

antihypertensive drugs such as nifedipine, a widely used dihydropyridine calcium channel blocker.

Since stevioside has been widely used in Japan and Brazil for about 20 years as a sweetening agent, taste modifier, and sugar substitute,²³ its safety in humans is well established.¹² Previous toxicology studies with stevioside have been extensive, and have shown that stevioside presents low toxicity in mammals.²³ There can be considerable benefit for hypertensive patients if this natural chemical can lower blood pressure effectively with negligible side effects at that dosage.

In conclusion, the present study again shows that stevioside has promising antihypertensive effects and can be developed as a hypotensive agent.

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