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The Effect of Insect Chitosan for Transforming Growth Factor-β1

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Transforming growth factor-β1 (TGF-β1), a multifunctional cytokine, regulates biological process such as cell proliferation, differentiation is very important immunological reaction area. However, over expression of TGF-β1 has been related to the pathogenesis of fibrotic diseases such as glomerular diseases. TGF-β1 plays a crucial role in the accumulation of extra cellular matrix (ECM) in human and experimental glomerular diseases. Therefore, we are examined to inhibit the overerexpression of TGF-β1 in macrophages using various insect chitosan. The chitin was isolated from various kinds of insects, silkworm pupa (*Bombyx mori*), *Apis mellifera*, *Bombus ardens*, *Teleogryllus emma*, and exuvia of *Cryptotympana dubia* by treatment with critical acid and alkaline conditions. The chitosan is obtained from the acetylation reactions of in those obtained various insect chitin. In those chitosans are showed that a significantly inhibitory effect on TGF-β1 expression by the activated macrophages. These results suggest that promotive effect of insect chitosan could suppress TGF-β1 over expression.