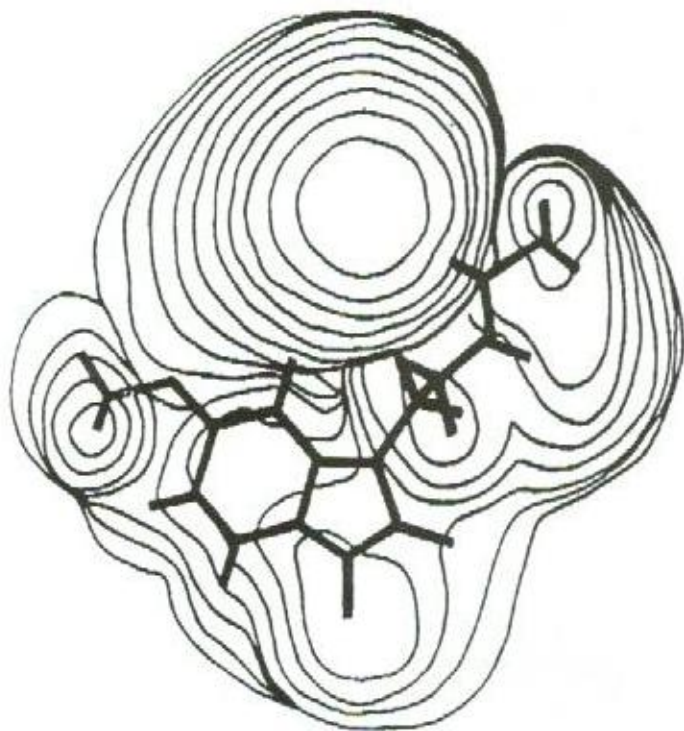


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Abstracts



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Photoperiod and rat's peripheral blood.

Bone marrow functions are influenced by melatonin (MLT) (M.T. ROSSI & L. Di Bella: Melatonin in thrombocytogenesis. *Brain Res. Promotion* 1988, pagg 183-194).

Since MLT biosynthesis is inhibited by light, it seemed worthwhile to study blood platelets (P) and serum proteins SP- in different conditions, i.e. standing light, or Light/Dark schedule of 12/12 hr (L at 8.00) for 30-45 days or over 180 days.

The blood was extracted from the heart of young male rats in nembutal narcosis: the P-count, P-Vol and P-Distrib. Index determined through the SEARC PLT + P-counter. SP were determined with the biuret reaction, and serum albumin with brom-cresol-green against BSA, through a Jasco UVIDEL 650 DB spectrophotometer.

Significant differences between the groups of rats lighted for 30 and 45 days were found only as regards SP. However P fell significantly after longer lighting times, when minute haemorrhages appear over the skin of the scrotum and ears, the claws, the anout mucous membranes and the conjunctiva.