Evaluation of the parenteral acute toxicity of *Passiflora edulis* Sims. (Passifloraceae) on mice

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Introdução: *Passiflora* genus (Passifloraceae) has approximately 460 species related (CROMOCHEMORE M.L., Braz. Arch. Biol. Technol., 46, 2003.). *Passiflora edulis* Sims. is a species cultivated in Brazil and it is called as “maracujá-azedo”, "maracujá-roxo", “maracujá-liso”, "maracujá-do-mato". This species is used in folk-medicine due to anxiety, sedative, diuretic and analgesic effects. Thus we decided to evaluate parenteral acute toxicity of the lyophilized ethanol crude extract obtained from leaves and stalks of *P. edulis* (Pe-EtOH) on mice.

Parte experimental: the toxicity experiments were accessed in order to national legislation. Mice Swiss (35–40g) were treated with Pe-EtOH (2g/kg) or vehicle (group control, 1 mL/kg TWEN-20 0.1%+water) route i.p. The locomotor and behavior activity were observed during 30-180 minutes after administration. Following 24, 48 and 72 hours, the animals were weighted, feed or consume of water were monitored daily. After 72 hours the treatments, the animals were euthanized in chamber CO₂ and the hearts, lungs, livers and kidneys were isolated and weighted. The data were analyzed by GraphPad Prism 5.0 software, it tested for significance by one way ANOVA following Dunnett’s post-test and Student t-test (p<0.05).

Resultados/Discussão: Pe-EtOH (treated, 2g/kg) did not induce dies when compared with animals (n=5) received vehicle (control, TWEN-20+water), thus LD₅₀ was not calculated. Pe-EtOH increased (p<0.01) locomotor activity of the animals (n=5) after 150 min. (treated = 34.4±3.6; control = 21.2±1.6 spaces). Pe-EtOH did not altered (p<0.05) either animal weight, feed or consume of water after 24, 48 and 72 h of the administration. Pe-EtOH decreased heart (0.7±0.02 mg/g, p<0.05) and lung weight (1.1±0.09 mg/g, p<0.001) when compared to control (1.9±0.08 and 0.9±0.09 mg/g, respectively), but others analyses will be realized to indicate some lesion.

Conclusão: All results together are suggestive that the extract (2g/kg) obtained from leaves and stalks of *P. edulis* is not toxic, only showed anxiolytic effect after 150 min. that corroborate with its use in folk-medicine.