

Modulating effect of *Dillenia indica* L. leaves on streptozotocin-nicotinamide induced diabetic nephropathy in rats

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Diabetic nephropathy is a chronic complication of diabetes mellitus which leads to end-stage renal disease. *Dillenia indica* L. (Family: Dilleniaceae) is widely used in traditional medicine to treat various diseases including diabetes. The present study was designed to evaluate the effect of hydro-alcohol extract of *D. indica* leaves in diabetic nephropathy in rats. Diabetic nephropathy was induced by intraperitoneal injection of streptozotocin (65 mg/kg) 15 min after Nicotinamide (230 mg/kg, i.p.) administration. Rats were divided into six groups (n=6). Group 1 and 2 were kept normal control and diabetic control respectively whereas Groups 3–5 consist of diabetic nephropathy rats treated with different doses of extract (100, 200 and 400 mg/kg) for 45 days. Glimipride (10 mg/kg) was used as positive control. Diabetic nephropathy was assessed by determining serum glucose, insulin, urea, uric acid, creatinine level and tissue histological examination. Tissue antioxidant enzymes (SOD, CAT, GSH, LPO) level was measured to assess the oxidative stress. Hydro-alcohol extracts of *D. indica* produced significant attenuation in the biochemical parameters used to assess diabetic nephropathy. Elevated serum blood glucose level was significantly reduced. Moreover, level of antioxidant enzymes was also found to be significantly augmented. So, it can be concluded that hydro-alcohol extracts of *D. indica* have protective effect against diabetic nephropathy.

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Attitudes and beliefs of pharmacist about providing oral emergency contraception (EC)

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Introduction: Emergency contraceptive (EC) is a way of preventing contraceptive failures; however beliefs and attitudes of providers may determine its provision.

Objective: The objective of the study was to examine pharmacists' attitudes and beliefs about providing oral EC.

Methods: A cross-sectional survey was conducted among pharmacists in Ogun State Nigeria. Using a 28 item pretested questionnaires, information was obtained on Pharmacists' attitudes and beliefs about providing oral EC. Data was fed into Microsoft Excel for easy sorting and loaded into SPSS version 17 and Graph Pad InStat for further statistical analysis. A P value of ≤ 0.05 was interpreted as significant.

Results: Response rate was 88%. Mean age \pm standard deviation was 34.62 ± 8.69 . Male to female ratio was 1:0.872. One hundred and twenty (68.2%) respondents were married, 102 (58%) had children and 141 (80.1%) were Christians. Chronbach's alpha was 0.671. Respondents were 58.9% positive in their perceptions. The mean total score was 3.55 ± 1.061 . Four components (1, 2, 3 and 5) had significant reliability (Beliefs and affective evaluation, professional benefits/duty, professional concerns and professional responsibility respectively).

Conclusion: Pharmacists' displayed an average positive attitudes and beliefs towards provision of oral EC and misconceptions exist about EC.

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