

Cocoa pod extract deemed effective as antiwrinkle gel

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(HealthDay)—Cocoa pod extract (CPE) can be used as an active



ingredient of antiwrinkle products, with effects seen after three weeks of application of CPE gel, according to a study published online April 4 in the *Journal of Cosmetic Dermatology*.

Azila Abdul Karim, from the Malaysian Cocoa Board in Nilai, and colleagues used liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry to screen the active compounds in CPE. The concentration of CPE needed to maintain the viability for at least 50 percent of <u>fibroblast cells</u> was determined (EC₅₀). In order to examine the efficacy of CPE in <u>gel</u> form, the gel was tested by 12 panelists using Visioscan.

The researchers found that CPE contained malic acid, procyanidin B1, rosmarinic acid, procyanidin C1, apigenin, and <u>ellagic acid</u>. The amount of CPE that could be incorporated into the gel to reach an effective concentration while being nontoxic was calculated using the EC_{50} value. With application of CPE gel, skin wrinkles were reduced by 6.38 ± 1.23 percent within three weeks, with further significant improvement after five weeks (12.39 ± 1.59 percent). After three weeks of CPE gel application the skin hydration increased (3.18 ± 1.06 percent).

"CPE can be used as the active ingredients in antiwrinkle products, and prolonged application may result in significant visual changes to the naked eyes," the authors write.

More information: <u>Abstract</u> <u>Full Text (subscription or payment may be required)</u>

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