

Assessment of anti-inflammatory activity of *Justicia wynaadensis*, a medicinal plant

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Plants have been one of the major sources of medicine since the dawn of human civilization. *Justicia wynaadensis* (Acanthaceae), and is widely used in traditional medicine. Inflammation is a dynamic process that is elicited in response to mechanical injuries, burns, microbial infections and other noxious stimuli that may threaten the well-being of the host. *J. wynaadensis* leaves are harvested dried and powdered. Extraction is done by using soxhlet apparatus, using absolute alcohol. Extracted residue is concentrated by using rotary flash evaporator. The presence of various phytochemical constituents in the extract is determined using standard screening tests and presence of alkaloids, steroids, flavonoids, cardiacglycosides etc are revealed. Anti-inflammatory activity of *J. wynaadensis* is assessed by the method described by carrageenan induced paw edema method. In this study, ethanolic extracts at a dose of 100 mg/kg and 300mg/kg body weight showed moderate to significant anti-inflammatory activity. The total alcoholic extracts of *J. wynaadensis* reduced the edema induced by carrageenan by 40 % and 44 % respectively on oral administration of 100 mg/kg and 300mg/kg body wt, as compared to the untreated (control) group. The plant *J. wynaadensis* showed antiinflammatory activity comparable to positive control diclofenac.

Biography

Vidyabharathi B P has completed her M.Sc in the year 2008 and M.Phil in the year 2009 from University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore . She is working as Project Fellow (UGC-MRP) under the guidance of Dr.Sudarshana M. S. She is working in the area of bioprospecting of medicinal plants.

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