

## Abstract

*Rhus natalensis* and *Senna singuanae* are traditional African plants commonly used as medicinal plant in East Africa for the management of pain. The plants are used for management of rheumatism among others. This study investigated the antinociceptive activities of *R. natalensis* and *S. singuanae* in Swiss albino mice using the tail-flick and hot plate tests. Extract solvent (vehicle), morphine and aspirin were employed as controls. Root extract of *R. natalensis* (100 and 200 mg /kg) and 100 mg /kg of *S. singuanae* showed no significant antinociceptive activity in the hot plate while the 200mg /kg of *S. singuanae* showed significant antinociceptive activity ( $p<0.05$ ). In the tail flick tests, root extract of *R. natalensis* (100 and 200 mg / kg) showed highly significant antinociceptive activity ( $p<0.01$ ) while 200mg / kg of *S. singuanae* showed significant antinociceptive activity ( $p<0.05$ ) compared to the controls. The 100 mg /kg of *S. singuanae* showed no significant antinociceptive activity in the tail flick. This study lends support to the anecdotal evidence for use of *R. natalensis* and *S. singuanae* in the management of painful conditions.