

The selective antianginal effect without changing blood pressure of butylidenephthalide in conscious rats.

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Abstract

Synthetic butylidenephthalide (Bdph), 60 mg/kg per os (p.o.) given 3 h prior to injection of pituitrin (4 U/kg, i.v.), significantly prevented T-wave lowering on lead II electrocardiograph in unanesthetized rats. The effective dose, 60 mg/kg, was about 1/56th of the median lethal dose (LD50, p.o.) in rats. However, Bdph (60 mg/kg, p.o.) did not affect systolic pressure and heart rate in unanesthetized rats. Therefore, Bdph, found in the rhizome of *Ligusticum chuaxiong* Hort. (*L. wallichii* Franch., Umbelliferae), appears to have selective antianginal effect without changing blood pressure and heart rate..