

عنوان مقاله:

Antidiarrheal action of *Zataria multiflora* hydroalcoholic and hexane extracts in mice

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خلاصه مقاله:

Introduction: *Zataria multiflora* Boiss. is an indigenous herbal plant found in many parts of Iran. This herb is traditionally used as a remedy for treating gastrointestinal disorders including diarrhea. Despite the existence of few pharmacological evidences which support the antispasmodic action of *Z. multiflora* in vitro, there is no scientific report about therapeutic efficacy of *Z. multiflora* in animal models. The objective of this research was to investigate the antispasmodic activity of hydroalcoholic and hexane extracts of *Z. multiflora* on intestinal peristaltic movement as well as assessment of its antidiarrheal action in mice. **Methods:** Dried leafy branches of *Z. multiflora* were coarsely powdered and subjected to extraction by ethanol or hexane in a percolator apparatus. Antispasmodic activity of *Z. multiflora* in vivo was assessed by investigating effect of the extracts on intestinal charcoal meal transit. The antidiarrheal activity of *Z. multiflora* extracts was evaluated by castor oil and magnesium sulfate-induced diarrhea. The inhibitory effects of the extracts were compared with the standard drug loperamide. **Results:** The antispasmodic activity of *Z. multiflora* (۲۰ & ۴۰ mg/kg) hydroalcoholic and hexane extracts was confirmed by a reduction in the distance traveled by charcoal meal alongside the small intestine. *Z. multiflora* extracts (۲۰ & ۴۰ mg/kg) also significantly attenuated the castor oil and magnesium sulfate-induced diarrhea. Loperamide was more efficacious in reducing number of total stools in both models of diarrhea. **Conclusion:** The obtained results have established a pharmacological evidence for the folkloric use of the *Z. multiflora* as an antidiarrhoeal and spasmodic agent.

کلمات کلیدی:

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