

## Anti-inflammatory Properties of *Bothrops jararaca* Snake Antithrombin in Mice: Preliminary Results

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**Introduction:** Antithrombin is an important inhibitor of several coagulation serine proteases, including factors X<sub>a</sub>, IX<sub>a</sub>, XI<sub>a</sub> and thrombin. Besides, a large number of recent studies have shown that human antithrombin has anti-inflammatory actions, which are independent of its effects on coagulation. **Objective:** The aim of this work was to investigate the effects of *B. jararaca* antithrombin (BjAT) on cell migration induced by carrageenan (cg) in mice. **Methods:** Antithrombin was purified from *B. jararaca* plasma by HiTrap Heparin HP column. The BjAT (20 µg/100 µL i.v.) or saline (100 µL) was administered 1 hour before intraperitoneal injection of cg (300 µg/200 µL) or saline (sal) (200 µL) in male Swiss mice (18-22 g). After 4 hours of cg injection or sal, cell migration to the peritoneal cavity was evaluated. The count of total peritoneal cells was determined in Neubauer's hemocytometer and differential counts were performed in smears stained with panchromatic stain. A total of 100 cells were counted by optical microscopy. **Results:** Pre-treatment with BjAT diminished cg-induced cell-influx into the peritoneal cavity, when compared with the group were pretreated with sal (sal+cg). The decrease in cell migration in animals pretreated with BjAT was 41% (sal+cg: 4.66 ± 0.56, BjAT+cg: 2.74 ± 0.31; p<0.05). A significant decrease of 82% was observed for polymorphonuclear cells in animals pre treated with BjAT (sal+cg: 3.50 ± 0.81 , BjAT+cg: 0.60 ± 0.09; p<0.05). **Conclusion:** The results demonstrated that BjAT significantly inhibited migration of polymorphonuclear cells to peritoneal cavity. Thus we could suggest that BjAT presents anti-inflammatory properties.

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