Abstract

Introduction

Toddalia asiatica is a commonly used medicinal plant in East Africa for the management of pain and inflammatory conditions. The present study investigated the antinociceptive and the anti-inflammatory effects of *T. asiatica* in Swiss albino mice.

Methods

The antinociceptive and the anti-inflammatory effects of *T. asiatica* were investigated using formalin-induced pain test and the carrageenin-induced oedema paw. The extract solvent (vehicle), aspirin and indomethacin were employed as negative and positive controls respectively. Eight mice were used in each experiment.

Results

In the early phase of the formalin test, the 100 mg/kg dose showed no significant antinociceptive activity while the 200 mg/kg showed significant (p < 0.01) antinociceptive activity. The 100 mg/kg dose showed highly significant antinociceptive activity (p < 0.001) in the late phase of the formalin test while the 200 mg/kg dose showed no significant antinociceptive activity. A reduction in carragenin induced acute inflammation paw oedema was significant (p < 0.01) following administration of 100 mg/kg dose but not with the 200 mg/kg dose.

Conclusion

The present study therefore lends support to the anecdotal evidence for use of *T. asiatica* in the management of painful and inflammatory conditions.