

Study on in vitro antioxidant activity, antibacterial and anticancer activities of *Vitexnegundo-Nochi*

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ABSTRACT

Phytochemicals are ecologically derived plant secondary metabolites that plants make to protect themselves against environmental stress and pathogenic microbial invasion. These phytochemicals have been shown to have both positive and pharmacological effects in the treatment of human illnesses. It is well known that the active principles found in medicinal plants work together to alleviate the primary and secondary complications of a variety of diseases. For the treatment of Covid-19, *Vitexnegundo* L. (Verbenaceae) is frequently utilized as a medicinal agent as well as a dietary supplement. In this study, the ability of the ethyl acetate extract of *VN* to scavenge free radicals was assessed using DPPH assays, and VNEA was investigated for in vitro anticancer activity against breast cancer cells for anticancer activity assessment. The antibacterial activity in the evaluation of plant extracts performed against *S. aureus*, *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae* and *P. aureginosa* by disc diffusion method. The results obtained evidenced that the ethyl acetate extract (VNEA) possesses significant antioxidant, antibacterial and anticancer activity. The data presented provides scientific evidence for the antioxidant and anticancer therapeutic efficacy of the medicinal plant, which in turn may be due to the presence of biologically active molecules present in the herbal.

Keywords: *Vitexnegundo*, in vitro antioxidant assays, anti-bacterial

I. INTRODUCTION

Plants used in traditional medicine represent a priceless tank of new bioactive molecules. *Vitexnegundo* L. is one of the important plant from traditional system of medicine found all over the world [1]. *Vitexnegundo* L. is large and erect aromatic shrubs grow to height 3–6 m or slender tree with quadrangular branchlets distributed throughout India. The leaves have five leaflets in a palmately arrangement, which are lanceolate, 5–11 cm long, hairy beneath and pointed at both ends [2]. The bluish purple flowers

are numerous. The fruit is succulent, black when ripe, rounded and about 4 mm in diameter [3].

The various chemical constituents present in leaves of *Vitexnegundo* Linn leaves are Friedelin, Vitamin-C, Carotene, casticin, artemetin, terpinen-4-ol, α -terpineol, sabinene, globulol, spathulenol, β -farnesene, farnesol, bis (1,1-dimethyl) methylphenol, α -pinene, β -pinene, linalool, terpinyl acetate, caryophyllene epoxide, caryophyllenol, vitexicarpin, viridiflorol, 4,4'-dimethoxy-trans-stilbene, 5,6,7,8,3',4',5'-heptamethoxy, 5-hydroxy-6,7,8,3',4',5'-pentamethoxy (5-Odesmethylnobiletin), 5-hydroxy-6,7,8,3',4',5'-hexamethoxy (gardenin A), 5-hydroxy-6,7,8,4'-tetramethoxy (gardenin B), 5-hydroxy-7,3',4',5'-tetramethoxyflavone (corymbosin), terpinen-4-ol, α -copaene, β -caryophyllene, β -elemene, camphene, α -thujene, α -pinene, sebinene, linalool, stearic acid and behenic acid, α -elemene, δ -elemene, β -elemene [4-7]. The seeds of *Vitexnegundo* Linn have chemical constituents such as n-Tritriacontane, n-hentriacontanol, n-hentricontane, n-pentatriacontane, n-nonacosane, β -sitosterol, phydroxybenzoic acid and 5-oxyisophthalic acid, 3, 4-dihydroxybenzoic acid, artemetin, 3 β -acetoxylean-12-en-27-oic acid, 5 β -hydro-8,11,13-abietatrien-6 α -ol, 2 α ,3 α -dihydroxyoleana-5,12-dien-28-oic acid, 2 β ,3 α -diacetoxyleana-5,12-dien-28-oic acid and 2 α ,3 β -diacetoxylean-18-hydroxyoleana-5 [8-10]. The various chemical constituents present in the stem and bark are 3,6,7,3',4'-Pentamethoxy-5-O-glucopyranosylrhamnoside, vitexincafeate, 4'-O-methyl myricetin-3-O-[4'-O- β -D-galactosyl]- β -D-galactopyranoside, β amyrin, epifriedelinol and oleanolic acid, Hepta methyl-phenyl-cyclotetra siloxane, Cycloheptasiloxane, tetradecamethyl Nona methyl, phenyl-cyclopenta siloxane, Cyclooctasiloxane, hexadeca methyl, Borazine, 2,4,6-triphenyl-1,3,5-triophyl, Nonamethyl, phenyl-cyclopenta siloxane. Vitexoside, agnuside, R-dalbergiphenol, negundin A, negundin B, 6-hydroxy-4-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxy)-3-hydroxymethyl-7-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-2-naphthaldehyde, vitrofolal E, (+)-lyoniresinol, (+)-

lyoniresinol-3 α -O- β -d-glucoside, (+)-(-)-pinoresinol, and (+)-diasyringaresinol [11-14].

In this present study, the ability of the ethyl acetate extract (VN-EA) scavenging free radicals was assessed by using DPPH assays, in vitro anticancer activity against breast cancer cells. The antibacterial activity for the evaluation of plant extracts performed against *S. aureus*, *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae* and *P. aureginosa* by disc diffusion methods to explore therapeutic potential.

TAXONOMICAL CLASSIFICATION

Kingdom	Plantae
Subkingdom	Tracheobionta
Super division	Spermatophyte
Division	Magnoliophyta
Class	Magnoliopsida
Subclass	Asteridae
Order	Lamiales
Family	Verbenaceae
Genus	Vitex
Species	Negundo

Figure 1: Photograph showing *Vitex negundo* L.



II. MATERIAL & METHODS

Collection of the sample

For this study, *Vitex negundo* was gathered from Aravinthherbal laboratory in Rajapalayam, Tamilnadu (Figure 1).

Method of preparation of sample

10g *Vitex negundo* and 100ml ethyl acetate is heated separately for 5 hours in a water bath with a reflux condenser, then cooled and filtered. Ethyl acetate extract was obtained by vacuum evaporation of the filtrate (VN-EA).

Pharmacological evaluation

In vitro antioxidant activity

Vitex negundo ethyl acetate extract [VN-EA] investigated for in vitro antioxidant activity by DPPH ethyl acetate extract [15].

Determination of DPPH radical scavenging activity

Brand-William set al. (1995) [16] used DPPH (1,1-Diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl) free radical to assess antioxidant activity in the sample VN for free radical scavenging activity. In the microtitre plate, 100 μ l of VNEA extract was used. 100 μ l of 0.1 percent ethyl acetate DPPH was applied to the samples and incubated in the dark for 30 minutes. The samples were next examined for discoloration; strong and weak positives were defined

nedas purple to yellow and pale pink, respectively. With Standard ascorbic acid as reference, read the plate at 490 nm on an ELISA plate reader. All of the tests were done in triplicate, and mean values were calculated.

Radical scavenging activity was calculated by the below mentioned equation:

$$\text{DPPH radical scavenging activity (\%)} = \left[\frac{\text{Absorbance of control} - \text{Absorbance of test sample}}{\text{Absorbance of control}} \right] \times 100$$

In vitro anticancer activity

The anticancer activity of (VN-EA) extract was tested using the MTT assay against breast cancer cell line (MCF-7 cells) [17]. For the predictions of anticancer activity and cytotoxicity potential of the prepared extracts, parameters such as inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀-concentration required to inhibit the growth of 50% cancer cells) and cytotoxicity (CC₅₀-concentration required to inhibit the growth of 50% normal cells) were measured. Table 2 shows the anticancer activity and cytotoxicity data.

Antibacterial activity

The disc diffusion method was used to test the antibacterial activity of plant extracts against *S. aureus*, *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae* and *P.*

aureginosa. The bacterial cultures were used to make the microorganism's inoculum. In a clean sterilized petri dish, 15 ml of nutrient agar (HiMedia) medium was put. All over time for it to cool and harden. Around 100 µl of bacterial strain broth was pipette out and evenly dispersed over the medium with a spreading rod until dried. A sterile cork borer was used to drill 6 mm diameter wells. All of the extracts were dissolved in DMSO at a concentration of 1 mg/ml. The wells were filled with 100 µl of VN extract solutions. The petri plates were incubated for 24 hours at 37°C. A positive control of streptomycin (1 mg/ml) was used, while a negative control of DMSO was used. The diameters of the zone of inhibitions (ZI) were measured to determine antibacterial activity, and all measurements were done in triplicate [18].

III. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The antioxidant activity of Vitex negundo extract (VN-EA) was examined in vitro using the DPPH technique with ascorbic acid as the standard. When compared to ascorbic acid under identical conditions, VN-EA extract demonstrated substantial antioxidant activity (Table 1). Ethyl acetate extract of VN-EA was examined for anticancer activity in vitro against breast cancer cells. VN-EA exhibited anticancer activity (IC₅₀ 45.63 µg/ml) against breast cancer cells (Table 2).

Table 1: In vitro antioxidant activity of VN EA by DPPH assay

S. No	OD (nm)	COD	SOD	Percentage of Inhibitions (mg/ml)	Average (mg/ml)
VN - EA					
1	520	0.99	0.08	91	71
2	520	0.99	0.09	90	
3	520	1.0	0.23	67	
4	520	0.99	0.27	72	
5	520	0.99	0.23	66	
6	520	0.99	0.61	38	
Ascorbic acid					
7	520	0.73	0.04	94.5	93.5
8	520	0.73	0.06	91.7	
9	520	0.73	0.04	94.5	

Table 2: Effects of compound against MCF-7 Cell line by MTT assay

S. No.	Sample	Concentration (µg/ml)	OD	% inhibition	IC ₅₀
1	Control		1.538		
2	Std. 5 FU	10	0.731	52.47	37.56
		40	0.673	56.24	
		100	0.633	58.84	

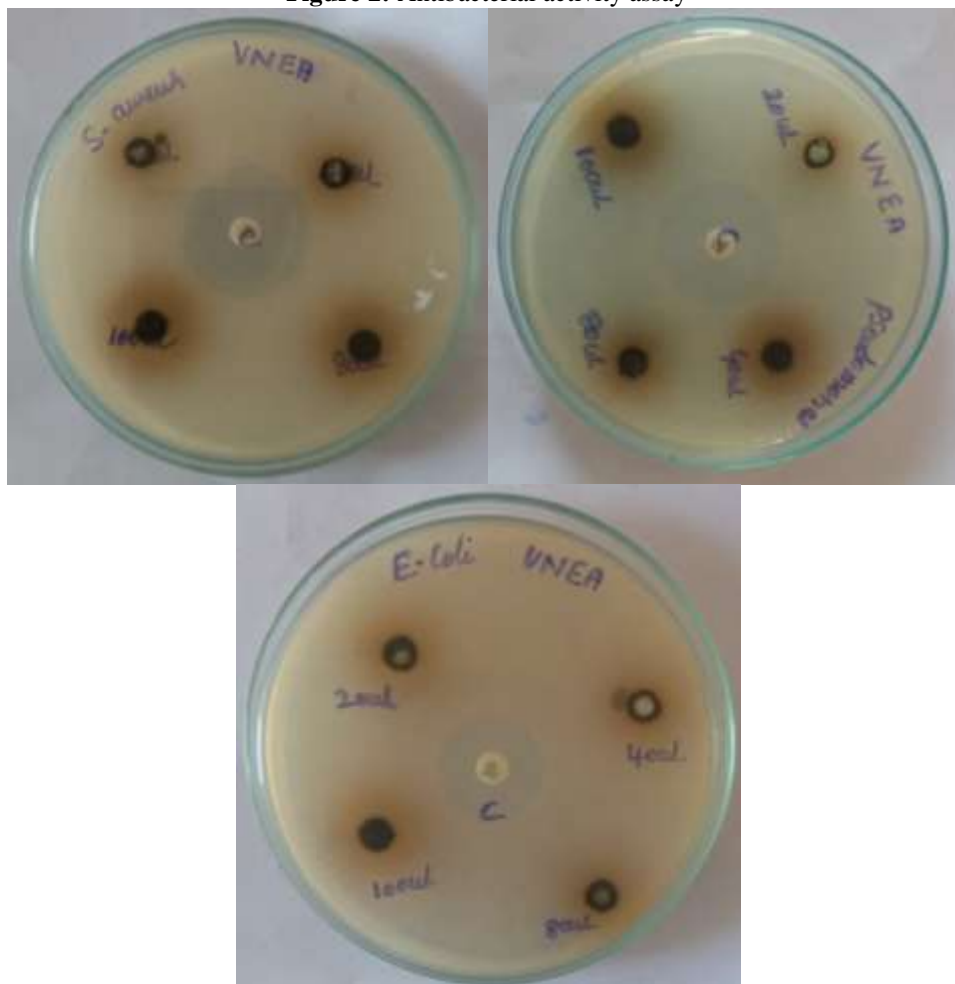
2	VN-EA	10	0.401	73.92	45.63
		40	0.378	75.42	
		100	0.329	78.60	

IC₅₀ – 50% inhibitory concentration

Table 3: In vitro antibacterial activity by disc diffusion method

S. No.	Organism	Zone of Inhibition mm	
		VN EA	Streptomycin (Std.)
1	S. aureus	12mm	26 mm
2	E. coli	10 mm	19 mm
3	K. pneumoniae
4	P. aureginosa	12 mm	25 mm

Figure 2: Antibacterial activity assay



In this study, ethyl acetate (VN-EA) extract (VN-EA) tested for in vitro antioxidant activity and anticancer activity. Evaluation of in vitro antioxidant properties studied by DPPH assay of the given sample was assayed using ascorbic acid as the standard VNEA

extracts showed good activity. (Table 1). VN EA exhibited significant anticancer activity against breast cancer cells (MCF-7) (IC₅₀ 45.63 µg/ml) when compared to the standard 5-Fluoro Uracil (IC₅₀ 37.56 µg/ml).

VNEA had significant antibacterial activity against *S. aureus* and *P. aureginosa* (Table 3 and Figure 2).

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