

INVESTIGATION OF THE HEPATOPROTECTIVE POTENTIAL OF FRACTIONS AND PHYTOSOMAL COMPLEXES OF *TELFAIRIA OCCIDENTALIS* HOOK F LEAF EXTRACTS ON ALCOHOL-INDUCED HEPATOTOXICITY IN RAT MODELS

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(Received 23 July 2023) (Accepted 02 January 2024)

ABSTRACT

The aim of this work was to evaluate the hepatoprotective potential of fractions and phytosomal complexes of *Telfairia occidentalis* leaf extracts on ethanol-induced hepatotoxicity in rat models. Phytosomal complexes of ethanol extract fractions were prepared by the thin film hydration technique. Hepatoprotective activities were evaluated by biochemical assays and histopathological examination of liver sections. Intoxication of animals with pure ethanol significantly ($p < 0.05$) elevated their liver enzyme titers, whereas co-administration with various extracts and phytosomal complexes reversed the increases. Histopathological findings revealed liver tissue protective effects of the extracts with the phytosomal complexes exhibiting greater effects ($p < 0.05$). Significant differences at $p \leq 0.05$ were observed in the liver indices of animals treated with co-administered ethanol and extract fractions or phytosomes complexes versus the positive control group. *T. occidentalis* leaf extract formulated as phytosomes, therefore, has good potential of enhancing the hepatoprotective activities of the extract.