

Phenolic Extract of Galinsogaparviflora and Comparative Study with Dapsone

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ABSTRACT

The present study investigates the antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory potential of the phenolic extract of Galinsoga parviflora (GP) in comparison with the synthetic sulfone drug Dapsone. G. parviflora, a widely distributed medicinal herb, is traditionally used for wound healing, infections, and inflammatory disorders. Ethanolic extracts are rich in flavonoids, phenolic acids, tannins, and terpenoids, which contribute to its pharmacological actions. Antimicrobial activity was evaluated against selected bacterial and fungal strains using agar well diffusion and MIC determination, while anti-inflammatory activity was assessed through in vitro assays (protein denaturation, membrane stabilization, nitric oxide scavenging) and in vivo carrageenan-induced paw edema in rats. Preliminary findings suggest that ethanolic extracts of G. parviflora possess broad-spectrum antimicrobial and significant anti-inflammatory activity, though generally less potent than Dapsone. The plant extract's multi-targeted, antioxidant-rich actions highlights its potential as a natural, safe, and affordable complimentary to synthetic drugs.

KEYWORDS: Galinsogaparviflora, phenolic extract, Dapsone, pharmacology.

I. INTRODUCTION

Natural products have an important role in the development of new medicinal medicines. Galinsoga parviflora (family Asteraceae), sometimes known as "Gallant Soldier," is a fast-growing plant having ethno-medicinal properties. Traditionally, it was used to treat wounds, microbial infections, and inflammatory diseases.

Phytochemical investigations show that ethanolic extracts of the plant contain flavonoids (quercetin, luteolin), phenolic acids (chlorogenic

and caffeic acid), tannins, and terpenoids, all of which have antibacterial and anti-inflammatory activities. Dapsone (4, 4'-diaminodiphenylsulfone) is a well-known antibacterial medication that is primarily used to treat leprosy, dermatitis, and herpetiformis, and Pneumocystis is jirovecipneumonia. In addition to its antibacterial effects, Dapsone has anti-inflammatory properties via inhibiting neutrophil migration and oxidative processes mediated by myeloperoxidase. The current comparative study aims to determine if G. Parviflora ethanolic extract can be used as a natural alternative or supplement to dapsone in the treatment of microbiological and inflammatory illnesses.

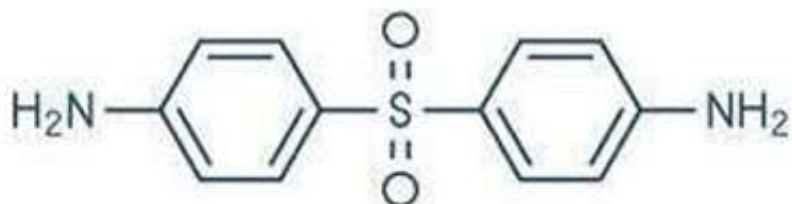
OBJECTIVE OF THIS STUDY

The study's objectives were to identify, authenticate, and review the literature on therapeutic plants to evaluate Galinsoga parviflora's pharmacognosics. to use a solvent to perform polarity-based extraction. to conduct phytochemical research on several Galinsoga parviflora extracts. Evaluation of Galinsoga parviflora's antibacterial activities utilizing phenolic extract

OBJECTIVE OF STUDY DRUG (DAPSONE)

The purpose of the study is to identify, authenticate, and review the literature on medicinal plants. to evaluate Galinsoga parviflora's pharmacognosics. to use a solvent to perform polarity-based extraction. to conduct phytochemical research on several Galinsoga parviflora extracts. Galinsoga parviflora's anti-inflammatory and antibacterial properties were estimated using Google Scholar and Pubmed.

Drug profile



dapsone

GenericName: Dapsone **Brandname;** Aczone
Chemicalformula: C₁₂H₁₂N₂O₂S
OtherNames: 4,4'-Diaminodiphenylsulfone (DDS)
DrugClass: Sulfone, Antibacterial, Anti-inflammatory agent
Types: Synthetic sulfone compound

CHEMICAL INFORMATION

MolecularFormula: C₁₂H₁₂N₂O₂S
MolecularWeight: 248.30g/mol
Structure: Two benzene rings linked by a sulfone group with amino groups at para positions

PHARMACOKINETICS

Absorption: Well absorbed orally (70–80%)
Distribution: Widely distributed; high in skin, liver, kidneys, muscle
ProteinBinding: ~50–70%
Metabolism: Hepatic (acetylation and hydroxylation)
Excretion: Renal - Half-life: 20–30 hours

MECHANISM OF ACTION

Dapsone is a sulfone antibiotic that works by preventing bacteria from producing dihydrofolic acid. It blocks the enzyme dihydropteroate synthase, which is necessary for bacteria to produce folate, by acting as a competitive antagonist of para-aminobenzoic acid (PABA). Instead of directly killing bacteria, this inhibition has a bacteriostatic impact by interfering with the creation of bacterial DNA. Dapsone has anti-inflammatory qualities in addition to its antimicrobial effect because it inhibits the release of reactive oxygen species and decreases neutrophil chemotaxis. Dapsone is useful in treating diseases including leprosy, dermatitis herpetiformis, and several inflammatory dermatoses because of their combined effects.

Antimicrobial: Inhibits bacterial dihydropteroate synthase

hase



Dihydrofolic acid synthase

THERAPEUTIC USES

Infectious Diseases:

Leprosy (Hansen's disease) Pneumocystis jirovecii pneumonia (PCP) Toxoplasmosis

Dermatological Conditions:

Dermatitis herpetiformis Linear IgA disease Bullous pemphigoid Pyoderma gangrenosum

Others

Vasculitic and autoimmune conditions

Dosage

Leprosy: 100 mg orally once daily
 Dermatitis herpetiformis: 50mg/day, titrated

Adverse Effects

Common: Nausea, vomiting, headache, dizziness, anemia

Serious: Hemolysis, methemoglobinemia, agranulocytosis, aplastic anemia, hepatotoxicity,

Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to dapsone/sulfone Severe anemia - G6PD deficiency (relative)

Drug Interactions

Rifampicin: Increases metabolism
 Trimethoprim, probenecid: Alter clearance
 Clofazimine: Increases GI side effects

Precautions

Monitor CBC, liver, renal function Screen for G6PD deficiency

(CBC - Complete blood count)

(G6PD - Glucose-6-phosphate Dehydrogenase)

Plant	Common medicinal uses	Side effects
<p>Galinsoga parviflora Gallent soldier Family(Asteraceae)</p>	<p>Galinsoga parviflora, commonly known as gallant soldier or Quickweed, has diverse traditional uses as a food and medicine. Its young shoots and leaves are eaten as a vegetable or in salads and soups, particularly in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Medicinally, it's used topically for skin conditions like eczema and wounds, and orally for colds, flu, and as an anti-inflammatory, with potential benefits for wound healing and scurvy due to its Vitamin C content. Extracts have also shown antibacterial, antifungal, and antioxidant properties, along with potential blood sugar and UV protective effects.</p>	<p>Galinsoga parviflora is generally considered sometimes toxic and is used as a food source in soups and salads, but specific, severe side effects are not widely reported in human studies. However, its ethnobotanical medicinal uses for conditions like inflammation and colds need more research. While no significant toxicity was seen in animal studies at certain doses, certain extracts have shown in vitro cytotoxicity effects on fibroblasts, suggesting a need for caution with concentrated extracts or specific preparations.</p>
<p>Neem Azadirachta indica Family;(Meliaceae)</p>	<p>Neem has diverse uses, including as a natural pesticide and repellent due to its antifeedant and growth-regulating properties, and for its medicinal benefits in treating skin infections, promoting healthy hair, and improving oral health. In traditional medicine, it is also used to boost the immune system, detoxify the body, and manage conditions like diabetes, inflammation, and digestive issues. Neem is also incorporated into cosmetics, soaps, and oral care products due to its antibacterial, antifungal, and anti-inflammatory properties.</p>	<p>Potential side effects of neem include liver and kidney damage, allergic reactions, nausea, fatigue, and toxicity, especially with long-term or high-dose oral use. Oral consumption is particularly dangerous for infants and children and should be avoided by pregnant and breastfeeding women.</p>
<p>Fennel Foeniculum vulgare Family ;Apiaceae</p>	<p>Fennel is used in cooking for its sweet, licorice-like flavor in meat, fish, salads, and baked goods. It also has medicinal uses, such as aiding digestion, relieving bloating, and freshening breath. Fennel seeds are used in traditional medicine to treat respiratory issues, and they contain compounds that may help regulate female hormones and increase breast milk production.</p>	<p>Main side effects can include allergic reactions like rashes and difficulty breathing, increased sun sensitivity and skin reactions, digestive upset, and hormonal effects such as premature breast development. Other rare but serious side effects are hallucinations and seizures, especially when fennel oil is used in large amounts. Fennel may also interact with medications like tamoxifen and is not considered safe for pregnant or breastfeeding individuals.</p>

<p>Cinnamon (Cinnamomum zeylanicum, Family(Lauraceae)</p>	<p>Cinnamon's primary use is as a popular aromatic spice and flavoring in many foods and drinks, but it is also used in Ayurvedic medicine to address symptoms like colds, digestion issues, and heart problems. Some evidence suggests potential health benefits such as improved heart health, better blood sugar control, and enhanced cognitive function, though more human research is needed to confirm these effects.</p>	<p>The main side effects of cinnamon are <u>liver toxicity</u> (from high amounts of Cassia cinnamon containing coumarin), <u>mouth and throat irritation</u>, and allergic reactions including <u>skin irritation</u> and <u>breathing difficulties</u>. Excessive intake can also lead to <u>gastrointestinal problems</u>, and <u>inhaling dry powder</u> can cause serious <u>lung issues</u>. People on blood-thinning, diabetes, or liver medications should be cautious, and <u>pregnant women</u> should limit intake to food-level amounts.</p>
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Parviflora contains various phytochemicals including flavonoids (quercetin, luteolin) and phenolic acids

(chlorogenic, caffeic), tannins, terpenoids, and saponins.

Plant profile:-



Taxonomy

Kingdom: Plantae **Division:** Magnoliophyta (Angiosperms) **Class:** Magnoliopsida (Dicotyledons) **Order:** Asterales

Family: Asteraceae (Compositae) **Phylum:** Magnoliopsida (Angiosperms) **Genus:** Galinsoga

Species: parviflora Cav. **Common Names:** Gallant Soldier, Quickweed, Guasca (Colombia), and Potato weed.

Botanical description

Habit: Annual, herbaceous, fast-growing plant. **Stem:** Erect, branched, cylindrical, soft, up to 75 cm. **Seed:** A small, dry, indehiscent, one-seeded fruit. **Inflorescence:** Small heads (capitula) in loose clusters (panicles)

Leaves: Opposite, ovate, serrated, 2–7 cm long. **Flowers:** Small, yellow disc florets with 3–5 white rays. **Fruits:** Small brown achenes with pappus bristles. **Root:** Fibrous root system

IDENTIFICATION TEST FOR ALKALOIDS

Testname	Procedure	Observation	Inference
Dragendorff Test	Add few drops of Potassium bismuthiodide solution to the extract	Orange or reddish-brown precipitate	Presence of alkaloids
Mayer's Test	Add few drops of Potassium mercuriodide solution to the extract	Cream or white precipitate	Presence of alkaloids
Wagner's Test	Add few drops of Iodine in potassium iodide solution to the extract.	Reddish-brown precipitate	Presence of alkaloids
Hager's Test	Add few drops of Saturated picric acid to the extract	Yellow crystalline precipitate	Presence of alkaloids

IDENTIFICATION TEST FOR FLAVONOIDS

Test	Procedure	Observation	Inference
Shinoda (Magnesium - HCl) test	Add Mg ribbon to extract, then add conc. HCl. P	Pink/red/orange coloration.	Presence of flavonoids
Alkaline reagent test (NaOH)	Add NaOH to extract → yellow, and then add HCl → color disappears.	Yellow color that disappears on acidification.	Presence of flavonoids
Lead acetate test	Add 10% lead acetate reagent to extract	Yellow precipitation	Presence of flavonoids
Ammoniate test	Add 10% NH ₄ OH or ammonia vapour. Extract paper/TLC Plate to reagent	Yellow to green fluorescence under UV.	Presence of flavonoids

IDENTIFICATION TEST FOR GLYCOSIDES

Testname	Procedure	Observation	Inference
Borntrager test	Powdered drug is boiled with sulphuric acid and filtered. The filtrate is shaken with benzene. The organic layer is separated and shaken with ammonia solution	Pink to red coloration indicates anthraquinone glycosides	Presence of glycosides
Keller-Killiani test	Extract is treated with glacial acetic acid containing traces of ferric chloride. Then conc. sulphuric acid is carefully added to it.	A blue-green ring at the junction that indicates the presence of cardiac glycosides.	Presence of glycosides

IDENTIFICATION TEST FOR CARBOHYDRATES

Testname	Procedure	Observation	Inference
Molisch's test	Take 2 ml of test solution. Add 2 drops of Molisch's reagent (alcoholic alpha naphthol). Carefully add conc. sulphuric acid along the side of the test tube.	Violet ring at junction at the side of the test tube	Presence of carbohydrates
Fehling's test	Mix equal volume of Fehling's A (copper sulphate) and Fehling's B (alkaline sodium potassium tartarate). Add the mixture to the test solution. Heat in boiling Bath along the side of the test tube	Brick red precipitated	Presence of carbohydrates

IDENTIFICATION TEST FOR STEROLS AND TANNINS

Testname	Procedure	observation	Inference
Liebermann Burchard's test	Dissolve the sample in chloroform. Add acetic anhydride. Then carefully add conc. H ₂ SO ₄	Formation of a blue green	Presence of sterols and presence of tannins
Salkowski test	Dissolve the extract in chloroform, add conc. sulphuric acid from the side of the test tube	A red or reddish brown colour appears at the interface	Presence of sterols and presence of tannins

IDENTIFICATION TEST FOR SAPONINS

Testname	Procedure	Observation	Inference
Foam test	Take small quantity of plant extract. Shake it vigorously with water in a test tube.	Persistent frothing formation lasting for at least 15 mins.	Presence of saponins
Sodium bicarbonate test	Take a small amount of the plant extract. Add 5 ml of distilled water and shake vigorously. Add 2-3 drops of 5% sodium bicarbonate solution. Shake the mixture again	Formation of stable, Persistent froth (foam) for 15 mins	Presence of saponins

IDENTIFICATION TEST FOR PHENOLIC COMPOUNDS

Test	Procedure	Observation	Inference
Ferricchloridetest	Addfewdropsof5%of neutralferricchloride solution to the test solution.	Formationofviolet, blue, green or red coloration	Presenceofphenolic compounds.
Leadacetatetest	Addafewdropsof10% leadacetatesolutionthe extract.	Formationofbulky white precipitate.	Presenceofphenolic compounds.

IDENTIFICATION TEST FOR PROTEIN AND AMINO ACIDS

Test	Procedure	Observation	Inference
Biurettest	Proteinswithtwoor morepeptidebondsis reactwithcopperions inalkalinesolution	Presenceofvioletor purple complex	Presenceofaminoacids
Millon'stest	Tyrosinereactswith glyoxalinacidinthe presenceofconc. sulphuricacid	Violet ring at the junctionofthetesttube	Presenceofproteins
Ninhydrintest	Amino acids(except proline and hydroxyproline)react with ninhydrin	Indicatesthatblueor purple colour	Presenceofproteins

ANALYTICAL PROCEDURE:

Chromatographic Analysis-

TLC: Separation & identification of flavonoids and phenolic acids
 HPTLC: Quantitative fingerprinting of flavonoids

HPLC: Quantification of chlorogenic acid, caffeic acid, quercetin, luteolin
 GC-MS: Analysis of volatile compounds and fatty acids

Spectroscopic Analysis

UV-Vis: Total flavonoids and phenolic content
 FTIR: Functional group identification
 NMR & MS: Structural elucidation of isolated compounds

Quantitative Estimations

Total Phenolic Content (TPC): Folin-Ciocalteu method, mg GAE/g extract
 Total Flavonoids Content (TFC) Aluminum chloride method, mg QE/g extract
 Antioxidant assays: DPPH, ABTS, FRAP methods

Pharmacological Screening (if required)

Anti-microbial activity Agar diffusion
 MIC/MBC By broth microdilution
 MIC-Minimum inhibitory concentration

Confirmatory assays

TLC bioautography
 Time kill kinetics (bacteriostatic vs. bactericidal action over time)

METHODS OF PREPARATION

Collection and Authentication:-

Collect fresh aerial parts (leaves, stems, flowers) of Galinsoga parviflora from a natural habitat. Authenticate the plant specimen by a botanist; preserve voucher specimen in herbarium. Wash thoroughly with distilled water to remove dust and soil.

Drying and Powdering

Dry the plant material under shade at room temperature (25-30 °C). Avoid direct sunlight to prevent degradation of phytoconstituents. Grind into coarse or fine powder using a mechanical grinder. Store airtight container.

Extraction Procedure

Take powdered material (50-100 g). Extract with ethanol (or methanol, water, chloroform, etc.) using Soxhlet extraction (6-8 h) or cold maceration (24-72 h). Filter and concentrate the extract using rotary evaporator. Store extract at 4 °C until analysis.

Pharmacological Activities

- **Antioxidant:** Contains flavonoids, phenolic compounds, and steroids which scavenge free radicals, providing cellular protection.

- **Anti-inflammatory:** Its hydroalcoholic and aqueous extracts can inhibit inflammatory responses and are used to treat inflammatory skin conditions.
- **Antidiabetic:** Shows promise in managing diabetes by inhibiting α -glycosidase and potentially lowering blood sugar levels.
- **Hepatoprotective:** Extracts of *G. parviflora* have demonstrated protective effects on the liver.
- **Wound Healing:** The plant is used traditionally to promote wound healing and stop bleeding due to its ability to coagulate blood.
- **Antidiabetic activity:** Shows to reduce blood glucose levels.
- **Antielmintic activity:** Decoctions used against intestinal worms;

II. DISCUSSION

The phenolic extract of *Galinsoga parviflora* has great biological potential, particularly in antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties, which are comparable to the pharmacological profile of dapsone. *G. parviflora*, often known as gallant soldier, is a medicinal herb high in bioactive substances including flavonoids, phenolic acids, tannins, and alkaloids. The phenolic compounds, specifically gallic acid, caffeic acid, and quercetin derivatives, are principally responsible for its potent antioxidant and antibacterial properties. These chemicals scavenge free radicals, block bacterial enzymes, and modulate inflammatory pathways, imitating some of the mechanisms by which dapsone works. Because of its antibacterial and anti-inflammatory qualities, dapsone (4,4'-diaminodiphenyl sulfone) is a synthetic sulfone medication that is frequently used to treat leprosy, dermatitis herpetiformis, and acne. It primarily has bacteriostatic effects by blocking the enzyme dihydropteroate synthase, which is involved in the synthesis of folate in bacteria. Its anti-inflammatory properties are further enhanced by its capacity to inhibit neutrophil activity. However, dapsone's long-term clinical value is limited by its frequent side effects, which include hemolytic anemia, methemoglobinemia, and hypersensitivity responses. The phenolic extract of *G. parviflora* showed significant antibacterial efficacy against both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria in comparative investigations. Its effectiveness is enhanced by a wide range of antioxidant actions, which may improve tissue repair and lessen oxidative stress in inflammatory circumstances, even if its potency

may be lower than that of pure dapsone. By destroying bacterial cell walls, interfering with protein synthesis, and changing membrane permeability, the extract's phenolic chemicals prevent microbial development. Furthermore, the extract's anti-inflammatory properties, which are linked to the suppression of pro-inflammatory mediators including cytokines and nitric oxide, are similar to dapsone's immunomodulatory properties. The phenolic extract provides a natural and possibly safer therapeutic substitute for dapsone. Due to the combined action of several bioactive compounds, plant-derived phenolics may provide synergistic effects and are less likely to cause significant systemic toxicity than synthetic medicines. Prior to clinical application, however, standardization, dose adjustment, and pharmacokinetic profiling are essential. Comparative findings indicate that *G. parviflora* extract offers a versatile, low-toxicity strategy appropriate for creating supplemental or adjunct medicines in the management of infections and inflammatory illnesses, even though dapsone is still more effective at the molecular level. In summary, *Galinsoga parviflora*'s phenolic extract shows encouraging antibacterial and anti-inflammatory qualities that are similar to dapsone in mechanism but not in absolute potency. Its promise as a safer phytotherapeutic substitute in upcoming pharmaceutical formulations is highlighted by its natural origin, antioxidant advantages, and decreased toxicity profile.

III. CONCLUSION

Due to its strong phenolic and flavonoid chemical makeup, *Galinsoga parviflora* has significant antibacterial and anti-inflammatory activity, according to research comparing its phenolic extract to dapsone. These bioactive components demonstrate pharmacological effects comparable to those of dapsone by working in concert to suppress microbial growth, neutralize free radicals, and alter inflammatory pathways. Although dapsone is still a powerful and scientifically validated synthetic medication, side effects like hemolysis and hypersensitivity reactions frequently restrict its use. *G. parviflora* extract, on the other hand, provides a safe, natural, and multi-targeted substitute with extra antioxidant advantages.

The comparative results indicate that while the phenolic extract may not have the same effectiveness as dapsone, it has great potential as a supplemental or replacement treatment, especially

when long-term usage of synthetic drugs carries a risk of toxicity. Isolating particular active ingredients, figuring out the best dosages, and carrying out in vivo and clinical trials to confirm safety and efficacy should be the main goals of future research. All things considered, Galinsoga parviflora's phenolic extract is a useful phytochemical resource for creating novel antibacterial and anti-inflammatory drugs with fewer adverse effects and greater therapeutic potential.

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