

ANDROGRAPHIS PANICULATA (KALMEGHA)

Andrographis paniculata is a plant that has been effectively used in traditional Asian medicines for centuries. Its perceived "blood purifying" property results in its use in diseases where blood "abnormalities" are considered causes of disease, such as skin eruptions, boils, scabies, and chronic undetermined fevers ^[1].

> Kingdom:Plantae Order:Lamiales Family:Acanthaceae Genus:Andrographis Species:A.paniculata

Phytochemical constituents: A review reveals that the presence of various chemical constituents in the aerial parts of the Andrographis paniculata andrographolide, are which is lactone. colourless. diterpene crystalline and bitter in taste. Other include compounds 14-deoxy-11oxoandrographolide, didehydroandrographolide/andrographlide D, 14deoxyandrographolide, non-bitter compound is neo andrographolide, homoandrographolide,



andrographosterin, andrograpanin, αsitosterol, stigmasterol^[2].

Pharmacological uses:

Andrographis paniculata has been reported having antibacterial. as antifungal, antiviral. choleretic. hypoglycemic, hypocholesterolemic, adaptogenic, emollient. astringent, diuretic. carminative, anthelmintic, antipyretic, gastric and liver tonic. Due to its "blood purifying" activity it is recommended for use in cases of leprosy, gonorrhea, scabies, boils, skin eruptions, and chronic and



seasonal fevers. Juice or an infusion of fresh leaves is given to infants for irregular bowel habits ^[3].

Clinicl Studies:

An extract of *A. paniculata* significantly inhibited ex vivo ADP-induced platelet aggregation in 63 patients with cardiac and cerebro vascular diseases three hours after administration. "Thirtythree of patients were observed for platelet aggregation after one week and experienced even more significant effects. Serotonin release from platelets was significantly reduced in 20 extract-treated volunteers, while the plasma serotonin levels remained unchanged ^[4].

Grades Available: 10%, 20% Andrographolide

References:

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- Bharati et al. Pharmacological Activity of Andrographis Paniculata: A Brief Review "Pharmacologyonline 2: 1-10 (2011)
- 4. Zhang YZ, Tang JZ, Zhang YJ. Study of Andrographis paniculata extracts on antiplatelet aggregation and release reaction and its mechanism. Zhongguo Zhong Xi Yi Jie He Za Zhi 1994;14:28-35. [Article in Chinese]

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