

# Review of: "Toxicological evaluation of aqueous extracts of *Clematis hirsuta* and *Rhamnus prinoides*"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## GENERAL COMMENTS

Information on the entire experimental write-up is very scanty.

Authors should therefore do well to correct the points raised below before proceeding to discuss their experimental findings.

## ABSTRACT

- i. Data obtained from the studies should be quoted to support any claim made
- ii. Include all the methods used in the studies

## BACKGROUND

- i. The plants have been used ethnopharmacologically and not medicinally.
- ii. Indicate the ethnopharmacological importance of the plants in Kenya

## METHODS

### A. Plant Collection and Identification

- i. Indicate the month and year of collecting the plant samples
- ii. Indicate also the voucher number

### B. Plant preparation

- i. Indicate the masses used
- ii. No phytochemical screening?

The presence of phytochemicals has been shown to account for the efficacy and toxicity of medicinal plants

### C. Experimental Animals

i. Were the animals grouped? Or all the fifty- six were kept together?

#### **D. Acute Toxicity**

Information on the acute toxicity is very scanty

i. The experimental animals should have been observed for a certain length of time within the day after the test substance administration After which the animals would have been observed for the one-week period for any drug-related toxic signs.

ii. How was the blood sample collected from the animals for the biochemical and haematological analyses?

#### **E. Subacute Toxicity**

i. Be specific with the group. E.g., 4 groups of 5

ii. Different groups should have been given different doses of the extract

ii. When were the animals weighed?

Maybe days 0, 10, 20, etc.

iv. Were the experimental animals euthanized? And how was it done?

v. No report on how the hematological and biochemical analyses were done?

#### **F. Statistical Analysis**

i. How were the dose-dependent curves plotted?

ii. How were the LD<sub>50s</sub> calculated?