# CITOTOXICITY OF CvL, A LECTIN FROM MARINE SPONGE *CLIONA VARIANS* AGAINST LEUKEMIA CELLS LINES K562 AND K562-LUCENA

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CvL a lectin from the marine sponge Cliona varians was purified by acetone fractionation followed by Sepharose CL 4B affinity chromatography. CvL agglutinated papainized treated human erythrocytes with preference for type A erythrocytes. The lectin was strongly inhibited by monosaccharide D-galactose and disaccharide sucrose. CvL is a tetrameric glycoprotein of 28 kDa subunits linked by disulphide bridges with a molecular mass of 106kDa by SDS-PAGE and 114 kDa by Sephacryl S300 gel filtration. The lectin was Ca2+ dependent, stable up to 60 C for 60 min, with optimum pH of 7.5. The CvL toxicity against K562 (quimioterapic sensitive cells) and k562-Lucena (quimioterapic resistent cells) leukemia cells lines was evaluated by tetrazolium salt reduction (MTT) colorimetric assay. The results showed an IC50 of 70 µg/mL and 72 µg/mL for K562 and K562-Lucena cells lines respectively.

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