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Jobelyn® pretreatment ameliorates symptoms of psychosis in experimental models

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Background: Psychosis is a chronic neurological disorder and it remains a major medical and social problem in most African countries. In most African countries, individuals with psychotic illness tend to seek help from traditional medical practitioners, who prescribed herbal remedies, as alternative forms of treatment for the disease. Jobelyn® (JB) is a commercial polyherbal formulation that has been acclaimed to show beneficial effects in neurological disorders. However, its usefulness in psychosis has not been scientifically validated. Thus, this study was undertaken to evaluate its effects on animal models predictive of human psychosis.

Methods: Antipsychotic activity of JB was assessed based on the inhibition of stereotyped behavior induced by amphetamine or apomorphine in mice. Amphetamine-induced hyperactivity and lethality in aggregated mice were additional tests employed to further evaluate the antipsychotic property of JB. The effect of JB on catalepsy was also assessed, using the inclined plane paradigm.

Results: JB (5-50 mg/kg, p.o.) significantly ($p<0.05$) inhibited stereotypy induced by amphetamine (10.0 mg/kg, i.p.) or apomorphine (1 mg/kg, i.p.), which suggest antipsychotic activity. Furthermore, JB (5-50 mg/kg, p.o) reduced lethality in aggregated mice and inhibited hyperactivity induced by amphetamine respectively. However, JB (5-50 mg/kg, p.o) did not cause cataleptic behavior, as it failed to alter the duration of stay of the animals on the inclined plane.

Conclusion: Taken together, these findings suggest that Jobelyn® exhibits antipsychotic-like activity, devoid of the adverse effect of cataleptic behavior, and may offer some beneficial effects in the symptomatic relief of psychotic ailments.

Biography

Solomon Umukoro has completed his Ph.D. at the age of 38 years from University of Lagos, Nigeria. He is the head of Neuropharmacology unit, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He has published more than 26 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as a reviewer to both local and international journals.

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