

In vitro Antioxidant Scavenging of Root Fraction of *Bryonia dioica*

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Abstract : Plants and their active agents - especially polyphenols - may have a principal role in the treatment of diseases that result from the defect of physiological antioxidant mechanisms. *Bryonia dioica* is well known in Moroccan traditional medicine for alleviating pain and treating many diseases. We have focused on plant belonging to Cucurbitaceae Family from around the world to understand their therapeutic uses and their potential antioxidant activities. Although several biological activities and Chemical composition of *Bryonia dioica* are well characterized, no direct, in vitro study, of this natural product examined the antioxidant effect of the extract from the roots of *Bryonia dioica*. The aim of this study was to determine in vitro antioxidant activity of the *B. dioica* root, using antioxidant analysis methods based on determination of Hydroxyl radical Scavenging, 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazine (DPPH) radical scavenging, Hydrogenperoxide Scavenging and Nitric Oxide Scavenging. In this study, it was demonstrated, that, *B. dioica* root extract showed excellent antioxidant properties. This investigation showed that the roots of this plant contain potent natural scavengers. It may represent an interesting source of antioxidant phenolics that may favour the extension of their cultivation as new source of natural antioxidants in addition to containing high quality proteins for human or animal nutrition. Therefore, there is need for all stakeholders in Morocco to strive towards taking advantage of our enormous biodiversity resources to free our people from diseases, abject poverty and stagnation.

Keywords : Morocco, *bryoniad dioica*, in vitro, antioxidant

Conference Title : ICTMH 2016 : International Conference on Traditional Medicine and Herbs

Conference Location : Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Conference Dates : January 26-27, 2016