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In vivo Studies on the Bronchodilatory and Analgesic Activities of Hyoscyamus niger and Aspalathus linearis

Arif-ullah KHAN 1,2 & Anwarul-Hassan GILANI *1

¹ Natural Product Research Division, Department of Biological and Biomedical Sciences Aga Khan University Medical College, Karachi-74800, Pakistan

² Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kohat University of Science and Technology, Kohat-26000, Pakistan

SUMMARY. The present study describes the in vivo bronchodilatory and analgesic activities of the crude extract of Hyoscyamus niger (Hn.Cr) and Aspalathus linearis (Al.Cr), which tested positive for alkaloids, coumarins, flavonoids, sterols, tannins, terpenes and flavonoids, tannins, saponins respectively. Hn.Cr (0.3-3.0 mg/kg) and Al.Cr (10-100 mg/kg) caused inhibition of the CCh (1 µmol/kg)-induced increase in the inspiratory pressure of anaesthetized rats. Hn.Cr and Al.Cr dose-dependently (50-100 mg/kg) reduced the numbers of acetic acid-mediated writhes in mice. These results indicate that Hyoscyamus niger and Aspalathus linearis exhibit airways-relaxant and anti-nociceptive effects, hence justifying their medicinal use in asthma and pain.

KEY WORDS: Hyoscyamus niger, Aspalathus linearis, Bronchodilation, Analgesia.

Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: anwar.gilani@aku.edu