

〈原著〉

## 緑茶抽出物のモルモットにおける 遅延型接触アレルギーの検討

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### The Study on the Delayed Type Contact Allergy of Green Tea Extract in Guinea Pigs

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#### Abstract

Recently it has been in the fashion to mix natural products such as plant extract in cosmetic formula. But, there may be an unexpected influence of these natural products on living things including man. In this paper, we showed an evidence of delayed type contact allergy of the green tea extract and found one of the allergens to guinea pigs by Cumulative Contact Enhancement Test method. This allergen was characterized to be (-)-epicatechin which is one of components of tea plant.

(-)-Epicatechin showed positive challenge reactions in the condition of 0.01% induction and 0.01% challenge, or 0.1% induction and 0.001% challenge in guinea pigs.

Challenge reaction was suppressed by peroral administration of Ban-cha extract before induction.

Although we found that the green tea extract had a potential to cause delayed type contact allergy in guinea pigs, there has been no evidence of the clinical case indicating that green tea leaves caused dermatitis. If this is true, there is a possibility that the ingestion of green tea could produce tolerance against delayed type contact allergy.

#### Key Words

1. Green tea extract
2. Delayed type contact allergy
3. Guinea pig cumulative contact enhancement test
4. (-)-Epicatechin
5. Tolerance