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Journal

**ISSN**

10183647

**DOI**

10.1016/j.jksus.2022.102011

**Publisher**

Elsevier B.V.

**Original language**

English

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# The therapeutic potential of skin mucus from Asian swamp eel (*Monopterus albus*): In vivo evaluation and histological evidence

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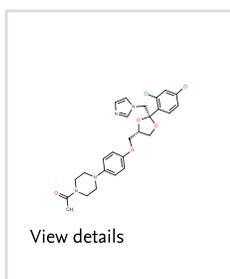
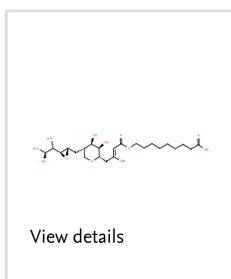
**Objectives:** The Asian swamp eel (*Monopterus albus*), is commonly distributed in Asian countries. However, its therapeutic potential has not been thoroughly investigated yet. The current study aimed to evaluate the in-vivo therapeutic properties of the skin mucus of this fish. **Methods:** The eel mucus was collected freshly and topical gel with carbopol 934 was formulated to study the antibacterial activity on the infected skin of the rats. Sprague Dawley rats were used in the study and divided into 4 groups negative, positive, normal control, and treated groups. **Results:** Intracutaneous injections of pathogenic bacteria (*Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Staphylococcus aureus*) and fungi (*Microsporium gypseum*, *Candida albicans*) were injected into the rats. The development of tinea capitis, impetigo, and cutaneous candidiasis in the animal model was confirmed based on clinical and histopathological observations. To treat the infected rats, a formulated gel of eel skin mucus was applied on the infected rat's skins topically. The histological analysis confirms a complete recovery in the skin tissues similar to commercial antifungal and antibacterial agents used in the positive control groups. **Conclusion:** The present novel eel skin mucus is an efficient therapeutic candidate in treating skin infections associated with pathogenic microbes. © 2022 The Author(s)

## Author keywords

Eel skin mucus ; Intracutaneous injections; *Monopterus albus*; Skin infections

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