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(57) Abstract :

The present invention relates to antioxidant and hepatoprotective composition against Paracetamol and Azithromycin-induced liver damage in rats comprising therapeutically effective amount of Picrorhiza kurroa Rhizome. The administration of Picrorhizakurroa extract at concentrations of 200 and 400 mg/kg for 7 days resulted in a significant ($p < 0.05$) reduction of paracetamol induced elevation of serum enzyme markers, comparable to the effect of silymarin as the control group. Antioxidant assay revealed that the ethanol extract of Picrorhizakurroa exhibited free radical scavenging activity with IC₅₀ values of 48.62 respectively. Chronic treatment of etanolic extract of Picrorhizakurroa rhizome significantly and dose-dependently attenuated the liver toxicity by normalizing the biochemical factors and no gross histopathological changes were observed in liver of rats. Pretreatment of the rats with the crude extract and solvent fractions of Picrorhizakurroa significantly reduced ALP ($p < 0.001$), ALT at all the administered doses compared to the paracetamol and azithromycin treated group ($p < 0.05$).

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