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Circular economy and valorization of pomegranate peel: Innovation for multifunctional applications

Nerea Pons-Rocamora¹, Francisco Javier Álvarez-Martínez¹, Vicente Micol^{1,2}.

¹ Instituto de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación en Biotecnología Sanitaria de Elche (IDiBE), Universidad Miguel Hernández (UMH), 03202 Elche, Spain. ² CIBER, Fisiopatología de la Obesidad y la Nutrición, CIBERobn, Instituto de Salud Carlos III (CB12/03/30038), 28029 Madrid, Spain.

INTRODUCTION & AIM

Valorization of pomegranate peel (*Punica granatum* L.) as a polyphenolrich by-product with bioactive potential for antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, dermocosmetic, and nutraceutical applications.



METHODOLOGY

Conversion of residual biomass into high-value resources

- Biotechnological extraction of bioactive compounds
- > Characterization and analysis of extracts





- Evaluation of dermocosmetic and nutraceutical potential
- > Development of innovative biomaterials from post-extraction vegetal residues



RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Pomegranate peel is a valuable resource for cosmetic and nutraceutical formulations due to its high polyphenol content and antioxidant properties. It helps regulate reactive oxygen species (ROS), reducing oxidative stress and supporting cellular health. Additionally, its bioactive compounds promote gut microbiota balance and may aid in preventing oxidative stress-related diseases. The residual plant material from extraction has also been optimized for innovative biomaterial development.





Pomegranate peel proves to be a valuable resource for cosmetic and nutraceutical products due to its antioxidant capacity and the presence of biomolecules such as urolithins, which support gut microbiota balance, while residual plant material is optimized for innovative biomaterials, enhancing sustainability. This approach fosters collaboration among stakeholders and exemplifies a scalable model of **circular economy**, delivering environmental, social, and economic benefits.



Future research will be directed towards assessing the efficacy of the identified bioactive compounds in vivo models to validate the findings obtained from in vitro experiments. Additionally, efforts will be devoted to the development of cosmetic or nutraceutical formulations leveraging these bioactive constituents. In the long term, the objective is to investigate the potential reuse of other pomegranate by-products, such as seeds.