

ABSTRACT

In this study, the petroleum and alcoholic extracts of stem bark of *Anthocephalus cadamba*, were screened for their acute and chronic anti-inflammatory activities using carrageenan induced paw edema and cotton pellet induced granuloma respectively in rats. From acute oral toxicity studies (OECD-425 guidelines), no mortality was observed even at dose the of 2000 mg/kg p.o of stem bark of Petroleum ether and alcoholic extracts of *Anthocephalus cadamba*. In the carrageenan induced rat paw edema model, both the extracts were found to exhibit significant reduction in paw size. The groups treated with AEAC at the dose 667 mg/kg has maximum effect in 1st and 2nd hour, its effect gradually decreased after 3rd and 4th hour and the group treated with PEAC at the dose of 286 mg/kg has shown the maximum effect in 4th hour of carrageenan administration. In cotton pellet granuloma the group treated with PEAC at the dose of 286 mg/kg suppressed the transudative, exudative and proliferative phases of chronic inflammation. The anti-inflammatory effects produced by both PEAC and AEAC at the dose of 667 mg/kg, 286 mg/kg, 200 mg/kg was compared with the reference drug diclofenac sodium.