Evaluation of Ethanol Extracts of Leaves and Fruit of *Piper sarmentosum* for *In Vivo* Hepatoprotective Activity

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**SUMMARY.** The present study is aimed to describe hepatoprotective activity of extracts of a medicinal plant, *Piper sarmentosum*, in rats against CCl4-induced toxicity. Seven groups of Sprague Dawley rats each containing six animals were treated as: group I (CCl4), group II (control), group III and IV (fruit extract 500 and 250 mg/kg, respectively), group V and VI (leaf extract 500 and 250 mg/kg, respectively) and group VII (vitamin-E). The extracts and vitamin-E were administered orally for 14 days whilst equivalent amount of sample vehicle was administered to CCl4 and control groups. Four hour following the last dose, a single dose of CCl4 (1.5 mg/kg, 1:1 olive oil) was administered orally to animals of all the groups except control. After 24 h blood was collected for the determination of hepatic function markers, and the animals were sacrificed to get liver for histology. Comparison of hepatic function markers and histology of pre-treated and CCl4 groups indicated that both the extracts in the two doses had protected liver from CCl4 toxicity (*P < 0.05*). It is concluded from the present study that use of the plant as a vegetable or in the form of extracts may be valuable to protect liver from oxidative stress in hepatitis and long-term therapy.