

**DBT Sponsered Two Days National Conference on
A Paradigm Shift for Emerging Paraphernalia in
Advancement of Cancer Research**

28 and 29 Feb-2020

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.37022/WJCMPR.2020.SC1>

Organized By



Nirmala College of Pharmacy

Affiliated to Kerala University of Health Sciences Thrissur

Approved By Government of Kerala, PCI and AICTE

Nirmala College Rd, Kizhakkekara, Muvattupuzha, Kerala 686661

ACACIA CAESIA: A REVIEW ON ITS PHYTOCHEMISTRY AND PHARMACOLOGY

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Abstract

Acacia caesia of Mimosaceae family is a medicinal plant indigenous to Indian subcontinent and is traditionally used by Mizo tribes for various ailments like skin diseases, sexual problems, and wound healing, stomach and tooth problems. The present review aims in compiling the information on different phytochemical and pharmacological aspects of Acacia caesia. The phytochemical report revealed the presence of alkaloids, anthraquinones, flavonoids, glycosides, phenols, indoles, tannins, lignins, steroids, anthocyanidins, terpenoids and saponins etc. in different parts like bark, stem and leaves. The pharmacological review report has revealed the antioxidant, antimicrobial, Cytotoxic; wound healing and cestocidal activity of *Acacia caesia*. The review explores the therapeutical potential of Acacia caesia as a promising drug.

Key words: *Acacia caesia*, antioxidant, antimicrobial, cytotoxic, wound healing, cestocidal.

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SCREENING OF ANTI-ASTHMATIC ACTIVITY OF ACACIA CAESIA

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Abstract

Acacia caesia is a medicinal plant indigenous to Indian subcontinent and is traditionally used by Mizo- tribes for various ailments like asthma, skin diseases, sexual problems, and wound healing, stomach and tooth problems. *Acacia caesia* belongs to Mimosaceae family and is a source of many secondary metabolites. The main aim of this project is to scientifically prove the traditional use of *Acacia caesia* leaves in asthma by in vitro anti-asthmatic studies using histamine and acetyl choline induced bronchoconstriction in isolated goat trachea. The leaf powder was subjected to solvent extraction using various solvents like petroleum ether, ethyl acetate, chloroform, methanol and water and the percentage yield was found to be 3.2, 3.1, 0.34, 39.4, 2.43% respectively. Maximum number of active constituents were found in methanol and water extract. By the preliminary phytochemical screening the presence of alkaloids, carbohydrates, flavonoids, proteins, amino acids and phenolic compounds were confirmed. In the present study the histamine (200µg/ml) and acetyl choline (200µg/ml) induced contraction of goat trachea was inhibited by methanolic extract (500µg/ml) of *Acacia caesia* in a dose dependent manner which may be due to their action on H1 and M3 receptors. Further scope is to isolate and identify the compound responsible for the therapeutic activity and to carry out *in vivo* anti-asthmatic activity studies. Also, toxicological studies can be carried out and can develop a new formulation using isolated phytoconstituents of *Acacia caesia*.

Key words: *Acacia caesia*, anti-asthmatic, flavonoids

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WONDERS OF PSILOCYBIN –MAGIC MUSHROOM

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Abstract

Cancer patients often develop a chronic, clinically significant syndrome of psychosocial distress having depressed mood, anxiety and reduced quality of life with 40% of cancer patients meeting criteria for a mood disorder. Recent study found that a single dose of psilocybin, a compound found in “magic mushroom”, provides long term relief of anxiety and depression in cancer patients. A psilocybin mushroom is one of the polyphylec groups of fungi that contain psilocybin and psilocin and are mainly found in Mexico, Canada, US, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and associated islands. These species are usually dark-spotted, gilled mushrooms that grow in meadows and wood of subtropics and tropics. When the psilocybin is ingested, it is broken down to produce psilocin and act by inhibiting the serotonin by binding to the 5HT2A receptors. The effect tend to appear around 20 mins after the injection and will last for 6 hrs . Physical effects like nausea, vomiting, muscle weakness, drowsiness and lack of coordination may also occur and would last for 3-8 hours depending on dosage, preparation and metabolism.

Keywords: Cancer patients, psychosocial distress, mushroom.

