

# Inhibitory effect of the flavonoid silymarin on the erythrocyte hemolysis induced by phenylhydrazine

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The flavonoid silymarin, which is used as a therapeutical agent in the treatment of liver diseases, can inhibit the hemolysis and lipid peroxidation induced by phenylhydrazine on erythrocytes obtained from rats treated with the flavonoid. This effect is ascribed to the antioxidant properties as a free radical scavenger exhibited by the flavonoid. Silymarin failed to inhibit the glutathione depletion induced by phenylhydrazine on erythrocytes. It is proposed that the flavonoid acts at the membrane level of the cell avoiding the lipid peroxidative and fluidizing effect of phenylhydrazine. © 1985.