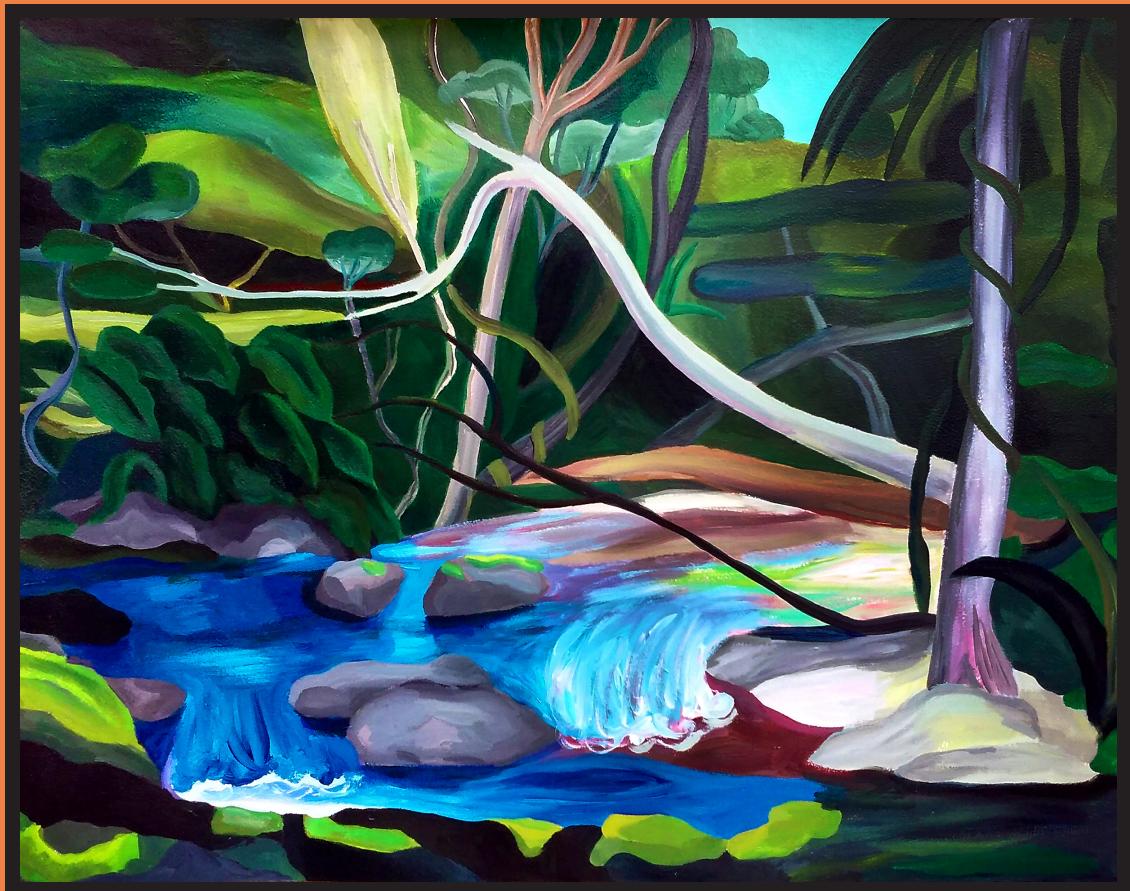


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Todo, 2016

Daniela Kantor

MEDICINA (Buenos Aires) - Revista bimestral – ISSN 1669-9106 (En línea)

Registro de la Propiedad Intelectual N° 02683675

Personería Jurídica N° C-7497

Publicación de la Fundación Revista Medicina (Buenos Aires) Propietario de la publicación: Fundación Revista Medicina
Queda hecho el depósito que establece la Ley 11723

Publicada con el apoyo del Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva.

MEDICINA no tiene propósitos comerciales. El objeto de su creación ha sido propender al adelanto de la medicina argentina.

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Aparece en MEDLINE (PubMed), ISI-THOMSON REUTERS (Journal Citation Report, Current Contents, Biological Abstracts, Biosis, Life Sciences), CABI (Global Health), ELSEVIER (Scopus, Embase, Excerpta Medica), SciELO, LATINDEX, BVS (Biblioteca Virtual en Salud), DOAJ, Google Scholar y Google Books.

Incluida en el Núcleo Básico de Revistas Científicas Argentinas del CONICET.

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1427 Buenos Aires, Argentina

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Vol. 83, Supl. V, Noviembre 2023

Diagramación y Diseño: Andrés Esteban Zapata - aez.sgi@gmail.com

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the control. Moreover, alterations in cellular morphology indicated a loss of cytoplasm and the formation of apoptotic bodies. These findings collectively point to the potential of this complex as an effective agent against cancer cells by inducing oxidative stress (to which cancer cells are more susceptible) and triggering apoptosis.

467. 203. ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY OF HALAMPHORA COFFEAEOFMIS: A FUcoxanthin-PRODUCING MICROALGA WITH POTENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS

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Fucoxanthin (Fx) is a major photosynthetic light-harvesting carotenoid found in diatoms and brown seaweeds, presenting numerous beneficial properties for health, such as antioxidant, hypoglycemic, antimicrobial, anti-obesity, anti-aging anti-metastatic, among others. We carried out previous studies with cultures of the marine diatom *Halaphora coffeaeformis*, isolated from the Bahía Blanca Estuary (Argentina), evidencing a significant Fx production. The aim of this work was to evaluate the antioxidant capacity of *H. coffeaeformis* extracts by implementing an optimized protocol for 2,2'-Azino-bis(3-ethylbenzthiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) diammonium salt radical (ABTS⁺) bleaching test. Cultures were performed in duplicate in Erlenmeyers with f/2 medium at 33%, and with a light:dark photoperiod of 12 h:12 h, adapted to a photosynthetically active radiation intensity of 100 $\mu\text{E m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$. Antioxidant activity was determined by a Jasco V-630 UV-Vis spectrophotometer by ABTS⁺ scavenging activity measurement after the addition of Fx enriched culture extracts. The obtained results showed that ABTS⁺ discoloration assay is an efficient antioxidant activity indicator of *H. coffeaeformis* extracts, demonstrating for concentrations less than 0,01 mg mL⁻¹, similar ABTS⁺ bleaching results than ascorbic acid, used as a reference positive control. Fx and associated pigment production during the stationary growth phase in cultures were evidenced by HPLC chromatography. *H. coffeaeformis* cultures under studied conditions showed strong antioxidant properties, with the effective concentration for 50% scavenging (EC_{50}) of ABTS⁺ being 0,02 mg mL⁻¹. In conclusion, the obtained results suggested that *H. coffeaeformis* is a sustainable Fx source, encouraging future studies of its bioactive properties in health.

468. 323. ANTI DIABETIC POTENTIAL OF EXTRACTS FROM DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SORGHUM

Ana Paula Escobar^a, Ana Melissa Gonzalez Miragliotta^{a,b}, Gonzalo Adrián Ojeda^{a,b}, Romina Belén Gonzalez^{a,b}, Ana María Torres^{a,b}, María Victoria Aguirre^c

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Type 2 diabetes mellitus is a chronic condition that covers approximately 90-95% of cases. In the current market, there is a wide variety of drugs for its treatment. In recent years there has been a growing interest in alternative approaches such as the use of natural products. There are references about the usefulness of sorghum

as a hypoglycemic agent referred to the species cultivated in other regions of the world, but the study of the species adapted to our region (NEA) is of the utmost importance since it is known that they can vary their chemical composition due to edaphoclimatological influences. The objective of this work was to evaluate the hypoglycemic potential of sorghum by measuring the inhibitory capacity of its extracts on the enzyme alpha glucosidase (APG) responsible for glucose absorption at the intestinal level. Samples of red and white variety sorghum were used with 3 different granulometries for each case, 500um sieve (ST500), 500um flour (H500) and 177um fine flour (HF177). The material was macerated for 48h in a previously optimized mixture of solvents, filtered and dried in a rotatory evaporator. The in vitro APG inhibition assay was performed in a microplate reader using extracts (0.02mg/ml) and acarbose (1mg/ml) as positive control. Final results were expressed as the ratio of inhibition relative to acarbose. It was observed that all the extracts were more active than the positive control ($I_r > 1$). However, the red variety presented greater inhibitory capacity than the white variety. For red sorghum, the most active extract was ST500 ($I_r = 75.68$) followed by H500 ($I_r = 56.31$). In the case of white sorghum, the extract that was most active was ST500 ($I_r = 46.96$) but lower than all the cases of red sorghum. Our findings show that there are significant differences in the hypoglycemic potential of sorghum extracts according to the variety and size of the material used.

469. 324. INTERACTION OF A SUNFLOWER MANNOSE-BINDING LECTIN WITH INFLUENZA VIRUS

Radicioni M^{1,4}, Del Rio M^{1,4}, Cagnoni A^{2,4}, Lerman A³, Cimmino C³, Silva A³, Uez O³, Mariño K^{2,4}, Regente M^{1,4}.

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Influenza virus circulates in the world causing disease in humans. To establish an infection, the viral genome must replicate in the epithelial cells of the upper respiratory tract. In our laboratory, a mannose-binding jacalin-like lectin of sunflower seeds, Helja, was isolated and identified. The ability of Helja to bind glycoconjugates could be of biomedical interest as an antipathogenic agent. Previous evidence obtained by hemagglutination inhibition, ligand blot, and competition assays on mannose-agarose affinity matrices, suggests the binding of Helja to Influenza virus particles. The aim of this work was to analyze the interaction of Helja with different types of Influenza viruses through biophysical assays and to evaluate its ability to inhibit viral binding to buccal epithelial host cells (BECs). Through solid phase assays, biotinylated Helja showed the ability to bind to all the immobilized viral particles analyzed, displaying greater affinity for Influenza B Yamagata. Viral particles labeled with FITC and following by fluorescence confocal microscopy were used to evaluate the effect of the lectin on the virus binding to BECs. We observed that the preincubation with Helja decreases the viral interaction to the host cells for all the tested strains, showing greater inhibition for the Influenza B Yamagata particles. Our results indicate that Helja interacts differentially with the envelope glycoproteins of different Influenza A and B strains, suggesting its capacity as an effective tool to prevent virus entry and replication in host cells. Future studies could contribute to the design of a new antiviral agent based on the use of Helja as a bioactive compound.

470. 347. SUNFLOWER HULLS EXTRACTS EXHIBITS ANTI-FUNGAL PROPERTIES AGAINST *C. albicans*

Guadalupe Rodríguez, Marianela Del Rio, Melisa Radicioni, Guadalupe Martínez, Mariana Regente.

Instituto de Investigaciones Biológicas-Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata (IIB-UNMdP), CONICET

Candida albicans is an opportunistic fungus causing superficial and systemic infections. The search for safe and efficient antifungal compounds is a challenge for researchers. Sunflower husk (SH) is an agroindustrial by-product rich in phenolic compounds with bioac-