

Investigation of Antidepressant Activity of *Dracaena Trifasciata* in Rats

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Abstract : Objective: *Dracaena trifasciata* extract (DTE) possesses strong antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties that play a vital role in the treatment of mental disorders like depression. The present study was designed to evaluate the antidepressant effects of hydroalcoholic extracts of DT on behavioral models of depression. Methodology: Animals were randomly divided into 6 groups of 5 each: Group 1 and 2 received distilled water and standard drug, imipramine: 25mg/kg, respectively. Groups 4, 5 and 6 received DTE treatment orally at doses of 200 ,400 and 600mg/ kg, respectively, for 14 days. Time of immobility was noted by force swimming test (FST) and tail suspension test (TST) on the 1st, 7th and 14th days. Results: The time of immobility was reduced in the treatment group as compared to the control and standard. DTE 600 mg/kg showed the highest and most significant antidepressant effects as compared to the standard drug imipramine. (25mg/kg). Conclusion: DTE has good potential as an alternative therapy for depression.

Keywords : *Dracaena trifasciata*, antidepressants, force swimming test, tail suspension test, herbal drug of depression

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