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## *In vitro* inhibition of *Daboia russelii* (Shaw & Nodder) venom with alginic acid-based silver nanoparticles

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Envenomation by Russell's viper [*Daboia russelii* (Shaw & Nodder, 1797)] is a major medical emergency in tropical countries. The antivenom therapy is a conventional remedy for such medical emergency, but it has limitations and side effects. Nanomedicine and nanotechnology are the most prospective areas of research in the current scenario. In the present study, sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) analysis of crude *Daboia russelii* venom (VRV) was performed. Alginic acid-based silver nanoparticles (AgNP-ALG) were synthesized and characterized using UV-Visible spectroscopy, Dynamic Light Scattering (DLS), Scanning electron microscope (SEM), and X-ray diffraction analysis (XRD). SNPs have average hydrodynamic size of 80.30 nm with 0.271 PDI. X-ray diffraction analysis of AgNP-ALG, which confirmed the cubic crystal shape of silver. SEM studies of AgNP-ALG showed particle sizes ranging from 10 to 50 nm. Spectroscopic analysis showed a decrease in the absorbance intensity of venom upon interaction with AgNP-ALG, indicating interaction with venom proteins. From the data available from fluorescence spectroscopy, it is evident that viper venom preincubated with AgNP-ALG causes quenching of fluorescence intensity. The results obtained by direct hemolytic assay, proteolytic activity and blood clotting test revealed venom action inhibition due to silver nanoparticles. Thus, in the present study we have emphasized that silver nanoparticles inhibit the action of *Daboia russelii* venom *in vitro*.

**Keywords:** Alginic acid, Direct hemolytic assay, Proteolytic activity, Russell's viper, Silver nanoparticle, Snakebite envenoming