ABSTRACT

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There was prepared an extract from aerial parts of the plant *Vinca minor L*. This prepared extract was separated by the column chromatography into individual fractions. One chosen fraction was separated by TLC on silicagel. Two substances were isolated and they we identified by GC/MS and NMR as (-)-minovin and (+)-minovincin. These two substances were tested for their inhibition activity against human acetylcholinesterase (hemolysate of human erythrocytes) and butyrylcholinesterase (human plasma). Their inhibition activity was compared to standards which were Galanthamin, Huperzin A and Eserin. (+)-Minovincin did not show significant inhibitory activity against either enzyme (IC₅₀ = AchE > 1000 μ M, BuChE 655,05 \pm 35,37 μ M) and it is not suitable for further investigation. (-)-Minovin showed no significant activity against AChE (IC₅₀ = 234,27 \pm 63,40 μ M), activity against BuChE (IC₅₀ = 26,32 \pm 2,52 μ M) was higher than inhibitory akctivity of Galanthamin, but still relatively low for further investigation. The aim of this work was mainly the selection of suitable *Vinca minor L*. alkaloids, which could potentially be relevant in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

Key words: *Vinca minor L.*, Alzheimer's disease, cholinesterase, indole alkaloids, minovin, minovincin