Physicochemical and Phytochemical Control of *Arrabidaea chica* (H. & B.) Verlot Leaf Powder and Standardized Tincture

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SUMMARY. The quality control of herbal drugs and their intermediates is essential, especially when they are used as feedstock for medicine development. This study aimed at applying the methodologies established by Brazilian legislation for the development of parameters concerning the characterization and quality control of leaf powder and tincture of *Arrabidaea chica* (H & B) Verlot. Known as cipó-pau (vinestick), carajeru, pariri, among others, it presents antifungal activity and is used in several diseases such as mycosis and ringworm. The physico-chemical characteristics of the plant drug. The phytochemical screening of the tincture indicated the presence of reducing sugars, anthocyanidins, anthocyanins, anthraquinones, steroids, triterpenoids, phenols, flavanonols, flavanols, flavanones, saponins and tannins catechists. HPLC chromatograms showed peaks at 275 nm and 290 nm, with Rt of 8.91 and 13.57 min, whose corresponding spectra showed absorption maxima which is characteristic of flavones and biflavonols –283 nm and 334 nm. Some metabolites found in the phytochemical screening and detected by HPLC may justify the popular use of *A. chica* as antimicrobial and antifungal medicine.

KEY WORDS: Arrabidaea chica (H&B) Verlot., Herbal medicine quality control, Tincture standardization.

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