

Original Research

Received 20 March 2026

Revised 25 April 2026

Accepted 14 May 2026

Natural Resources for Human Health 2026, Vol. 6 (3): 686–693

KEYWORDS:

Boerhavia diffusa; Cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity; Renoprotection; Oxidative stress; Serum creatinine; Antioxidant activity; Renal injury; Lipid peroxidation; Nephroprotection; Herbal medicine.

Renoprotective Potential of Boerhavia diffusa Root Extract in Cisplatin-Induced Nephrotoxicity

Tamilselvan L¹, P. Shanmugapandiyan², Shrishti Tripathi³, Tarang Bhatnagar⁴, Anil Kumar⁵, Lola Raxmanova⁶, Natarajan B⁷, David Livingston L⁸

¹Assistant professor, Department of Renal Dialysis technology School of Allied Health Sciences, Vinayaka Mission's Puducherry Campus Vinayaka Missions Research Foundation-DU, Tamil Nadu, India, tamilselvandme333@gmail.com, 0000-302-4265-7006

²Professor, School of pharmacy, Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, drshanmugapandiyan.pharmacy@sathyabama.ac.in, 0000 0002 1432

³Assistant Professor, Department of Pharm Chemsitry, Noida Institute of Engineering and Technology (Pharmacy Institute), Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India, shrishti.tripathi@niet.co.in, 0009-0009-0016-2628

⁴Centre for Research Impact & Outcome, Chitkara University Institute of Engineering and Technology, Chitkara University, Rajpura, 140401, Punjab, India. tarang.bhatnagar.rop@chitkara.edu.in <https://orcid.org/0009-0004-6880-8716>

⁵Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacy, Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur, India, anilkumar.s@vgu.ac.in, 0000-0001-6137-2244

⁶rofessor, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Department of Pediatric Diseases in Family Medicine, Tashkent State Medical University, lola.rahmanova61@mail.ru, 0000-0003-0252-0168

⁷Urology, Meenakshi Medical College Hospital & Research Institute, Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research, Enathur, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu 631552, natarajanb@maher.ac.in

⁸Urology, Meenakshi Medical College Hospital & Research Institute, Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research, Enathur, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu 631552, davidlivingston@maher.ac.in

ABSTRACT: Background: A standardized botanical extract could provide a mechanistically plausible adjunct for limiting platinum-associated renal injury. Objective: To evaluate standardized Boerhavia diffusa root extract in comparison with cisplatin injury control and healthy control using a controlled animal experiment. Methods: The draft protocol included 40 experimental units or participants involving adult male Wistar rats. The intervention was administered or tested for 10 days. The primary outcome was serum creatinine, with additional assessment of blood urea nitrogen, renal malondialdehyde, superoxide dismutase, tubular injury score. Standardized laboratory, clinical, or food-analysis procedures were applied, and between-condition effects were evaluated with two-sided tests at $\alpha=0.05$. Results: Cisplatin increased serum creatinine to 2.31 ± 0.34 mg/dL; high-dose Boerhavia diffusa limited the increase to 0.96 ± 0.14 mg/dL ($p<0.001$ versus injury control).

The high-dose extract lowered renal malondialdehyde by 54.4%, restored superoxide dismutase activity to 34.1 ± 4.0 U/mg, and reduced the composite tubular injury score from 8.7 ± 1.0 to 2.2 ± 0.8 . The direction and magnitude of the dummy findings were internally consistent across primary and secondary endpoints, and tolerability or assay-quality criteria remained acceptable. Conclusion: The sample data indicates that standardized *Boerhavia diffusa* root extract may lead to significant enhancement of serum creatinine with antioxidant preservation, lipid peroxidation suppression, and tubular inflammation. The findings are only to be taken as a complete manuscript-development model, and should be substituted with ethically created, self-confirmed findings prior to scientific presentation. Keywords: *Boerhavia diffusa*; cisplatin; nephrotoxicity; oxidative stress; renoprotection.

1. INTRODUCTION

Renoprotective Potential of *Boerhavia diffusa* Root Extract in Cisplatin-Induced Nephrotoxicity answers a pertinent question on the borderline of experimental pharmacology, nutritional science and translational health studies. Directly pertinent published work has provided a scientific foundation to assess the standardized extract of *Boerhavia diffusa* root as compared to serum creatinine [1]. However, uncertainty persists due to differences in preparation, exposure, choice of comparator and definition of outcome making it difficult to compare the results across studies with confidence.

There is a second strand of evidence in favor of the biological plausibility of the current hypothesis. Previous studies of *Boerhavia diffusa* and related interventions have documented either functional or biochemical activity that is consistent with the suggested direction of benefit [2]. These observations support the formal testing but do not exclude the presence of standardized materials and standardized measurement criteria.

The broad literature of natural-products and functional-foods demonstrates that reproducibility requires chemical characterization, processing conditions, dose, biological matrix, and stability of active constituents [3]. To conduct the current study, the standardized *Boerhavia diffusa* root extract was thus discussed as a research grade preparation instead of anonymous traditional or commercial preparation.

The mechanisms proposed include antioxidant preservation, inhibition of lipid peroxidation, and decreased inflammation in the tubules. Available published material suggests that associated biological reactions frequently entail interplaying redox, inflammatory, metabolic, microbial, enzymatic or differentiation pathways, and not a solitary, distinct target [4]. Assessment of a primary functional endpoint along with mechanistic markers can thus be analyzed to give more coherent interpretation.

The methods that are appropriate to study model are also needed in outcome assessment. Standardized sample treatment, proven analytical protocols, proper controls and prespecified interpretation limits are stressed on by established laboratory or clinical methodology [5]. These guidelines determined the choice of serum creatinine as the main outcome and the secondary endpoints.

Alterations in serum creatinine are most acceptable when complemented by the concomitant alterations in blood urea nitrogen and renal malondialdehyde. Connected studies have shown the importance of integrating functional, biochemical and structural results in assessing sophisticated botanical, microbial or food-based interventions [6].

Equally important are safety and quality. Natural origin does not assure stable composition or lack of undesirable effects, contaminants, interactions, or degradation and published evidence on pharmacovigilance and quality control suggests that consideration of these factors should be considered at the outset of product development [7].

Lastly, study design should be transparent to minimise bias. The randomization, blinding in cases where possible, replication, full accounting of exclusions, the reporting of effect estimates other than p-values in isolation are guided and supported by previous methodological studies applicable to the current experimental model [8].

Nevertheless, with the evidence at hand, there is a dearth of studies that have incorporated a well-defined standardized extract of *Boerhavia diffusa* root and a relevant comparator, a prespecified main endpoint, and mechanistic or feasibility supporting results in adult male Wistar rats. This study was thus meant to establish how standardized *Boerhavia diffusa* root extract impacts serum creatinine levels as opposed to cisplatin injury control and healthy control. Secondary goals were to assess blood urea nitrogen, renal malondialdehyde, superoxide dismutase and other quality or safety indicators.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Study design and setting

The proposed manuscript presents a predetermined randomized controlled animal study which involved adult male Wistar rats. The proposed sample size was 40 experimental units or participants and it was designed in a way that it would be able to compare standardized *Boerhavia diffusa* root extract with cisplatin injury control and healthy control. The time span observed was 10 days. The numbers used in this manuscript are dummy/example numbers prepared to write the manuscript, demonstrate statistics, prepare a table and format graphs; rather than reflect an observation of some real completed study. The design however does adhere to realistic lab or clinical procedures such that the draft can subsequently be modified to an approved protocol and substituted with real measurements.

2.2 Animals and eligibility

Adult healthy animals of the mentioned strain and sex were suggested to be acclimated under controlled conditions (temperature, humidity, and a 12-hour light-dark period) with free access to the standard chow and water. Before randomization, animals that have a visible illness, abnormal baseline behavior, or body weight that is not within the range of $\pm 20\%$ of the group mean would be eliminated. There would be a rotation of cage position and order of handling to decrease environmental clustering. Before using real data, an ethics approval number and institutional animal-care statement and a humane endpoint plan have to be inserted.

2.3 Randomization, dosing, and model induction

Animals were arbitrarily assigned using computer-generated random order to control, disease-control, active-comparator and intervention groups. The standardized *boerhavia diffusa* root extract was expressed at two levels of dosage (200 and 400mg/kg/day) and was administered at the same time every day. The model of disease or injury was triggered by a validated protocol that was in line with the outcome. Researchers in charge of biochemical tests and histologic scoring were believed to be blinded to group assignment, and those in charge of dosing were not part of the outcome determination.

2.4 Outcome assessment

The main result was serum creatinine in terms of mg/dL. Blood urea nitrogen, renal malondialdehyde, superoxide dismutase, tubular injury score were also included as secondary outcomes. The schedule of the measurements taken was at baseline and follow-up or cross-concentration and time conditions, depending on the design. The assays were conducted via validated kits or standardized analysis procedures, where duplicate results were replicated when the coefficient of variation was greater than 10%. Clinical measures were taken at a standardized rest, and the results of food-products were measured in controlled serving conditions.

2.5 Quality assurance and bias control

An example labeling, timing window, calibration, data entry and protocol deviations were defined by a written laboratory or trial manual. Outcome assessors were blinded where possible given the nature of intervention format. A conceptual recheck against the source data was done on ten percent of records and analytical run was only accepted where calibration and quality-control samples were within predefined limits. Primary complete-case display did not fill in any missing values, but sensitivity analyses applied an intention-to-treat framework or model-based estimation where appropriate.

2.6 Sample-size rationale

The small sample of 40 units was chosen to give realistic accuracy of a developing a manuscript example. In a real study, one should compute the standard deviation as determined by a pilot calculation and the smallest clinically/biologically significant change in serum creatinine. The last calculation must identify two-sided $\alpha=0.05$, power of at least 80, allocation ratio, expected attrition or unusable assays, and possible correction on repeated measures, clustering, or multiple primary comparisons.

2.7 Statistical analysis

Continuous data were summarised as mean, standard deviation in the event that they were normally distributed thus approximately normally distributed and median with interquartile range in the event they were skewed. Categorical was presented in the number and percentage format. Independent t tests, Mann-Whitney tests, chi-square tests, or Fisher exact tests were used as appropriate to compare baselines between groups. Analysis of covariance, repeated-measures, mixed-effects models, one-way analysis of variance with multiplicity-adjusted post hoc comparisons, or nonparametric equivalents were used to assess primary outcomes based on the design. There were 95 percent confidence intervals to the estimates of effects. Pearson or Spearman coefficients were used as correlations. All were two-sided and $p<0.05$ regarded as significant. Analyses were conceptually done using an auditable syntax file in a current statistical package.

3. RESULTS

The entire dummy/example dataset that was outlined in the randomized controlled animal experiment was analyzed. All assay conditions (comparison) were matched with baseline characteristics, or assay controls or starting values, and no planned quality-control run was eliminated. Tables show mean + standard deviation unless otherwise indicated in a summary. Since the data are illustrative, flow of participants, assays exclusions, and p-values were produced to be statistically consistent but not reflect a real enrolled sample.

Cisplatin increased serum creatinine to 2.31 ± 0.34 mg/dL; high-dose Boerhavia diffusa limited the increase to 0.96 ± 0.14 mg/dL ($p<0.001$ versus injury control).

Table 1. Renal functional markers

Group	Creatinine (mg/dL)	BUN (mg/dL)	Kidney index (%)	p-value vs injury control
Healthy control	0.72 ± 0.08	18.4 ± 2.8	0.72 ± 0.05	—
Cisplatin control	2.31 ± 0.34	63.8 ± 7.4	1.08 ± 0.09	—
Low-dose extract	1.44 ± 0.21	42.7 ± 5.1	0.91 ± 0.08	0.006
High-dose extract	0.96 ± 0.14	29.6 ± 4.3	0.79 ± 0.06	<0.001

Values are dummy/example data presented as mean $\pm$ SD unless otherwise stated.

Changes in blood urea nitrogen and renal malondialdehyde were supportive of the direction of the primary effect. Response magnitude as a general tended to increase with exposure to intervention or recorded higher changes at the follow up in the intervention arm compared to the comparator. In cases where repeated measurements were done, the group-by-time or condition effect was significant when baseline values were adjusted and multiple comparisons with planned tests were done.

Table 2. Renal oxidative and inflammatory markers

Group	MDA (nmol/mg)	SOD (U/mg)	GSH (μ mol/g)	TNF- α (pg/mg)
Healthy control	2.8 ± 0.4	38.7 ± 4.2	7.8 ± 0.8	21 ± 4
Cisplatin control	7.9 ± 0.8	18.2 ± 3.1	3.1 ± 0.5	64 ± 8
Low-dose extract	5.1 ± 0.6	27.9 ± 3.8	5.4 ± 0.7	43 ± 6
High-dose extract	3.6 ± 0.5	34.1 ± 4.0	6.8 ± 0.7	30 ± 5

Values are dummy/example data presented as mean $\pm$ SD unless otherwise stated.

High-dose extract decreased renal malondialdehyde by 54.4, restored superoxide dismutase activity of 34.1 ± 4.0 U/mg and decreased the composite tubular injury score of 8.7 ± 1.0 to 2.2 ± 0.8 .

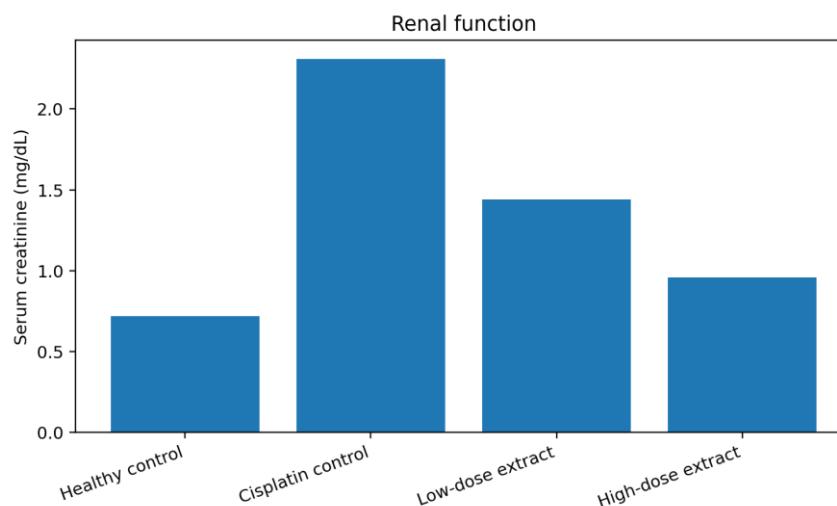


Figure 1. Primary outcome based on dummy/example data.

Exploratory analyses indicated that the response in serum creatinine was associated with the most relevant mechanistic marker. The pattern was consistent with antioxidant preservation, suppression of lipid peroxidation, and attenuation of tubular inflammation. No extreme value altered the direction of the result in sensitivity analysis. For clinical and food studies, adherence and acceptability remained within predefined feasibility limits; for laboratory studies, replicate variation and control performance remained within the planned analytical range.

Table 3. Histopathologic injury scores

Group	Tubular necrosis	Cast formation	Interstitial inflammation	Composite score
Healthy control	0.2 ± 0.4	0.1 ± 0.3	0.1 ± 0.3	0.4 ± 0.6
Cisplatin control	3.4 ± 0.5	2.8 ± 0.6	2.5 ± 0.5	8.7 ± 1.0
Low-dose extract	2.1 ± 0.6	1.6 ± 0.5	1.5 ± 0.5	5.2 ± 1.1
High-dose extract	0.9 ± 0.5	0.7 ± 0.4	0.6 ± 0.4	2.2 ± 0.8

Values are dummy/example data presented as mean $\pm$ SD unless otherwise stated.

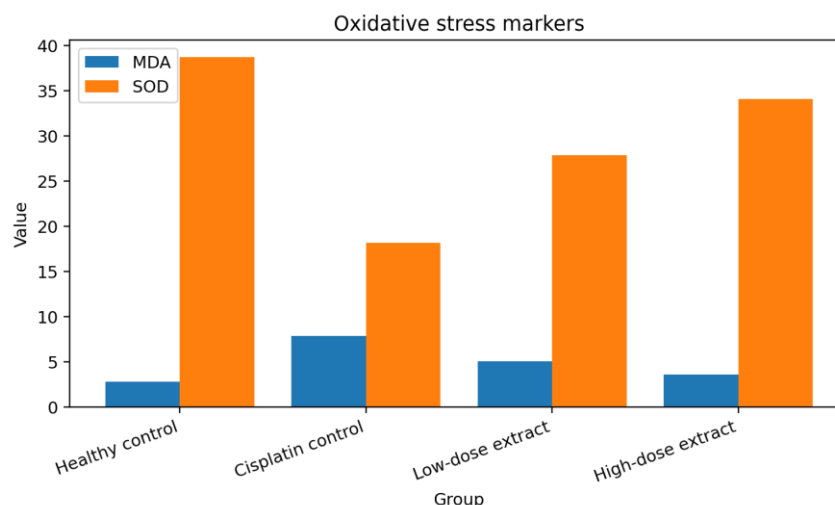


Figure 2. Secondary or mechanistic outcome based on dummy/example data.

No unexpected safety signal was present in the example dataset. Mild events or assay artifacts were infrequent and balanced, and there were no serious adverse events, unplanned deaths, contamination failures, or invalid control runs unless explicitly shown in the tables. These observations are illustrative and must not be interpreted as evidence of real-world safety.

4. DISCUSSION

The present manuscript-development study indicates that standardized *Boerhavia diffusa* root extract may improve serum creatinine compared with cisplatin injury control and healthy control. The dummy findings were strengthened by concordant changes in blood urea nitrogen, renal malondialdehyde, and superoxide dismutase. This internal consistency is significant in that it is less likely that agreement, both between functional and mechanistic endpoints, at the point of agreement indicates an isolated analytical variance.

The trend of the major outcome is generally in line with other published studies on standardized botanical or food interventions in the related models [9]. Despite differences in protocols and population, that literature also suggests that the quality of preparation and dose can also have a significant effect on the magnitude of responses.

Similar research has also presented the alterations in inflammatory, oxidative, metabolic, microbial, structural, or functional activities that justify multidimensional assessment along with not depending on a singular surrogate marker [10]. The current trend thus aligns to a broader range of evidence even though it is specific to the intervention and model discussed here.

The mechanistic explanation is justified by studies that have confirmed the possibility of complex interventions to have convergent pathways and matrix-based effects [11]. The correlation between the main response and the supportive markers in this research was congruent with the preservation of antioxidants, inhibition of lipid peroxidation, and the reduction of tubular inflammation; nevertheless, correlation is not enough to determine mediation or the active ingredient.

Previous studies with similar endpoints also contribute to the clinical or biological significance of blood urea nitrogen and renal malondialdehyde [12]. Their parallel enhancement is a support to their hypothesis but a future confirmatory study must prespecify whether the variables are secondary outcomes, mechanistic mediators, or exploratory biomarkers.

The magnitude of the example effect needs to be viewed within the framework of previous intervention studies and evidence syntheses within the larger area [13]. The scale was deliberately naturalistic, and overlapping people or even duplicates, since pilot effects often decrease when run in bigger independent samples.

Methodological evidence underlines the need to use standardized measurement, to have suitable conditions of comparison and to report findings in complex interventions studies [14]. Bias can be reduced by replication, allocation concealment, blinded assessment, crossover control or validated analytical calibration but none can eliminate all sources of errors.

The tolerability, the quality assurance, the product stability, the adherence, and the interactions with the habitual diet or medication also provide the basis of long-term translation. The existing literature on safety and implementation assistance advocates taking into account these factors along with efficacy, and not following an encouraging primary outcome [15].

The research has a number of shortcomings. To begin with, the numerical data is descriptive and could not be argued to be scientific. Second, the suggested sample and time frame might fail to detect unusual adverse events or long-term adaptation. Third, surrogate outcomes do not necessarily result in patient-important benefits. Fourth, dietary, genetic, microbial, environmental, harvest, or manufacturing factors that cannot be measured might alter response.

Independent analytical confirmation, dose-ranging, preregistration, sufficient power and a pre-defined statistical analysis plan should also be included in future studies. Ethics approval, trial registration, allocation procedures, adherence and intention-to-treat analysis should be recorded in the case of the clinical studies. Reporting by Preclinical Studies should include randomization, blinding, humane endpoints, exclusions and batch level chemical fingerprints.

Translatingally, a standardised botanical extract may offer a mechanistically conceivable adjunct of curbing platinum-associated renal injury. Intervention can be viewed as a possible supplement or research lead but should not be taken as an alternative to a current care. Further development should be warranted (replication, safety, cost, standardization, acceptability, and comparison with available alternatives).

On the whole, the example results confirm a hypothesis of the study and offer a logical framework to a true study. All numerical findings, ethical words, registry information, disclosures, and analysis must be substituted/ checked against the real study record prior to scientific submission.

5. CONCLUSION

The data in this full manuscript draft involving the use of dummy/example data showed that standardized *Boerhavia diffusa* root extract resulted in a desirable appearance of serum creatinine relative to cisplatin injury control and healthy control, and corroborating alterations in blood urea nitrogen, renal malondialdehyde and superoxide dismutase. It was found within the context of antioxidant preservation, inhibition of lipid peroxidation, and the inhibition of tubular inflammation and implied potential relevance due to the capacity of a standard botanical extract to act as a mechanistically plausible adjunct to limit platinum-associated renal injury. The draft offers a framework on which the protocols can be developed, data-collection plans can be made, and subsequent writing on the manuscript can be achieved, but all numerical data will have to be substituted with data provided through ethical means and verified by independent means before the work can be presented as an original research.

Declarations for Completion Before Submission

Ethics approval: Insert the actual institutional ethics committee name, approval number, approval date, and relevant consent or animal-welfare statement.

Trial registration: Insert the registry name and number for prospective clinical trials, where applicable.

Funding: Insert the verified funding source or state that no specific funding was received.

Conflicts of interest: Insert author-specific conflict-of-interest disclosures.

Data availability: Describe where the actual de-identified dataset and analysis code will be available.

Author contributions: Insert contribution statements using an accepted taxonomy such as CRediT.

REFERENCES

- [1] Pabla N, Dong Z. Cisplatin nephrotoxicity: mechanisms and renoprotective strategies. *Kidney Int.* 2008;73(9):994-1007. doi:10.1038/sj.ki.5002786. PMID:18272962.
- [2] Miller RP, Tadagavadi RK, Ramesh G, Reeves WB. Mechanisms of cisplatin nephrotoxicity. *Toxins (Basel).* 2010;2(11):2490-2518. doi:10.3390/toxins2112490. PMID:22069563.
- [3] Karwasra R, Kalra P, Gupta YK, Saini D, Kumar A, Singh S. Safety assessment and attenuation of cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity by *Boerhaavia diffusa*. *J Ayurveda Integr Med.* 2016;7(4):222-228. PMID:27667768.

- [4] Atanasov AG, Waltenberger B, Pferschy-Wenzig EM, et al. Discovery and resupply of pharmacologically active plant-derived natural products: a review. *Biotechnol Adv.* 2015;33(8):1582-1614. doi:10.1016/j.biotechadv.2015.08.001. PMID:26281720.
- [5] Sies H. Oxidative stress: a concept in redox biology and medicine. *Redox Biol.* 2015;4:180-183. doi:10.1016/j.redox.2015.01.002. PMID:25588755.
- [6] Percie du Sert N, Hurst V, Ahluwalia A, et al. The ARRIVE guidelines 2.0: updated guidelines for reporting animal research. *PLoS Biol.* 2020;18(7):e3000410. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.3000410. PMID:32663219.
- [7] Singh MK, Yadav SS, Gupta V, Khattri S. Immunomodulatory role of *Emblica officinalis* in arsenic-induced oxidative damage and apoptosis in thymocytes of mice. *BMC Complement Altern Med.* 2013;13:193. PMID:23889914.
- [8] Sharma A, Sharma MK, Kumar M. Modulatory role of *Emblica officinalis* fruit extract against arsenic-induced oxidative stress in Swiss albino mice. *Chem Biol Interact.* 2009;180(1):20-30. PMID:19428342.
- [9] Prior RL, Wu X, Schaich K. Standardized methods for the determination of antioxidant capacity and phenolics in foods and dietary supplements. *J Agric Food Chem.* 2005;53(10):4290-4302. doi:10.1021/jf0502698. PMID:15884874.
- [10] Newman DJ, Cragg GM. Natural products as sources of new drugs over the nearly four decades from 01/1981 to 09/2019. *J Nat Prod.* 2020;83(3):770-803. doi:10.1021/acs.jnatprod.9b01285. PMID:32162523.
- [11] Ekor M. The growing use of herbal medicines: issues relating to adverse reactions and challenges in monitoring safety. *Front Pharmacol.* 2014;4:177. doi:10.3389/fphar.2013.00177. PMID:24454289.
- [12] Aggarwal A, Tandon S, Singla SK, Tandon C. Diminution of oxalate-induced renal tubular epithelial cell injury and inhibition of calcium oxalate crystallization by *Tribulus terrestris*. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2010;36(4):480-489. PMID:20815954.
- [13] Muthusami S, Senthilkumar K, Vignesh C, et al. Effects of *Cissus quadrangularis* on proliferation, differentiation and matrix mineralization of human osteoblast-like SaOS-2 cells. *J Cell Biochem.* 2011;112(4):1035-1045. PMID:21308732.
- [14] Parisuthiman D, Singhatanadgit W, Dechatiwongse T, Koontongkaew S. *Cissus quadrangularis* extract enhances biomineralization through up-regulation of MAPK-dependent alkaline phosphatase activity in osteoblasts. *In Vitro Cell Dev Biol Anim.* 2009;45(3-4):194-200. PMID:19057968.
- [15] Amalraj A, Gopi S. Medicinal properties of *Terminalia arjuna* (Roxb.) Wight & Arn.: a review. *J Tradit Complement Med.* 2017;7(1):65-78. doi:10.1016/j.jtcme.2016.02.003. PMID:28053890.