

# Hepatoprotective activity of Taiwan folk medicine: *eclipta prostrata* linn. against various hepatotoxins induced acute hepatotoxicity

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摘要

## Abstract

The hepatoprotective effects of *Eclipta prostrata* (Linn.) were studied on acute hepatitis induced in mice by a single dose of carbon tetrachloride (31.25 L/kg, i.p.) or acetaminophen (600 mg/kg, i.p.) and in rats by a single dose of -D-galactosamine (188 mg/kg, i.p.). The hepatoprotective activity was monitored by estimating the serum transaminases (SGOT and SGPT) levels and histopathological changes in the liver of experimental animals. The *Eclipta prostrata* extracts significantly inhibited the acute elevation of serum transaminases induced by carbon tetrachloride in mice and by -D-GaLN in rats. However, in the experimental model of acetaminophen, although an inhibiting tendency was noticed, no statistical significance was observed. Histopathologically, the crude *E. prostrata* extract significantly ameliorates either CCl<sub>4</sub> or GaLN-induced histopathological changes in the liver of experimental animals but no statistically significant improvement could be observed in acetaminophen induced liver damage. All serological and histopathological effects of *Eclipta prostrata* were compared with that of *Bupleurum chinense* DC., which has been previously reported and used as a treatment criteria for hepatitis (Chiu et al., 1988; 1989; Lin et al., 1990a, b).