ABSTRACT

Acalypha amentacea is closely related to and probably shares the same phytochemicals with Acalypha wilkesiana that has already been proven to lower blood cholesterol levels. Hence, the aim of this study was to determine the effect of the leaf extract of A. amentacea in lowering the cholesterol levels of albino rats, and which among the test doses (375mg/kg, 750 mg/kg and 1500mg/kg) was most effective. A total of 24 rats were used for the whole experiment. The albino rats were given a high fat diet for three weeks and were grouped into three according to the doses plus a control group. The treatment was administered for a period of four weeks. The cholesterol levels were analyzed three times during the experiment using the Easy Touch GCU cholesterol kit. Based on the final results, only the dose of 1500 mg/kg caused a significant decrease in blood cholesterol level (P<0.05) and this dose was able to return the cholesterol to the normal baseline levels. In conclusion, 1500 mg/kg is the only effective dose among the three treatments.

Key words: Acalypha amentacea, cholesterol, dose