

Short Article

Syphos Tonic Toxicity and Physicochemical Studies

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Abstract: *Aim:* This study was conducted to assess the toxicity and physicochemical studies of an herbal product Syphos formulated for Typhoid fever. *Method:* Six (6) samples of Sypho mixture were sent to the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, KNUST, Ashanti region, Ghana to the Department of Herbal Medicine for analysis. *Result:* The Product, Syphos have been established for quality control purposes and is safe in laboratory animals. *Conclusion:* The Product is safe for use in Ghana.

Keywords: Syphos, Mixture, Health, Toxicity, Herbal, Product.

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Table 1: Acute Toxicity

| Animal Species | No. of animals/group | Route of administration | Doses administered | No. of death recorded | Approx. lethal | Duration of study |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Sprague-Dawley Rats | 18 males, 3 groups (n=6) | oral | 0, 6.06 and 12.12g/kg | No deaths recorded | Above 12.12 g/kg | 48h |

REMARKS

A volume of 750ml of the mixture was evaporated to dryness to obtain a semi-solid mass (Yield=3.53% w/v) this was reconstituted by dissolving in distilled water (2g/ml). Rats were treated with 0, 6.06 and 12.12g/kg of the test product and observed over 48hours for signs of toxicity. None of the animals died during the study period and no signs of toxicity attributable to the test product

treatment were observed. The lethal dose (LD50) of the product was estimated to be above 12.12g/kg (Table 1).

CONCLUSION

The results indicate that the LD50 of the extract from Syphos was greater than 12.12g/kg body weight in rats. Which can be regarded as of low toxicity in the rats.

Tab 2: Phytochemical And Physicochemical Studies

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Syphos Name | - Syphos |
| Indication | - Not stated |
| Active Ingredients | - Not stated |
| Date Of Manufacture | - Not stated |
| Date Of Expiry | - Not stated |
| Batch Number | - Not stated |
| Produced By | - Redeemer Herbal Clinic And Research Centre Ltd. |

| 1. Organoleptic Properties | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Form | - Liquid |
| Colour | - Brown |
| Taste | - Bitter |
| Odour | - Characteristic |
| 2. Physicochemical Properties | |
| Ph | - 5.48 |
| Dry weight per MI | - 0.1836g |
| Specific gravity/MI | - 0.9989 |
| 3. Phytochemical Properties | |
| Reducing sugars | - Positive |
| Saponins | - Positive |
| Alkaloids | - Not detected |
| Flavonoids | - Positive |
| Phytosterols | - Positive |
| Terpenoids | - Positive |
| Tannins | - Positive |

Tab 3:

4. FOURIER-TRANSFORM INFRARED FINGERPRINT OF SYPHOS

Sample preparation: About 20mL of the herbal mixture was evaporated to dryness.

Instrumentation: A small amount of the dried mixture was placed on the sample area of the Bruker Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectrometer and scanned between 4000-400cm⁻¹ with a resolving power of 4cm⁻¹ and a cumulative scanning limitation of 24times.

Results: Principal peaks appeared at wavenumbers 3276.91, 2919.99, 1608.86 and 1002.06cm⁻¹

Comments: Fourier-Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Fingerprint of Syphos has been established for reference.

Remarks

Characteristic physiochemical properties of Syphos have been established for quality control purposes.

Microbial Test Protocol-(BP Level of Microbial Contamination)

- i. Assessment of total viable count of aerobic bacteria and fungi)
- ii. Test for specific harmful organisms.

Tab 4:

Microbial Analysis of Syphos Mixture

TEST RESULTS

Level of Microbial Contamination

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. The total aerobic viable count of sample (BP 2018 Specification- $\leq 1 \times 10^5$ cfu/mL) | 4.4x10 ¹ cfu/mL |
| 2. Test for Escherichia coli- MAC /37°C/48hrs (BP 2018 Specification- Nil/ML) | None detected |
| 3. Test for Staphylococcus aureus-MSA/37°C/48hrs (BP 2018 Specification- Nil/ML) | None detected |
| 4. Test for Salmonella spp. BSA/37°C/48hrs (BP 2015 Specification - Nil/mL) | None detected |
| 5. Test for Pseudomonas aeruginosa PCA/37°C/48hrs (BP 2015 Specification - Nil/mL) | None detected |
| 6. Test for Yeast and Moulds - SB/25°C/5days (BP 2015 Specification - $\leq 1.0 \times 10^5$ cfu/mL) | 2.1 x 10 ¹ cfu/mL |

Remarks:

- I. The bacterial load obtained for aerobic viable count was within the acceptable limit.
- II. The fungal load was also within the acceptable limit (BP 2015).
- III. No harmful microorganisms were detected.

DISCUSSION

The product Syphos Mixture contains important phytochemicals such as: saponins, Flavonoids, Tannins and Alkaloid is the only phytochemical absent in the product (**Tab 2**). it is safe to be used and has successfully passed the toxicological and microbial analysis conducted. None of the laboratory rats died in the process (**Table 1**). Toxicity of Herbal products are a subject of both local and international interest in the health sector as more patients turned to these remedies for their health. Toxicity of herbal products Pharmacovigilance for complementary medicines is at the gestational stage (Barnes, J. 2003). Data are lacking in several areas relevant to safety. Standard pharmacovigilance tools have additional limitations when applied to investigating safety concerns with complementary medicines. It is therefore paramount for all herbal medicinal products to get tested and approved by the FDA in Ghana before commercialization.

CONCLUSION

The Product, Syphos is safe and has successfully passed the toxicological and microbial analysis conducted at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, KNUST, Ashanti Region, Ghana.

Conflict of Interest: None

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