

Inhibition of the Toxic Effects of *Bothrops pauloensis* Snake Venom by Aqueous Extract of *Myrsine guianensis*

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The interest in the study of plants as a form of alternative therapies is occupying an increasingly significant position in ethnopharmacological studies. One way to exploit the therapeutic potential of plants is their use against snakebite. The venoms from snakes are complex mixture of proteins responsible for bleeding, necrosis, edema and others after envenomations. This study shows the inhibition of the toxic effects induced by *Bothrops pauloensis* snake venom (Bp) by aqueous extract of *Myrsine guianensis* (Mg). The Bp was previously incubated with Mg aqueous extract for 30' at 37°C at ratios 1:5, 1:10 and 1:50 (venom/extract; w/w). The coagulant activity was inhibited 95% at ratio 1:5 and 100% at ratios 1:10 and 1:50 (venom/extract; w/w), respectively. The phospholipasic activity was satisfactorily inhibited, approximately 75% at ratio 1:5 (venom/extract; w/w). The hemorrhagic activity was inhibited 100% for all ratios assayed. The extract of *Myrsine guianensis* presents active compounds capable of inhibiting some toxic effects induced by *Bothrops pauloensis* snake venom. The further studies of isolation and structural characterization of its compounds can assist in envenomation therapy.

Keywords: Snake venom, *Myrsine guianensis*, *Bothrops pauloensis*, inhibition