Identification of HSP47-inducers

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Since HSP make cells resistant to various stressors, HSP-inducers are effective against various diseases, such as gastric ulcer. Therefore, we here try to establish the screening system for HSP-inducers. We construct plasmid in which the luciferase gene is located downstream of the promoter of HSP gene. Cells transfected with this plasmid showed phenotype of stimulation of luciferase activity upon heat shock, suggesting that this system is useful for screening of HSP-inducers. We are now starting such screening from natural products.