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A LITERATURE REVIEW ON ANTI-CANCER ABILITY OF SOURSOP (Annona muricata)

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Soursop/Katuanoda (Annona muricata: Annonaceae) is a broadleaf, flowering, evergreen tree which is native to tropical regions. It is a versatile and amazing medicinal tree with all the parts of it has important uses in traditional medicine. Scientists found that the Soursop fruit is a miraculous natural cancer cell killer. Cancer is a terrible disease caused by abnormal and uncontrolled cell division. The objective of this review is to scientifically justify the traditional application of Soursop for anticancer treatment in the community. Data was collected from the research articles from PubMed, Research gate, Google scholar and other scientific journals. Forty five articles from various scientific journals were reviewed. The results showed that the extracts from parts of the A. muricata were effectively targeted and killed malignant cells in many types of cancer, including colon, breast, prostate, lung and pancreatic. The chemical compounds contain in the A. muricata were nearly 10,000 times stronger in slowing the growth of cancer cells than chemotherapeutic drugs. Most of the research on Soursop focuses on a novel set of chemicals called Annonaceous acetogenins in which the main chemical constituent is Annonacin. The researchers confirmed that these chemicals have significant antitumor properties and selective toxicity against various types of cancer cells.

Keywords: Annona muricata, Katuanoda, Soursop, Anti-cancer