

Abstract

An acute toxicity testing of Cissus quadrangularis ; Vitidaceae

by

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Phet Sang Khaat (Cissus quadrangularis L. ; F. Vitidaceae),  
herbarium specimen BKF No 083968 is one of Thai medicinal plants under the project of "Traditional medicines and primary health care" run by the Ministry of Health to bring about the scientific proof of Phet Sang Khaat as a hemorrhoid remedy in clinical phase. In this paper, acute toxicity study was conducted in mice, rats, and rabbits. The aqueous crude extract was given to the experimental animal via intraperitoneal injection and orally through gastric tubing. Dermal toxicity was tested in rabbits. The results showed that the degree of toxicity of this medicinal plant ranged from slightly toxic to practically nontoxic depends on route of administration. Signs of toxicity depends on species, dose, and route of administration. The sensitivity of each physiological system was quite different, the animal which received this plant extract via intraperitoneal injection showed marked effect on nervous system. However, marked effect on respiratory system was found when the aqueous crude extract was given orally. Either intraperitoneal injection or oral route of administration of the extract, diarrhea was found. The severity of this effect depends on doses of administration. Dermal toxicity in rabbit was found to be practically non-toxic. However, subchronic and chronic toxicity test should be done in order to extrapolate all animal toxicity data to man.