてアレルギー症状を訴えた人の割合が低いことを示した。
- **梅**の抗アレルギー作用のメカニズムの一つとして、**梅**はアレルギー反応に関与する肥満細胞の脱顆粒を抑制すること明らかにした。
- 脱顆粒反応の抑制には**梅**由来物質 5 種が関与していることを明らかにした。
- **梅**摂取によるアレルギー症状の予防・改善の可能性を見出した