



# “PHARMACOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF ANTI-CONVULSANT ACTIVITY OF LIPOSOMES CONTAINING VITEXNUGEUNDO”

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## Abstract

The *vitexnugeundo* or *nirgudi* is a native plant of India different part of which are used in the treatment of various diseases such as: analgesic, hepatoprotective, anxiolytic, anti-inflammatory, asthma, hormonal disorder etc. The purpose of this study was to prepare & evaluate extract & also liposome formulation consisting of methanol extract of leaves of *vitexnugeundo* for the treatment of convulsion induced by PTZ model & MES induced seizure using animals. The present study was novel as it consisted of utilizing the extract of same plant prepared by using various solvents. The extract was prepared using the combined solvents, consisting of ethanol, methanol, chloroform and water in the ratio 1:1. The prepared mixture of the solvent was used for the extraction of phytoconstituents, which revealed that, the prepared combined solvent showed the significant increment in the extractive value. Further same extract was screen for anti-convulsant activity using PTZ model, and results revealed that the significant anticonvulsant activity. Whereas the other extracts, which were prepared using solvents like ethanol, methanol, chloroform and water showed less extractive value and less anti-convulsant activity as compared to combined solvent extract. This novelty proved significantly in the present study. The significant activity of the plant was may be due to the presence of the few of the chemical constituents like, Flavonoids, Saponins and the cynogenetic glycosides also. The phytochemical investigation showed the presence of these chemicals in the plant extracts, which act as a strong base for the significant results, proved by the Tukey Kramer method.

Key Words: Antiepileptic, *Vitex-negundo*, Electroconvulsiometer, Maximum Electroshock (MES), Verbenaceae, Cynogenetic glycosides.

## **INTRODUCTION-**

*Vitexnegundo* Linn. (Family: Verbenaceae) is a woody, aromatic shrub growing to a small tree. It commonly bears tri- or penta-foliolate leaves on quadrangular branches, which give rise to bluish-purple coloured flowers in branched tomentose cymes. It thrives in humid places or along water courses in wastelands and mixed open forests and has been claimed to possess many medicinal properties. It is found throughout the greater part of India at warmer zones and ascending to an altitude of 15,00m in outer Western Himalayas. One of the ancient use of *Vitex-negundo* documented in Ayurveda is to provide mental peace. *Vitex-negundo* has been extensively studied for its anti-inflammatory<sup>3-5</sup> and analgesic<sup>1,3,5,6</sup> activities in the past but, very few studies have been done to evaluate its anticonvulsant activity and there are conflicting reports regarding anticonvulsant activity of *Vitexnegundo* and no one has previously studied anticonvulsant activity of *Vitexnegundo* by oral route except one study<sup>7</sup>. Therefore, the present study was undertaken to investigate anticonvulsant activity of ethanol leaf extract of *Vitexnegundo* in comparison with standard anticonvulsant drug in sub-protective doses per orally was studied to evaluate its potential role as an adjuvant therapy.

## **Medicinal uses of vitexnegundo**

Herbal medicine focuses on curing the root cause of the disease, rather than its symptoms. The assortment of phytochemicals found in medicinal herbs enables them to enhance the overall well-being. Regardless of the advancement of contemporary medicine, a large segment of the population in countries like India, China, Nepal and Bangladesh still rely on folk and traditional medicine. Traditional medicine predominantly encompasses Indian Ayurveda, Arabic Unani and Chinese Pharmacopeia. CharakaSamhita and AnubhogaVaidyaBhaga, the great books of Ayurveda, elaborate on the use of Vn to treat sinusitis, syphilitic skin disease, catarrhal fever, dysmenorrhea and rheumatism. The seeds of Vn are used as an aphrodisiac and to cure swellings in Unanimedicine. Chinese medicine mentions the consumption of the Vn fruit to treat puffy eyes, arthritis and headaches. The traditional medicinal uses of various parts of Vn have been enlisted.

## **Material & method-**

### **Collection & Authentication of plant material**

The fresh leaves of *vitexnegundo* were collected in the month of January 2022 from forest area near the Dehurwada Digras in Yavatmal district region, Maharashtra, India.

### **Preparation of crude extract-**

The preparation of exact is done by using the process of maceration. The different solvents take like ethanol, methanol, chloroform & water.

The plant drug is used to dry under the shade and ready for coarse grinding by using the grinder. Once the powder is set in the maceration assembly it is allow for the 24 hrs under the pressured temperature for the extraction of

crude drug. The different solvents allow to the exatrtion on crude drug. After 24 hrs. the extract is allow to concentrate & dry for the utilisation.

Finally, the extract was transferred to air tight container and stored at cool place for further pharmacological activity.

The crude drug extraction is vary with the solvent which is used.i.e it may be methanol, ethanol, chloroform& water by using the soxhlet apparatus.(Successive solvent determination)

### **Percentage yield**

Following formula was used for calculation of percentage yield of crude extract

$$\% \text{ yield} = \frac{\text{Weights of extractives}}{\text{Weight of the crude drug}} \times 100$$

### **Method for preparation of liposome**

#### **Fusion method**

First, components of lipid phase (Table 1) and propylene glycol were kept at 60°C water bath to form uniform lipid phase. Then, herbal extract dissolved in suitable amount of acetone was added to lipid phase. To evaporate acetone, the mixture was kept at 60°C. Subsequently, the aqueous phase (phosphate buffer saline) was warmed up to 60oC and added to lipid phase. Liposomes were formed after 15 min overtaxing. (Jaafari et.al. 2005)

<b>Sr. no</b>	<b>Ingredients</b>	<b>Percent</b>
1	Egg phosphatidylcholine	15 %
2	Cholesterol	2%
3	α tocopherol	0.3%
4	Methyl parabens	0.1%
5	Propyl parabens	0.02%
6	Propylene glycol	7%
7	Ethyl acetate extract	2%
8	Aqueous phase	Up to 100



**Diagram showing prepared liposomes of vitex by using fusion method.**

## Pharmacological screening design

It contains two types: chemical & physical method.

### Chemical method

#### ❖ PTZ- induced convulsion in mice

1. Divide the animal into four groups (control, STD, extract, liposomes) consisting of the 3 mice.
2. Weigh and number them.
3. Inject pentylenetetrazole to control animal.
4. Note the onset of action of the jerk movement of the body, duration of the jerk, duration of clonus, extensor.
5. Inject diazepam to the test group. Inject extract to the third group and liposomes to the fourth group.
6. After 30 min inject PTZ to these animals which have received STD, extract, & liposomes.
7. Note the onset and the severity of the convulsion.
8. Note either delay or complete abolition of convulsion in the mice treated with STD, extract, liposome.

### Physical method

#### ❖ MES-induced convulsion in mice

1. Divide animal into four group (control, STD, extract, liposomes) each consisting of 3 rats.
2. Weigh and number them.
3. Hold the animal(control) properly place electrodes on the ear pinna.
4. Apply prescribed current (150 mA for 0.2 sec).
5. Note the time sec spent by the animal in each phase of the convulsion (a) tonic flexion, (b) tonic extensor phase, (c) clonic convulsion, (d) stupor, (e) recovery or death.
6. Inject phenytoin intraperitoneally to the test group. Extract and liposomes to the third and fourth group.
7. After 30 min subject the animal to electro convulse meter and hold the animal properly place the electrodes on the ear pinna. Apply prescribed current (150 mA for 0.2 sec).
8. Note down the reduction in time or abolishment of tonic extensor phase of MES.

## Phytopharmacological investigations-

Compound	Chloroform Extract	Methanol Extract	Ethanol extract	Water extract
Carbohydrate	–	–	–	–
Alkaloid	–	+	–	–
Tannis	+	–	–	–
Glycoside	–	+	+	+
Steroids	+	–	–	–
Terpenoids	–	–	–	–
Saponins	+	+	+	+
Flavonoids	–	+	+	+
Soluble materials	–	+	–	+
Cynogenetic glycosides	+	+	+	–

## Result

### Statistical analysis

Groups	Treatment	Onset of seizure	Recovery / Death
Group I	PTZ-treated	30.66±1.22	Death
Group II	STD- 80mg/kg	33.66± 1.20***	Recover
Group III	Ethanol Extract- 400 mg/kg	52.00±1.00***	Recover
Group IV	Methanol Extract- 400 mg/kg	52.00±1.00***	Recover



<b>Group V</b>	<b>Chloroform Extract -400 mg/kg</b>	<b>51.00±1.00***</b>	<b>Recover</b>
<b>Group VI</b>	<b>Water Extract - 400 mg/kg</b>	<b>39.00±1.00***</b>	<b>Slightly recover</b>
<b>Group VII</b>	<b>Combined extract Liposomes -400 mg/kg</b>	<b>56.33±1.00 ****</b>	<b>Recover</b>

Effect of extract on the frequencies of onset of seizure and the duration of clonus in mice.

Value expressed in mean  $\pm$  SEM [n =3]

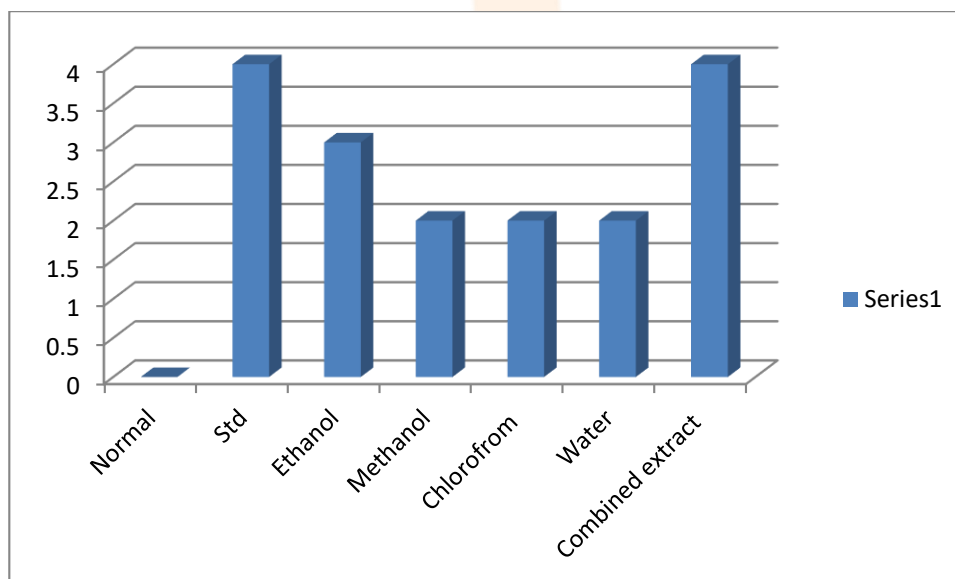
\* Statistically significant at ( $p < 0.012$ )

\*\* Statistically significant at ( $p < 0.0011$ )

\*\*\* Statistically significant at ( $p < 0.0001$ )

\*\*\*\* Statistically significant at ( $p < 0.000$ )

When control group is compared with STD, extracts, & liposomes the STD increase the time of onset of jerk & shows the significant value at ( $p < 0.0011$ ). treated with extract, it prolongs the onset of jerk than the STD so it shows more significance at significant value at ( $p < 0.0001$ ). When treated with liposomes it shows more significant action than the extract at significant value at ( $p < 0.000$ ).



### Result of PTZ induced seizure in animal model

The PTZ induced epilepsy in animal model the STD shows the significant value, the extract shows the moderately significant value, & the liposomes shows the highly significant value.

Treatment	Duration of tonic extension	Recovery / death	% protection
Group I (NS-10 ml/kg)	18.8± 1.98	Recover	0 %
Group II (Phenytoin 25mg/kg)	1.4±1.4	Death	100%
Group III ( Ethanol Extract 500mg/kg)	5±5**	Recover	80%
Group IV (Methanol Extract 500 mg/kg)	5 ± 3.52***	Recover	85%
Group V (Chloroform Extract 500 mg/kg)	4 ± 3.52***	Recover	70 %
Group VI (Water Extract 500 mg/kg)	3 ± 3.52***	Recover	65%
Group VI (Combined extract liposome's 500 mg/kg)	6± 3.52***	Recover	85%

### Conclusion-

The present study concludes that the, The preliminary phytochemical studies were carried out in ethanol, ethanol chloroform & water extract of vitex nugundo & observed the significant presence of alkaloids, carbohydrates, phenol, sterol, tannis, saponis & cynogenic glycosides. However on the basis of our experimental result the higher response of combined extracts shows the significant anti convulsant activity.

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