EVALUATION OF THE LETHAL DOSE OF THE METHANOL EXTRACT OF RHIZOPHORA RACEMOSA LEAF USING KARBER’S METHOD

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ABSTRACT
Aim: To evaluate the median lethal dose (LD₅₀) of the methanol extract of Rhizophora racemosa leaf commonly used for toothache and dysmenorrhoea in the Niger Delta Area of Nigeria.
Methods: The modified arithmetic Karber’s method by Aliu and Nwude was used. Various doses of the extract were administered to adult albino rats through intraperitoneal route and the LD₅₀ was calculated.
Results: The result revealed that the LD₅₀ of the methanol extract was 1583.33 mg/kg which is within safe level of consumption.
Conclusion: This research therefore provides a scientific evidence that the traditional medicinal use of this plant is safe within the dose limit established.
Keywords: LD₅₀, Rhizophora racemosa, Mangrove plant, Karber’s method, Intraperitoneal.