Actividad fagocítica y toxicidad del extracto acuoso de Schinus molle L. sobre Mus musculus BALB/c [

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text (article)

Analítica

Introduction: Traditional medicine could be a safe alternative to enhance the immunity of immunocompromised patients prone to recurrent infections.Objective: To evaluate the phagocytic activity and in vivo toxicity of the aqueous extract of Schinus molle L. on Mus musculus BALB/c.Material and Methods: Experimental study that used a single dose of aqueous extract of Schinus molle leaves of 2000 mg/kg. In vivo phagocytosis was determined in 10 specimens of M. musculus BALB/c that met the inclusion and exclusion criteria, which were randomly and equally distributed in the control and experimental groups. The specimens of the experimental group were inoculated intraperitoneally with 0.5 ml of Staphylococcus aureus suspension and 0.5 ml of the aqueous extract. Those of the control group were inoculated with 0.5 ml of the same bacterial inoculum and 0.5 ml of sterile saline solution. The toxicity of the extract was evaluated by the method of the acute toxicity classes in 12 specimens of mice with the same characteristics that fulfilled the same criteria applied in the evaluation of phagocytosis in vivo.Results: The results demonstrate that 57.1% of the macrophages exposed to the aqueous extract of S. molle showed significant phagocytic activity, finding an average of 21 phagocytosed bacteria per macrophage. No significant signs or symptoms of toxicity were evidenced in the specimens during the 14 days of experimentation.Conclusions: The aqueous extract of S. molle significantly increased in vivo phagocytosis of peritoneal macrophages from M. musculus BALB/c, without clinical evidence of toxicity and in the absence of mortality
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