

Web Yourself to Cease Bleeding

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Editorial

The presence of dust or cob webs, instigate us to quickly pick up the broom and sweep it off. But, hidden amid the grime may be substances of profound value. The ancient Greeks applied cobwebs directly to wounds. Sounds spooky rite? Spider-web silk has attracted the interest of several researchers in recent years because it displays a unique combination of high tensile strength, high breaking strain and ultra low weight. All spider species spin their silk and uses them for a variety of purposes like dragline for safety, web building to trap their prey and also thick cocoon is used by female spiders for protecting their eggs.

Cocoon is basically made up of proteins consisting of various amino acids. Several studies have been performed on the mechanical, physical

and chemical properties of silk worm cocoon [1,2]. This folk medicine is still practiced by some of the remote Indian villages, wherein the people use cocoon of the spider to arrest the bleeding whenever there is a wound. Till date, no research has been carried out on the intricate properties of cocoon content which aids in cessation of bleeding. Further scientific insights is warranted to identify which integral component of the cocoon is helpful in this beneficial feat, so that it could be used in dentistry as well as in medical field for hemostasis.

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