

CLINICAL STUDIES ABOUT THE EFFECT OF PLANT LECTINS IN SKIN LESIONS

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Wound healing can be improved by using lectins as therapeutic agents. The present object was to evaluate the effects of the treatment of skin wounds using seed lectins: *Cratylia floribunda* (CfL; anti-inflammatory), *Dioclea rostrata* and *Dioclea grandiflora* (Dros and DgL, pro-inflammatory lectins, respectively). Wounds were produced aseptically in the dorsal region of albino Swiss mice and daily topically treated using 150 mM NaCl (C Group) and 10 µg CfL, Dros and DgL. Clinical evaluation was performed along 12 days. Oedema was observed in all wounds along 2 days (55.6%; CfL), 3 days (66.7%; Dros, DgL) and 4 days (16.7%; C group). Hyperemia was present in control and all experimental groups up to 3rd day in 50%, 83.3%, 83.3% and 100% in CfL, DgL, C and Dros groups, respectively. The highest area contraction was observed in CfL treated lesions (closure of 99% of the wounds after 10 days). It was observed a decreasing of the inflammatory phase in the animals treated with CfL and its potential use as therapeutic agent in wound healing.

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