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Hepatoprotective and iNOS down regulation activities of *Pleurotus florida*

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Pleurotus florida is a delicious edible mushroom cultivated on commercial scale in various parts of world. Methanol extract of *P. florida* was tested for its hepatoprotective and gene expression activities. Inflammation was induced in hepatocytes of BALB/c mice with 1.5 µg Lipo Polysaccharide (LPS)/25 g body weight followed by treatment with different concentrations of methanol extract of *P. florida* showed hepatoprotective activity. However 125 µg concentration of mushroom extract showed high hepatoprotection with no abnormalities. Total RNA of hepatocytes were isolated and RT-PCR was performed to study the down regulation of iNOS. At 125 µg concentration mushroom extract significantly reduced the expression of upregulated iNOS at transcriptional level. The findings of the present study indicate that *P. florida* is not only a nutritionally valuable food it is also an important source for therapeutic compounds.

Biography

Aathishree Vanji Paramasivan is a student at the University of East London. She was given the opportunity to research and write her first summer project paper in Kongunada Arts and Science College and was under the supervision of Dr. R Thirugnanasampandam and Dr. Krishnakumari.

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