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ACTIVITY OF *Lumbricus rubellus* EARTHWORM EXTRACT REDUCING POCKET DEPTH IN CHRONIC PERIODONTITIS WISTAR RATS

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ABSTRACT

Periodontitis is an inflammation that causes progressive damage to periodontal connective tissue, recession, alveolar bone, and pocket formation (Carranza, 2012). The periodontal pocket is an abnormal depth of the gingival sulcus which is a clinical sign of periodontal abnormality. Probing is the only reliable method of detecting pockets. Systemic administration of antibiotics and anti-inflammatory as additional therapy after SRP (Scaling root planning) provides clinical benefits in reducing pocket depth (Plessas, 2014). There have been many natural anti-inflammatory ingredients found, one of which is the earthworm *Lumbricus rubellus*. The anti-oxidant content found in earthworm *Lumbricus rubellus* has activity as anti-inflammatory, anti-synthetic and anti-carcinogenic (Cooper, 2019). This study aims to determine the ability of *Lumbricus rubellus* earthworm extract to reduce the periodontal pocket depth in Wistar rats with periodontitis.

Keywords: *Lumbricus rubellus*, earthworm, periodontitis

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