Pepe, G.;<sup>a</sup> Abate M.;<sup>b</sup> <u>Marino, P.</u>;<sup>c</sup> Randino, R.;<sup>a,b</sup> Pisanti, S.;<sup>b</sup> Basilicata, M.G.;<sup>a</sup> Verdiana, C.;<sup>a</sup> Bifulco, M.;<sup>d</sup> Cabri, W.;<sup>e</sup> D'Ursi, A.M.;<sup>a</sup> Rodriquez, M.;<sup>a</sup> Gómez-Monterrey, I.M.<sup>f;</sup> Manfra, M.;<sup>c</sup> Campiglia, P.;<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Salerno, Via Giovanni Paolo II 132, 84084 Fisciano (SA), Italy;
<sup>b</sup> Department of Medicine, Surgery and Dentistry "Scuola Medica Salernitana", University of Salerno, Via Salvatore Allende, 84081 Baronissi Salerno, Italy; <sup>c</sup> Department of Science, University of Basilicata, Viale dell'Ateneo Lucano 10, 85100 Potenza, Italy; <sup>d</sup> Department of Molecular Medicine and Medical Biotechnologies, University of Naples Federico II, Via Pansini, 80131 Naples, Italy; <sup>f</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Naples Federico II, Via Pansini, 80131 Naples, Italy; <sup>f</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Naples Federico II, Via Pansini, 80131 Naples, Italy; <sup>f</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Naples Federico II, Via Pansini, 80131 Naples, Italy; <sup>f</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Naples Federico II, Via Pansini, 80131 Naples, Italy; <sup>f</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Naples Federico II, Via Pansini, 80131 Naples, Italy; <sup>f</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Naples Federico II, Via Pansini, 80131 Naples, Italy; <sup>f</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Naples Federico II, Via Pansini, 80131 Naples, Italy.

PON Ricerca e 2014- 2020 Innovazione

pasquale.marino@unibas.it





## Introduction

*Ganoderma lucidum*, is also known as "the fungus of immortality". The pharmacological properties of *G. lucidum*, such as anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, antiaging, immunomodulatory and antitumour activities<sup>1</sup>, are due to its peculiar chemical composition in bioactive compounds such as polysaccharides, terpenoids, nucleotides, steroids, fatty acids, proteins and glycopeptides<sup>2</sup>. The present study reported the effect of *G. lucidum* on human keratinocytes as an in vitro skin model for evaluation of its dermatological applications.

## Results

The ethanol extracts of *G. lucidum* were analysed by UHPLC-ESI-IT-TOF.

30 triterpenoids identified in the G. lucidum extract.



We determined by Western blot analysis the status of the same proteins involved in both cell cycle progression and cell migration.

The *G. lucidum* ethanol extract increased the expression of cell cycle regulation proteins such as cyclin D3, CDK2 and CDK6 (**Fig. A**). Besides, it induced MMP2 and MMP9 expression (**Fig. B**), and then subsequently triggered the EGRF signalling cascade. Activation of the downstream EGFR pathway, inducing phosphorylation of Src (**Fig. B**), suggested that exposition to *G. lucidum* extracts provided a driving force in human keratinocyte migration.



In order to assess the potential effect of *G. lucidum* ethanol extract on the migratory function of HaCaT cells, we performed a scratch wound assay treatment for 24 h. In the presence of the *G. lucidum* extract, we observed an enhancement of wound healing at all tested doses.



Cell viability was reduced to 35.4% at 200  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (Fig. A).

After 18 h pretreatment of keratinocytes with the *G. lucidum* ethanol extract, cell viability was increased with 5 and 10  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup> doses (**Fig. A**). **Fig. B** shown a cell death analysis by annexin-V and propidium iodide.

*G. lucidum* pretreatment before  $H_2O_2$  exposure resulted in a significant reduction of apoptosis and particularly of early apoptosis.



## Conclusion

In this work, we aimed first to assess the chemical composition of triterpenic acids in the fruiting body of the fungus, highlighting its potential as a valuable source of bioactive compounds, and then to provide any further pharmacological evidence of how the ethanol extract of *G. lucidum* is able to boost the wound