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Abstract
Antrodia camphorata is a unique species of fungus that only growes on Cinnamomum kanehirai in Taiwan. It is recognized as traditional herb for its liver protective function in Taiwan aborigines. It has long been known that liver disease is one of the top ten killers in Taiwan. Therefore, it is important to develop medicine that curing liver diseases. The aim of this study was to investigate the hepatoprotective effect of liquid extractive Antrodia camphorate (LEAC), which is the water extract of solid form of Antrodia camphorata fermentation, and to see if the LEAC might help liver function. The present study used Wistar rats as our study animal . Twenty rats were divided into five groups: Normal control (Background control no CCl4 was introduced), Negative control (CCl4 alone and feed only with solvent), Test group one [the CCl4+silymarin (positive drug control)], Test group two (CCl4+1X LEAC), and Test group three (CCl4+5X LEAC.)
Our results showed that the LEAC might have liver protective function as our data in test groups. Either 1X or 5X LEAC could reduce the liver damages that caused by CCl4. These results could be demonstrated by the significantly decreased serum levels of GOT and GPT after feeding 1X and 5X LEAC, LEAC can also reduce the content of triglyceride and cholesterol in serum. In addition, the antioxidant status in liver of rats were tested. The content of glutathione did not show significantly decrease among five groups, but feeding LEAC significantly restored the activities of antioxidant enzyme SOD. The activities of catalase rose after feeding LEAC, but the effect isn’t significant.
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