

**IN VITRO ANTI OXIDANT ACTIVITY OF ETHANOLIC EXTRACT OF DIOSPYROS
PANICULATA Dalz, BARK****Mithun K. Sebastian* and Shan P. Mohammed**

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ABSTRACT

Diospyros Paniculata is a tree which belongs to the family Ebenaceae which has been used as a folkloric medicine in ayurveda and siddha. It has been commonly used in the treatment of ulcer, burns, poisoning etc. Here the study was conducted to evaluate the In vitro Anti oxidant activity of bark extract of diospyros paniculata by DPPH, Hydroxyl radical scavenging methods. The effect of the extract is assessed by the ability to scavenge DPPH radicals and Hydroxyl radicals. The results obtained indicate that the Ethanolic extract of Diospyros Paniculata (EEDP) has significant In vitro Anti oxidant activity ($P < 0.001$). The IC₅₀ value of EEDP by DPPH method was found to be 100 μ g/ml as compared to standard which is 70 μ g/ml and Percentage Inhibition of Hydroxyl radical at dose 1000 μ g/ μ l of EEDP is 38.07% as that of standard which is 75.44%.

KEYWORDS: Diospyros Paniculata, In vitro, Anti oxidant, DPPH, Hydroxyl radical scavenging.**INTRODUCTION**

Oxygen is essential for the survival of all on this earth. During the process of oxygen utilization in normal physiological and metabolic processes approximately 5% of oxygen gets univalently reduced to oxygen derived free radicals^[1,2] like superoxide, hydrogen peroxide, hydroxyl and nitric oxide radicals. These substances are called as Reactive Oxygen Species [ROS]. These ROS play an important role in degenerative or pathological processes, such as aging, cancers, coronary heart diseases, Alzheimer's disease, neurodegenerative disorders, atherosclerosis, cataracts and inflammations.^[3] Living organisms have antioxidant defense systems that protect against oxidative damage by removal or repair of damaged molecules.^[4] The 'antioxidant' refers to the activity of numerous vitamins, minerals and phytochemicals which provide protection against the damage caused by ROS.^[5] Antioxidants interfere with the oxidative processes by scavenging free radicals, chelating free catalytic metals and by acting as electron donors.^[6] The natural antioxidant mechanisms maybe insufficient in variety of conditions and hence dietary intake of antioxidant compounds are important.^[7]

Antioxidant agents of natural origin have attracted special interest because they can protect the human body from free radicals.^[8] Plant based antioxidants are preferred to the synthetic ones because of their multiple mechanisms of actions and non-toxic nature. These facts have inspired widespread screening of plants for possible medicinal and antioxidant properties; the isolation and

characterization of diverse phytochemicals and the utilization to antioxidants of natural origin to prevent the diseases.^[9] Current study is performed to evaluate the in vitro anti oxidant activity of Diospyros Paniculata.

Diospyros paniculata is a moderate sized handsome tree attaining a height of 50 ft and a diameter of 1.25 m. The fruits are green and ovoid, about 1 in long. The wood is whitish grey, occasionally with narrow stripes of black. This plant does not yield black heartwood. Bark is soft and moderately heavy (wt. 46 lb /cu ft). Leaves of the tree are used as fish poison; dried and powdered fruits are applied to heal burns; Decoction of the fruit is used in gonorrhoea, biliousness and blood poisoning; powdered stem bark is used for rheumatism and ulcer.^[10] The preliminary photochemical screening of diospyros paniculata indicate the presence of essential oil, saponins, terpenoids, flavanoids and alkaloids.^[11,12]

MATERIALS AND METHODS**PLANT COLLECTION AND AUTHENTICATION**

Diospyros Paniculata was collected from Gootrical Forest range, sabarimala, Pathanamthitta district, kerala in October 20, 2015 and it was authenticated by Mr. M V Krishna raj M.Sc., B.Ed., Ph.D Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, Baselius College Kottayam.

PREPERATION OF THE ETHANOLIC EXTRACT OF BARK OF DIOSPYROS PANICULATA

Fresh bark of Diospyros Paniculata was collected and washed thoroughly with distilled water and dried in open

air at shade. Later the dried bark were chopped into small pieces and the material were properly packed and kept in soxhlet extractor and is made to undergo successive soxhlet extraction using ethanol as solvent. After 48hrs the extract was collected and it is air dried to remove the solvent. The extract collected is properly packed and kept for further studies.

IN VITRO MODELS

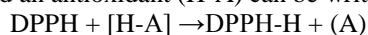
DPPH FREE RADICAL SCAVENGING ACTIVITY¹³

The radical scavenging activity of different extracts was determined by using DPPH assay according to Chang et al 2001. The decrease in the absorption of the DPPH solution after the addition of an antioxidant was measured at 517 nm

Ascorbic acid (10mg/ml DMSO) was used as reference.

Principle

1,1-diphenyl-2-picryl hydrazyl is a stable free radical with purple colour which turns yellow when scavenged. The DPPH assay uses this character to show free radical scavenging activity. The scavenging reaction between (DPPH) and an antioxidant (H-A) can be written as,



Antioxidants react with DPPH and reduce it to DPPH-H and as consequence the absorbance decreases. The degree of discoloration indicates the scavenging potential of the antioxidant compounds or extracts in terms of hydrogen donating ability.

Reagent preparation

0.1mM DPPH solution was prepared by dissolving 4mg of DPPH in 100ml of ethanol.

Procedure

Different volumes of samples were made up to 40µl with DMSO and 2.96ml DPPH (0.1mM) solution was added. The reaction mixture incubated in dark condition at room temperature for 20 minutes. After 20 minutes, the absorbance of the mixture was read at 517nm. 3ml of DPPH was taken as control.

CALCULATION

$$\% \text{ inhibition} = \frac{\text{control} - \text{test}}{\text{control}} \times 100$$

HYDROXYL RADICAL SCAVENGING ACTIVITY^{14]}

This assay is based on the qualification of the degradation product of 2 deoxy ribose by condensation with TBA (Elizabeth and Rao,1990). Hydroxyl radical was generated by the Fe^{3+} - ascorbate- EDTA - H_2O_2 system (The Fenton reaction). The reaction mixture contained in the final volume of 1 mL. 2 deoxy 2 ribose (2.8mM), FeCl_3 (100µM), EDTA (100µM), H_2O_2 (1.0mM), ascorbic acid (100µM) in KH_2PO_4 - KOH buffer (20 mM pH 7.4) and various concentrations (125-2000µg/µl) of the test sample. After incubation for 1hour at 37°C, add 1ml of 2.8% TCA, then 1ml 1% aqueous TBA was added and the mixture was incubated at 90°C for 15 minutes to develop the colour. After cooling the absorbance was measured at 532nm against an appropriate blank solution.

CALCULATION

$$\% \text{ inhibition} = \frac{\text{control} - \text{test}}{\text{control}} \times 100$$

STATICAL ANALYSIS

The data were analysed statistically using one way ANOVA followed by Tukey-Kramer Multiple Comparison test. Values are expressed as mean \pm SD, $n=3$ and $P<0.001^{***}$ is considered as significant.

RESULTS

1. EXTRACTION

The ethanolic extract of diospyros paniculata (EEDP) is prepared from bark.

2. IN VITRO ANTI OXIDANT ACTIVITY

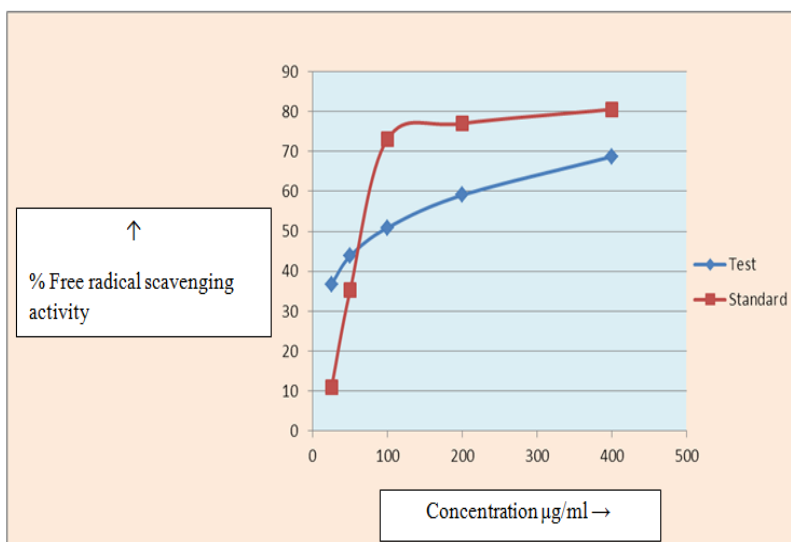
2.1. DPPH FREE RADICAL SCAVENGING ACTIVITY

In vitro free radical scavenging activity of Ethanolic Extract Diospyros Paniculata (EEDP) is shown in the Table no 1. The percentage radical scavenging activity of the Diospyros Paniculata is compared with the standard Anti oxidant Ascorbic acid. The activity of the extract is assessed by the ability to scavenge DPPH radicals. It is found that the extract is having significant free radical scavenging activity with increase in the Percentage inhibition in a concentration dependent manner. The IC 50 value of standard is 70µg/ml and that of EEDP is 100µg/ml.

Table no:1 Comparison of the DPPH free radical scavenging activity of EEDP and Ascorbic acid

SL NO	CONCENTRATION µg/ml	% RADICAL SCAVENGING ACTIVITY	
		EEDP	ASCORBIC ACID
1	25	36.8 \pm 0.065***	10.96 \pm 0.184***
2	50	43.83 \pm 0.052***	35.35 \pm 0.184***
3	100	50.92 \pm 0.025***	73.17 \pm 0.184***
4	200	59.06 \pm 0.050***	77.02 \pm 0.184***
5	400	68.73 \pm 0.028***	80.54 \pm 0.0184***

Values are mean \pm SD, $n=3$, $p<0.001=***$, indicates extremely significant increase in scavenging of free radical by EEDP as compared with Ascorbic acid. Statistical analyses were carried out by using one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey-Kramer Multiple Comparisons Test.



GRAPH 1 DPPH free radical scavenging activity of EEDP and Ascorbic acid

2.2 HYDROXYL RADICAL SCAVENGING ACTIVITY

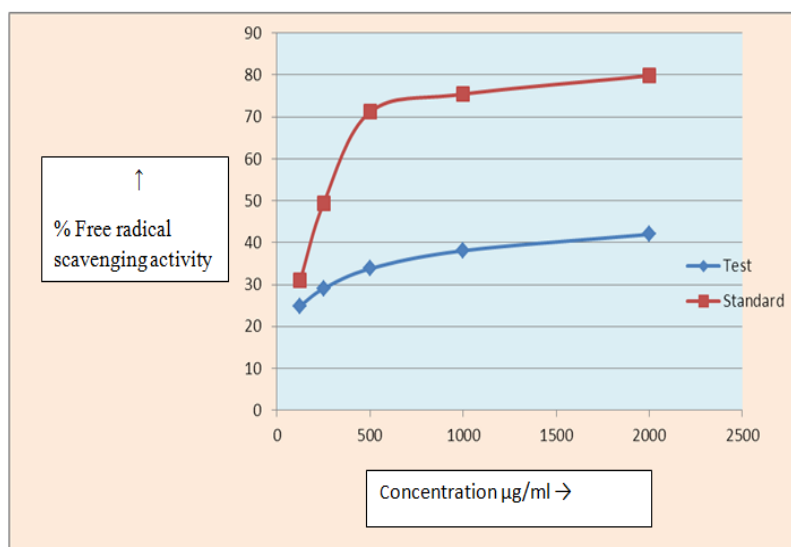
In vitro Hydroxyl radical scavenging activity of Ethanolic Extract Diospyros Paniculata (EEDP) is shown in the Table no 2. The percentage radical scavenging activity of the Diospyros Paniculata is compared with the standard Anti oxidant Gallic acid. The activity of the

extract is assessed by the ability to scavenge OH radicals. It is found that the extract is having significant free radical scavenging activity with increase in the Percentage inhibition in a concentration dependent manner. The Percentage inhibition of EEDP at dose 1000µg/µl is 38.07% as that of standard dose which is 75.44%.

Table no 2: Hydroxyl radical scavenging activity

SL NO	CONCENTRATION µg/µl	% HYDROXYL RADICAL SCAVENGING ACTIVITY	
		EEDP	GALLIC ACID
1	125	24.92 ± 0.010***	31.06 ± 0.144***
2	250	29.00 ± 0.010***	49.34 ± 0.132***
3	500	33.78 ± 0.030***	71.17 ± 0.138***
4	1000	38.07 ± 0.010***	75.44 ± 0.138***
5	2000	41.99 ± 0.010***	79.86 ± 1.391***

Values are mean ± SD, n=3, p<0.001=***, indicates extremely significant increase in scavenging of free radical by EEDP as compared with Ascorbic acid. Statistical analyses were carried out by using one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey-Kramer Multiple Comparisons Test.



GRAPH 2 Free Radical Scavenging Activity of EEDP and GALLIC ACID

DISCUSSION

The antioxidant ability of the bark extracts was analyzed based on their ability to scavenge free radicals. DPPH radical scavenging is considered a good in vitro model widely used to assess antioxidant efficacy within a very short time. In its radical form, DPPH has disappears on reduction by an antioxidant compound or a radical species to become a stable diamagnetic molecule resulting the colour changes from purple to yellow, which could be taken as an indication of the hydrogen donating ability of the tested sample.^[15,16] The extract is having significant free radical scavenging activity at various concentrations when compared with standard in a dose dependent manner in DPPH method.

Hydroxyl radical is particularly reactive and dangerous. Hydroxyl radical damages proteins in various ways and damages membrane by initiating the oxidation of fatty acid in membrane lipids, a process termed lipid peroxidation. It also damages nucleic acid, both by causing polynucleotide strand breakage and by changing the structure of DNA bases.^[17] The extract is showing good free radical scavenging activity when compared with the standard compound.

The preliminary phyto-chemical analysis indicate that the chemical constituents like flavanoids, saponins, alkaloids where present in the extract which are having Anti oxidant activities which are scientifically proved. So that the Anti oxidant activity of the extract may be due to the presence of these chemical constituents.

CONCLUSION

From the results obtained from the In vitro methods like DPPH, Hydroxyl Radical scavenging activities it is confirmed that the extract is showing significant Anti oxidant activity in a concentration dependent manner as shown in Table 1&2. The activity may be due to the presence of chemical constituents like flavanoids, alkaloids etc. Even though further isolation and study of the chemical constituents is needed to confirm the Anti oxidant effect of the bark extract.

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