

Ameliorative effects of *Antrodia camphorata* on liver fibrosis and gastrointestinal functions in rats

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The aim of the present study was to investigate the safety and potential functional application of the filtrate of fermented mycelia of *Antrodia camphorata* (FMAC). And this was the basic study for FMAC development and utilization. The following results were obtained.

Chronic hepatitis was induced in rats by repeated oral administrations of carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄) for 8 weeks. FMAC was administered orally from week 4 to the end of the experiment. FMAC (1 g/kg) ameliorated the chronic hepatitis induced by CCl₄ as judged by biochemical observation and hepatic collagen contents. In addition, FMAC (2 g/kg) inhibited the liver fibrosis that was induced by dimethylnitrosamine. FMAC (3 g/kg) 4 weeks administration significantly increase the caecal lactobacilli counts. The present study also demonstrated that FMAC (2g/kg) could inhibit the type IV allergic reaction, gastric acid secretion and urine flow. The toxicity study of administration of FMAC orally daily to rats for 28 days indicated that the safe dose of FMAC was below 2 g / kg. Acute toxicity study also found that FMAC (15 g / kg) induced severe diarrhea.

In conclusion, it is possible to development of FMAC for hepatoprotective health food.