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## Antioxidant and antiproliferative effects of different *Raphanus Sativus* L. extracts

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**ABSTRACT:** This study aimed to investigate the phenolic and flavonoid levels, antioxidant activities and antiproliferative effects of Japanese, Chinese, Black, and Kohlrabi radish species on HEK293 immortalized human embryonic kidney cells in cell culture medium. DPPH radical scavenging activity, total polyphenol, and flavonoid content of the extracts were measured spectrophotometrically. The highest total flavonoid content in sap of radish extraction and methanolic extraction was  $0.12 \pm 0.02$  mg/g RE and  $0.10 \pm 0.00$  mg/g RE in Chinese radish; the highest total polyphenol content was  $0.32 \pm 0.03$  mg/g GAE and  $0.23 \pm 0.03$  mg/g GAE in Black radish; the highest DPPH radical scavenging activity is approved  $39.68 \pm 2.43$   $\mu$ g/g GAE in Japanese radish in sap of radish extraction and  $84.59 \pm 3.50$   $\mu$ g/g GAE in Black radish in methanolic extraction respectively. DPPH radical scavenging activity was higher in the methanolic extraction of all radishes. The antiproliferative effects of different extracts in HEK293 cells were investigated by the MTT method. The IC<sub>50</sub> concentration was found at lower doses in the methanolic extraction of whole radishes compared to the sap of radish extractions. The lowest dose of antiproliferative effect was observed in red radish (160 mg/ml) in methanolic extraction, and the antiproliferative effect increased dose-dependent. As a result, both antioxidant content and antiproliferative effect may vary depending on the type of radish, soil, and geographical conditions of the region where it is grown.

**Keywords:** Radish; natural product; antioxidant; MTT; HEK293

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## INTRODUCTION

Natural products play a role in correcting disorders caused by various diseases, especially cancer, diabetes, and neurodegenerative diseases (Ribeiro and Kim, 2023). Antioxidants found in foods play a role in strengthening the body's endogenous defenses against oxidative stress, which is responsible for chronic degenerative changes in most diseases (Contini et al., 2012). Polyphenols, which are secondary metabolites of plants, are natural compounds found in foods such as grains, vegetables, and fruits (Karamati et al., 2019). Most researchers accept that the antioxidant activity of fruits and vegetables is mainly due to the phenolic substances they contain, especially flavonoids (Orak, 2007).

Radish (*Raphanus sativus* L.), a member of the Brassicaceae family, has high nutritional and bioactive components (Yang et al., 2022) and is a root vegetable widely grown in tropical and temperate regions of the world (Baloch et al., 2014). Radish should not only be seen as a vegetable, it is also rich in medicinal compounds (Curtis, 2003). Radish roots are also used for appetizing, strengthening, urinary, and expectorant purposes (Kaya, 2013). The first records of radish are found in the "*Tang Materia Medica*", a Chinese pharmacopeia, and it is thought to have been used as a traditional Chinese herbal medicine for more than 1400 years (Kim et al., 2014). It is also known that horseradish, which is frequently used in upper respiratory tract diseases, has a good expectorant effect (Sabuncu, 2019) and white radish juice is added to most cough syrups (Akan et al., 2013).

The pharmaceutical potential of radish is reportedly due to its beneficial secondary metabolites such as glucosinolates, isothiocyanates, and polyphenols (Manivannan et al., 2019). Glycosinolates, which are highly present in the structure of cruciferous vegetables, are hydrolyzed by myrosinase enzyme, and important degradation products are released (Knez et al., 2022). Sulforaphane is one of these breakdown products. Studies have reported that sulforaphane is effective in preventing cancer occurrence (Lugasi et al., 2005). Radish roots are reported to be rich in peroxidase, an oxidoreductase involved in the scavenging of harmful free radicals (Curtis, 2003). Radish is not only rich in protein and vitamins A & C (Baloch et al., 2014) but also in folic acid, ascorbic acid, vitamin B6, riboflavin, calcium, potassium, and magnesium (Akan et al., 2013).

This study aimed to investigate the phenolic and flavo-

noid levels, antioxidant activities and antiproliferative effects of two different extracts of Japanese, Chinese, Black, and Kohlrabi radish species on HEK293 immortalized human embryonic kidney cells in a cell culture medium.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

### Material

In the study, sap of radish extractions and methanolic extractions of Japanese, Chinese, Black, and Kohlrabi radishes were supplied from the market as herbal material.

### Extraction

The sap of radish extraction was performed by modifying the method of Jakmatakul et al. (2009). For sap of radish extraction, radishes were pressed with the help of a juicer. Methanolic extraction was performed by modifying the method of Vitali et al. (2009).

The extracts were concentrated by rotary evaporator for cell culture applications. The sap of radish extractions was diluted with cell culture medium (DMEM) and methanolic extracts were dissolved with DMSO and diluted with DMEM and used in cell culture studies.

### Antioxidant Activities

To determine the antioxidant activities of the extracts, DPPH radical scavenging (Shirazi et al., 2014) activity measurement analysis and to determine the antioxidant components, total polyphenol (Shirazi et al., 2014), and total flavonoid content (Boateng et al., 2008) analyses were determined spectrophotometrically. Three separate extractions were performed for each radish and all analyses were carried out in three separate extractions.

### Antiproliferative Effects

IC50 values were determined as a result of MT-Tassays (Meral, 2018) performed on HEK293 immortalized human embryonic kidney cells in cell culture.

### Statistical Analysis

Descriptive statistics for the data were calculated and presented as "Arithmetic Mean  $\pm$  Standard Error". GLM analysis was used to examine the effect of Radish and Extraction factors on DPPH, Flavonoid, and Phenolic contents. The SPSS package program was used for the analysis (Field, 2013).

## RESULTS

Total flavonoid content (Figure 2) was found as  $0.12 \pm 0.02$  mg/g RE,  $0.06 \pm 0.00$  mg/g RE,  $0.02 \pm 0.00$  mg/g RE, and  $0.05 \pm 0.00$  mg/g RE in the sap of radish extraction of Chinese radish, Black radish, Kohlrabi radish, and Japanese radish, respectively; while  $0.10 \pm 0.01$  mg/g RE,  $0.04 \pm 0.00$  mg/g RE,  $0.02 \pm 0.01$  mg/g RE and  $0.04 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.01$  mg/g RE were found in methanolic extraction. The total flavonoid content of the extracts was higher in all radishes except Kohlrabi radish. The highest flavonoid content was found in Chinese radish in both sap of radish extraction and methanolic extraction. The lowest flavonoid content was found in both the sap of extraction and methanolic extraction of Kohlrabi radish. Radish \* Extraction interaction for the flavonoid content is statistically insignificant ( $P > 0.05$ ) (Table 1).

Total polyphenol content (Figure 3) was found as  $0.21 \pm 0.04$  mg/g GAE,  $0.32 \pm 0.03$  mg/g GAE,  $0.08 \pm 0.00$  mg/g GAE and  $0.27 \pm 0.08$  mg/g GAE in the sap of radish extraction of Chinese radish, Black radish, Kohlrabi radish, and Japanese radish, respectively; while  $0.21 \pm 0.02$  mg/g GAE,  $0.23 \pm 0.03$  mg/g GAE,  $0.14 \pm 0.01$  mg/g GAE and  $0.21 \pm 0.06$  mg/g GAE were found in methanolic extraction. The total polyphenol content of the extracts was higher in all radishes except Kohlrabi radish. The highest total polyphenol content was found in black radish in both sap of radish extraction and methanolic extraction. The lowest total polyphenol content was found in both sap of extraction and methanolic extraction of Kohlrabi radish. Extraction and Radish \* Extraction effects for the phenolic content are statistically insignificant ( $P > 0.05$ ) (Table 1).

DPPH radical scavenging activity (Figure 4) was found as  $30.02 \pm 3.70$   $\mu$ g/g GAE,  $26.37 \pm 2.27$   $\mu$ g/g GAE,  $19.18 \pm 1.57$   $\mu$ g/g GAE and  $39.68 \pm 2.43$   $\mu$ g/g GAE in the sap of radish extraction of Chinese radish, Black radish, Kohlrabi radish, and Japanese radish, respectively; while  $56.48 \pm 1.14$   $\mu$ g/g GAE,  $84.59 \pm 3.50$   $\mu$ g/g GAE,  $68.06 \pm 3.19$   $\mu$ g/g GAE and  $80.94 \pm 7.36$   $\mu$ g/g GAE were found in methanolic extraction. DPPH radical scavenging activity of methanolic extracts was higher than that of the sap of radish extracts in all radishes. The highest DPPH radical scavenging activity was detected in the methanolic extraction of Black radish. The lowest DPPH radical scavenging activity was detected in the sap of radish extraction of Kohlrabi radish. For the DPPH variable, the effects of Rad-

ish, Extraction, and Radish\* Extraction are statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ). The difference in DPPH radical scavenging activity between sap of radish extraction and methanolic extraction of Chinese radish, Black radish, Kohlrabi radish, and Japanese radish was statistically significant. The difference in DPPH radical scavenging activity between Kohlrabi radish and Japanese radish was statistically significant in the sap of radish extraction. The difference in DPPH radical scavenging activity between Black radish and Chinese radish was statistically significant in methanolic extraction (Table 1).

The IC<sub>50</sub> (mg/ml) concentrations (Figure 5) of Chinese radish, Black radish, Kohlrabi radish, and Japanese radish were found to be 4950 mg/ml, 3900 mg/ml, 3250 mg/ml, and 980 mg/ml in the sap of radish extraction, respectively, while 160 mg/ml, 240 mg/ml, 240 mg/ml and 200 mg/ml in methanolic extraction. Methanolic extracts showed a higher antiproliferative effect. In methanolic extraction, the highest antiproliferative effect was observed in Chinese radish (IC<sub>50</sub>=160 mg/ml). In radish juice, the highest antiproliferative effect was observed in Japanese radish (IC<sub>50</sub>=980 mg/ml).

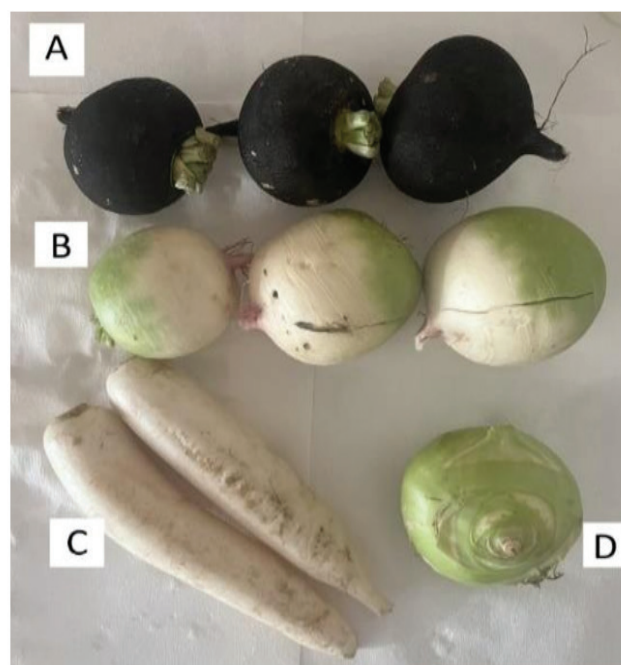
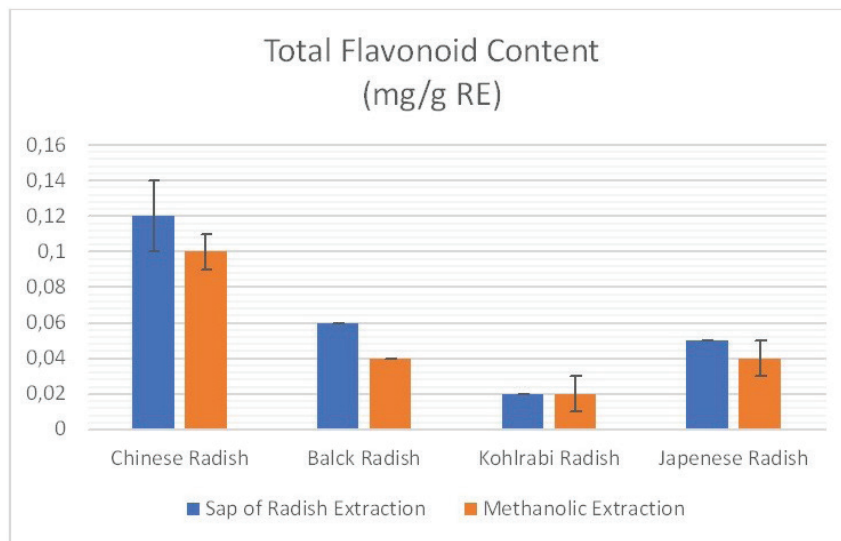
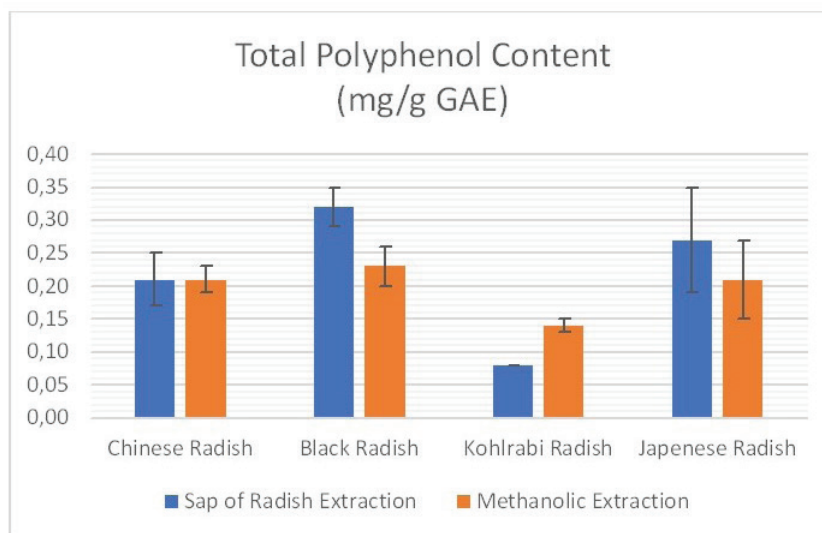


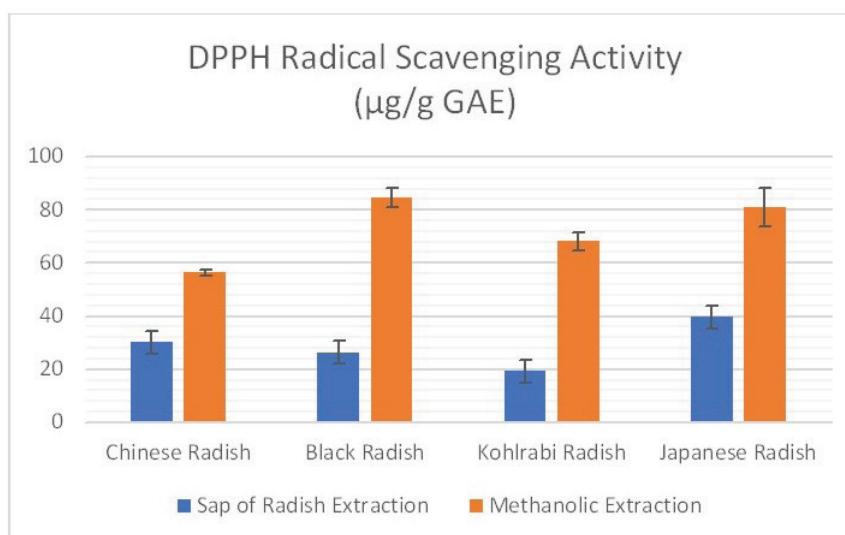
Fig 1. Types of radish used; A: Black radish, B: Chinese radish, C: Japanese radish, D: Kohlrabi radish



**Fig 2.** Total flavonoid content results of radishes



**Fig 3.** Total polyphenol content results of radishes



**Fig 4.** DPPH radical scavenging activity results of radishes

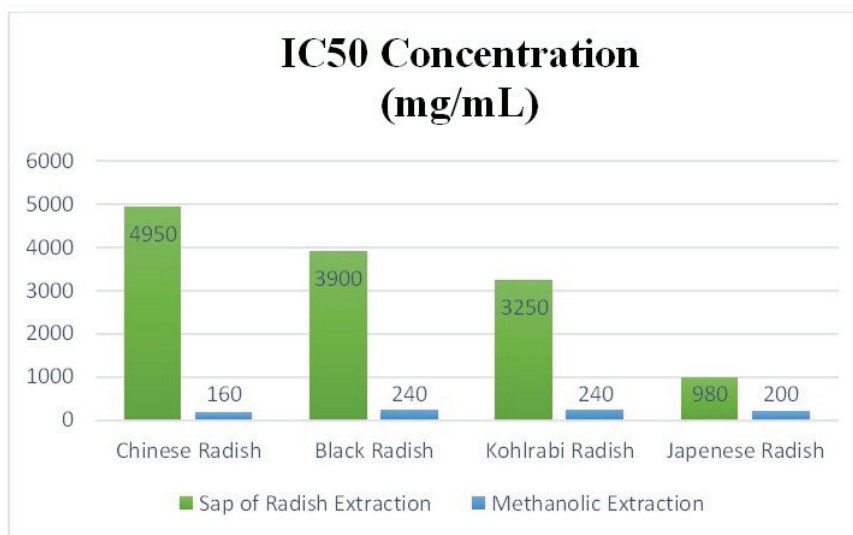


Fig 5. IC50 concentration results of radishes

Table 1. Results of statistical analysis

		Sap of Radish Extraction	Methanolic Extraction	P
<b>DPPH Radical Scavenging Activity</b>	<b>Chinese Radish</b>	30.02±3.70 <sup>AB,b</sup>	56.48±1.14 <sup>C,a</sup>	P<0.05
	<b>Black Radish</b>	26.37±2.27 <sup>AB,b</sup>	84.59±3.50 <sup>A,a</sup>	
	<b>Kohlrabi Radish</b>	19.18±1.57 <sup>B,b</sup>	68.06±3.19 <sup>B,C,a</sup>	
	<b>Japanese Radish</b>	39.68±2.43 <sup>A,b</sup>	80.94±7.36 <sup>AB,a</sup>	
<b>Total Flavonoid Content</b>	<b>Chinese Radish</b>	0.12±0.02	0.10±0.01	P>0.05
	<b>Black Radish</b>	0.06±0.00	0.04±0.00	
	<b>Kohlrabi Radish</b>	0.02±0.00	0.02±0.01	
	<b>Japanese Radish</b>	0.05±0.00	0.04±0.01	
<b>Total Polyphenol Content</b>	<b>Chinese Radish</b>	0.21±0.04	0.21±0.02	P>0.05
	<b>Black Radish</b>	0.32±0.03	0.23±0.03	
	<b>Kohlrabi Radish</b>	0.08±0.00	0.14±0.01	
	<b>Japanese Radish</b>	0.27±0.08	0.21±0.06	

A, B, C: Indicates the difference between radishes

a, b: Indicates differences between extraction methods

## DISCUSSION

Nutrition with diets rich in fruits and vegetables, especially cruciferous vegetables, has been reported to play a role in reducing the risk of many chronic diseases, including cancer (Donaldson, 2004; Hanlon et al., 2007). The dry matter and other compounds contained in radishes may vary depending on some conditions. These conditions can be sorted by various factors such as growing conditions, climatic conditions, ripening conditions, harvest time, and genotype (Solmaz, 2017).

Goyeneche et al. (2015) investigated the chemical characterization and antioxidant capacity of red radish

(*Raphanus sativus* L.) leaves and roots and reported that the total flavonoid content of red radish roots was 267.47±6.38 mg quercetin (QE)/100 g. Noman et al. (2021) investigated the antioxidant and anticancer activities of white radish (*Raphanus sativus* L.) leaf and root extracts grown in Saudi Arabia and found the total flavonoid content of the ethanolic extract of white radish roots as 24.4 mg QE/g. Keyata et al. (2021) investigated the phytochemical contents, antioxidant activities, and functional properties of *Raphanus sativus* L., *Eruca sativa* L., and *Hibiscus sabdariffa* L. species grown in Ethiopia and found that the total flavonoid content of radish roots was 5.28±0.70 mg catechin equivalent (CE)/g. In this study, total flavo-

noid content was found to be lower than in the studies conducted by Goyeneche et al. (2015), Noman et al. (2021), and Keyata et al. (2021). It is thought that this difference may be due to the difference in extraction methods used in the study and the difference in radish varieties.

Solmaz (2017) prepared extraction using 3 different solvents and analyzed the total polyphenol content in his thesis study with Black radish. The total polyphenol content of water, methanol, and ethanolic extractions was reported as  $37.23 \pm 1.98$  mg GAE/100g,  $17.79 \pm 2.15$  mg GAE/100g, and  $31.33 \pm 1.27$  mg GAE/100g, respectively. The total polyphenol content of water, methanol, and ethanolic extractions was reported as  $37.23 \pm 1.98$  mg GAE/100g,  $17.79 \pm 2.15$  mg GAE/100g, and  $31.33 \pm 1.27$  mg GAE/100g, respectively. Sabuncu (2019) reported the total polyphenol content as 318.11 mg GAE/100g; 508.94 mg GAE/100g; 381.85 mg GAE/100g; 710.04 mg GAE/100g; 288.35 mg GAE/100g and 291.31 mg GAE/100g, respectively, in the thesis study investigating the antioxidant capacity of methanolic extracts of 6 different radishes including Chestnut, Horseradish, White, Chinese, Japanese and Hazelnut radish. While the total polyphenol content detected in this study was compatible with the results of Solmaz (2017), it was lower than the results of Sabuncu (2019). It is thought that this difference may be due to the soil and geographical conditions of the region where radish is grown.

Beevi et al. (2010) investigated the effects of hexane extract of radish root on the viability of HeLa, A549, MCF-7 and PC-3 cells in India and found 24 h MTT results (IC<sub>50</sub>) as  $8.78 \pm 0.43$  µg/ml;  $10.24 \pm 0.65$  µg/ml;  $8.36 \pm 0.21$  µg/ml;  $20.87 \pm 0.77$  µg/ml, respectively. Pocasap & Weerapreeyakul (2016), Thailand, reported the result of a 24-hour MTT assay (IC<sub>50</sub>) >50 µg/ml on HCT116 colon cancer cell line with dichloromethane extract of Chinese radish root. Noman et al. (2021) found the DPPH radical scavenging ac-

tivity of ethanolic extract of white radish roots to be  $40.6 \pm 2$  µg/ml. Noman et al. (2021) using the ethanolic extract of white radish roots on A549, HepG2, MCF-7, and MDA-MB-231 cell lines, found the MTT assay results (IC<sub>50</sub>) as  $250.6 \pm 3.1$  µg/ml,  $444.6 \pm 1.6$  µg/ml,  $306.3 \pm 2.2$  µg/ml and  $470 \pm 2.6$  µg/ml, respectively. In this study, the IC<sub>50</sub> values determined by the MTT assay were found to be higher than in other studies. It is thought that this difference may be due to the type of radish, changes in the extraction method, and differences in the growing conditions of radish (such as soil and geographical conditions).

## CONCLUSIONS

In this study, the highest flavonoid and polyphenol substance content in both sap of radish extraction and methanolic extraction and DPPH\* radical scavenging activity in methanolic extraction were determined in Chinese radish. At the same time, the highest antiproliferative effect was found in the methanolic extract of Chinese radish. In this direction, it has been concluded that radish consumption can be a natural product that can be evaluated in terms of health. As a result, both the antioxidant content and the antiproliferative effect may vary depending on the type of radish, the soil, and the geographical conditions of the region where it is grown. In addition, it was determined that the antiproliferative effect of radish extract increased in a dose-dependent manner. It is thought that new studies on the effects of radish, which is a natural product, on metabolic pathways in different diseases will be beneficial.

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared

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