

# Hemolysis induced by *Loxosceles laeta* venom. In vitro experience Estudio de la hemolisis inducida por veneno de *Loxosceles laeta*. Experiencia in vitro.

Bravo,

Puratic,

Behn,

Fardella,

Contreras,

To study the effects of *Loxosceles laeta* venom on red blood cells and the possible factors involved in hemolysis during arachnidism, in vitro models were designed to measure the role of *Loxosceles* venom, calcium, complement and antibodies in the mechanism of red blood cell destruction. The degree of basal hemolysis was measured in a 5% suspension of group O, Rh (+) red blood cells in pH 7.4 buffer. In a similar suspension spider venom was added in amounts equivalent to one venom gland. After 72 hours of incubation, basal hemolysis was 5.59 +/- 2.04% which increased to 26.01 +/- 7.9% adding venom ( $p < 0.001$ ). Adding calcium to the incubation medium, hemolysis increased to 88.5 +/- 7.16% ( $p < 0.001$ ). Incubating red blood cells with control human serum and venom, hemolysis was 14.58 +/- 2.42%, which decreased significantly to 6.85 +/- 3.35% when serum was heat inactivated; this demonstrates an effect of the presence of complement. We did not find antivenom antibody production in patients