Leishmanicidal activity of *Anthemis odontostephana*. Boiss

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**Background and Aims:** The present study was designed to examine the effect of Anthemis odontostephana Boiss on cutaneous leishmaniasis.

**Methods:** The plant aerial parts of the plant were collected and different extracts (Methanol, Dichloromethane, Ethyl acetate and Hexane) of plant were prepared. The promastigotes of Leishmania major was incubated in RPMI 1640 with 10% FCS medium in the presence of 25, 12.5, 6.25, 3.1, 1.6, 0.8, 0.4, 0.2, 0.1 mg/ml of each extracts. Amphotericine B and a group without extract were selected as control groups. The activity was determined by counting the live promastigotes and IC$_{50}$ was estimated.

**Results:** All extracts showed leishmanicidal activity but hexane extract was the most effective than other extracts.

**Conclusions:** It seems lishmanicidal activity related to polarity of the extract content which is influenced by polarity of the solvent used for extraction.

**Keywords:** Leishmanicidal; *Anthemis odontostephana*; Extract