

EVALUATION OF THE ANTIDIARRHEAL ACTIVITY OF  
*LANTANA CAMARA LINN* (VERBENACEAE) LEAF  
EXTRACT IN MICE.

BY

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BPHARM/09/04734

A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOGNOSY, SCHOOL OF  
PHARMACY IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE IN  
BACHELOR OF PHARMACY OF MOUNT KENYA  
UNIVERSITY.

OCTOBER, 2013

## ABSTRACT

The knowledge of traditional medicine and medicinal plants and their phytochemistry may lead to the discovery of newer and cheaper drugs. *Lantana camara* Linn (verbanaceae) well known in the management of several diseases and is used in various folk medicinal preparations. Evaluation of the antidiarrheal activity of *Lantana camara* linn (verbanaceae) leaf extract on castor oil induced diarrhoea in mice was carried out within a period of six months between March 2013 and August 2013. Twenty-four mice of either sex were divided into six groups of two male and two female mice each and were fasted overnight.

Diarrhoea was induced in the mice by administering castor oil at a dose of 1 ml/25g orally and diarrhoea was apparent in all animals 1 hour after castor oil administration. Methanolic extract of *Lantana camara* linn administered at the doses of 125 mg/kg, 250 mg/kg, 500 mg/kg and 1000 mg/kg was observed to exhibit a significant antidiarrheal activity and the results were similar to those of the standard drug loperamide (3 mg/kg) with regard to the severity of diarrhoea.

The study also revealed that the effect of *Lantana camara* methanolic extract was the same to both male and female mice and the extract neither showed mortality nor any visible clinical signs of general weakness in the mice.