

Editor's Comment:-

Experimental design of the study as detailed in the following comments:

1. The test result did not prove that the leaf extract had shown statistically proven anti-fungal efficacy in this preliminary study, although, there appears to be a non significant trend towards efficacy of the leaf extract. The lack of efficacy could be due either to the experimental design problems or pharmacokinetics problems with the leaf extract or a combination of several other study design problems. These issues must be investigated by conducting proper experiments to address these deficiencies.
2. The authors did not disclose whether the leaf extract has been shown in-vitro anti-fungal efficacy, if any. Such information, if known, must be disclosed in the manuscript.
3. The authors used only three animal per test group, which is not sufficient to establish statistical significance concerning the anti-fungal efficacy of the leaf extract against various fungal infections due to the expected biological variability of response. Also, a biomedical statistician must consulted to provide power analysis concerning the number of rats required for the study to demonstrate statistical significance from the placebo or establish none inferiority when compared with the positive reference standard drug. However, depending on the placebo response rate, at least 6 to 10 animals per test group may be needed to prove differences, if any, between each treatment group and the placebo.
4. The authors did not use a positive control anti-fungal drug and it is essential that in the repeat experiment, a positive standard drug is used.
5. The tabular results were not properly displayed. Each table must stand out alone without going back and forth to the text.

Authors' Feedback:-

1. From the study, there is a trend of some antifungal effects, but the cause of the insignificance in the quantitative histochemical results obtained could not be currently explained. However, the subsequent research would attend to that.
2. The in-vitro demonstration of the antifungal effect of the leaf extract has not been conducted, but there is a report on its antifungal activities, which has been supported with the morphological and the histological results in the manuscript.
3. The standard drugs/ positive control anti-fungal drugs shall be used in my subsequent research work to test for the comparisons with leaf extract efficacy.
4. The opinion of the biomedical statistician was sorted on the number of animals to used based on his experience, but your suggestion would be considered in my future work.
5. The tabular results have been corrected in the manuscript.