



## The effect of *G. lucidum* on the lifespan of *Caenorhabditis elegans* modeling Duchenne muscular dystrophy

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### Biography:

Prashanthi Rayapati is currently pursuing her High School at LYNBROOK HIGH SCHOOL, San Jose, CA. Her Research of interests are Evolutionary Cell Biology research in gene modifications using DNA methods, Cognitive Artificial Intelligence modeling of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy using the *C. elegans* effect on *G. lucidum* on the Life Span of Patients. She got awards like Shri Krupa Volunteer of the Year, Synopsis Science Fair Honorable Mention, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Award, JEENA recognition Award.

### Abstract

Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) is an X chromosome-linked disease characterized by progressive physical disability, immobility and premature death in affected boys. Underlying the devastating symptoms of DMD is the loss of dystrophin, a structural protein that connects the extracellular matrix to the cell cytoskeleton and provides protection against contraction-induced damage in muscle cells, leading to chronic peripheral inflammation. However, dystrophin is expressed in neurons within specific brain regions, including the hippocampus, a structure associated with learning and memory formation. Linked to this, a subset of boys with DMD exhibit progressing cognitive dysfunction, with deficits in verbal, short-term, and working memory. Furthermore, in the genetically comparable dystrophin-deficient mouse model of DMD, some, but not all, types of learning and memory are deficient and specific deficits in synaptogenesis and channel clustering at synapses has been noted. Little consideration has been given to the cognitive deficits associated with DMD compared with the research conducted into the peripheral effects of dystrophin deficiency. Therefore, this review focuses on what is known about the role of full-length dystrophin (Dp427) in the hippocampal neurons.

In this experiment, I hypothesized that 100 ug/ml of *G. lucidum* would extend the lifespan and too much concentration of this herbal medicine would lose its efficacy in treating this disease. A study was conducted through the reactions and lifespan of *Caenorhabditis elegans* exhibiting the lack of dystrophin to the different concentrations of *G. lucidum*. As a result, the effect of *G. lucidum* on the *Caenorhabditis elegans* modeling Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy was astonishing as 100 ug/ml of *G. lucidum* helped prolong the lifespan of these nematodes by 20%. This data can be reflected onto the lifespan of humans with DMD as the 20% increase in lifespan of these nematodes could mean the prolonged life of 6-8 years for humans. However, too much concentration of *G. lucidum* was shown not to affect the life of the worms.

The hypothesized argument was proven correct as the results show the 20% increase of lifespan for the 100 ug/ ml of *G. lucidum* concentration and the effect of too much concentration of this herbal method. Moreover, the use of herbal medicine like *G. lucidum* could be a new inexpensive and attainable method of treatment for those diagnosed with DMD. The importance of dystrophin in learning and memory is assessed, and the potential importance that inflammatory mediators, which are chronically elevated in dystrophinopathies, may have on hippocampal function is also evaluated.