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IN VITRO WOUND HEALING PROPERTIES OF BENTHONIC ALGAE

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Purpose of study: To investigate the in vitro wound healing effects, together with the cytotoxicity of ethanolic extracts of benthoni algae: *Gracilaria bierdi*, *Gracilaria domingenses, Laurencia* sp, *Padina* sp and *Sargassum* sp. Methods: The effects of ethanolic extracts of algae were investigated for their ability to stimulate proliferation and migration of fibroblasts in the scratch assay [2]. The cytotoxicity was performed using MTT assay[1]. Results: Four algae (*G. bierdi*= 74.4±11.6% *G. domingenses*= 47.2± 2.5%, *Padina* sp=26.6± 0.3% and *Sargassum* sp promoted migration and proliferation of fibroblasts at the concentration of 50 µg/ml (Figure 1). At a concentration of a 110 µg/ml any of the extracts showed cytotoxicity in e cell lines RAW, L929 and OVAR. Conclusion: *Padiana* sp showed the stronger ability to stimulate proliferation and migration of fibroblasts in vitro.

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Figure 1. Effect of ethanolic extracts of algae on the migratory and proliferative activities of 3T3 mouse fibroblasts in the scratch assay. Data are expressed as percentage of cell number in the injured area, compared to the control group (DMEM medium only). Bars represent the mean \pm SD of three independent experiments, *P<0.05, compared to the control group, by two-way-ANOVA.

References:

1 MOSMANN, T. Rapid colorimetric assay for cellular growth and survival: application to proliferation and cytotoxicity assays. J Immunol Methods 65: 55–63, 1983.

2 LIANG, C.C.; PARK, A.Y; GUAN, J.L. In vitro scratch assay: a convenient and inexpensive method for analysis of cell migration in vitro. Nature Protocols 2: 329 – 333, 2007.