

Keywords: Herbs; Medicinal plants; Phytoconstituents; Spices; Toxicity

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**PHYTOCHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS AND ANTITRYPANOSOMAL POTENTIAL OF
Waltheria indica AND *Abrus precatorius*.**

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Abstract

African Trypanosomiasis also known as sleeping sickness threatens millions of people in sub-saharan Africa especially the poor populace. Available trypanocides are faced with the problem of toxicity, adverse reaction, complex administration and cost. The study was designed to determine the phytochemical compositions and Antitrypanosomal activities of methanol extracts of *Waltheria indica* and *Abrus precatorius* in *Trypanosoma brucei brucei* infected mice. Phytochemical screening revealed the

presence of flavonoids (988.92±5.49), phenols (270.38±4.10), tannins (12.54±1.21), saponins (237.50±30.00), alkaloids (29.32±0.33) in *Waltheria indicam* ethanol extract while *Abrus precatorius* methanol extract was found to contain flavonoids (60.97±3.20), phenols (121.95±11.36), tannins (129.12±9.30), saponins (202.25±9.25), alkaloids (9.69±0.34). The acute toxicity study of methanol extracts of *Waltheria indica* and *Abrus precatorius* had LD₅₀>5000 mg/kgbw. The % suppression of trypanosomes in circulation were 25%, 48.1%, 56.9% and 25%, 55.6%, 61.3% at 200, 400 and 600 mg/kgbw for *Waltheria indica* and *Abrus precatorius* respectively. However, the % suppression obtained with the two extracts were significantly lower than what was observed with the group treated with standard drug Berenil (100%) but survived longer than the untreated group. The result of this study shows that the two plant may contain phyto constituents with the potentials to suppress parasite proliferation in experimental animals trypanosomiasis.

Keywords: Trypanosomiasis. Phytochemical constituents, Antitrypanosomal activity *Waltheria indica* and *Abrus precatorius*

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HOST IMMUNE RESPONSE MECHANISMS AND INTERACTIONS TO MALARIA PARASITE INVASION: AN OVERVIEW

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