Formulation and Evaluation of Two Anti-inflammatory Herbal Gels

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Abstract

Two herbal gels expected to produce a topical anti-inflammatory activity were formulated, characterized and evaluated both phytochemically and biologically. The selected active ingredients were two tannin extracts (Q and G) obtained from Acacia nilotica Del. fruits (Qarad) and Quercus infectoria Oliv. galls (Oak gall). The total polyphenol content of the powdered drugs was estimated colorimetrically. The aqueous methanol (50 %) extracts of the investigated samples were individually incorporated, at different concentrations (0.5 - 2 mg/ml), into polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) hydrogels. Gallic acid was used as marker for HPLC standardization of the extracts and determination of drug content in the hydrogels. The antiinflammatory activity was assessed by measuring the inhibitory effect of the extracts and hydrogels on xylene-induced ear edema in mice.

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