

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. Amphotericin B and a group without extract were selected as control groups. The activity was determined by counting the live promastigotes and IC₅₀ was estimated.

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

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

Keywords: Leishmanicidal; *Anthemis odontostephana*; Extract