

SUMMARY

The effort to find compounds with significant antioxidant properties and with some other therapeutically useful biological activity (e.g. anti-platelet activity) from the wide group of structurally different naturally occurring compounds (or plant extracts) or their synthetic derivatives, was the purpose of this work. Radical Scavenging activity of tested compounds or plant extracts was measured by modified DPPH test use program SIA (sequential injection analysis). Significant radical scavenging activity exhibited polyphenols, namely gallic acid ($EC_{50} = 0,0025 \pm 0,002$ mg/ml) and ethyl-gallate ($EC_{50} = 0,0038 \pm 0,001$ mg/ml). Also the pure latex of *Croton lechleri* exhibited significantly radical scavenging activity ($EC_{50} = 0,0347 \pm 0,018$ mg/ml). From the group of tested methylcoumarins, the excellent antioxidant activity exhibited *ortho*-dihydroxy-4-methylcoumarins, especially 7,8-dihydroxy-4-methylcoumarin and its derivatives ($EC_{50} = 24,9 \pm 2,7$ μ M). Further was the antioxidant activity tested by FRAP methods modified to used micropalates P 400 μ l. This spectrophotometric method based on ability of compounds to reduce Fe^{3+} to Fe^{2+} , confirmed the antioxidant activity of *ortho*-dihydroxy-4-methylcoumarins. The antiplatelet activity of pure compounds and herbal extracts was assayed *in vitro* on the model of human platelets rich plasma (PRP; 250×10^9 platelets/L) at a concentration of 500 μ g/mL PRP. Arachidonic acid (AA; final concentration in cuvette was 0,5 mM), adenosine diphosphate (ADP; final conc. 10 μ M) and collagen (COL; final conc. 2 μ g/mL) were used as agonists of platelet aggregation. Pure sap of *Croton lechleri*: at final conc. 0,5 mg/ml of medium (PRP) decreased platelet aggregation by 100 ± 14 % (COL), 100 ± 11 % (ADP) and 100 ± 9 % (AA). Chloroform extract from *Croton*'s sap: at final concentration 0,5 mg/ml of medium (PRP) decreased platelet aggregation by 100 ± 12 % (COL), $81,33 \pm 9$ % (ADP) and

67 ± 8,5 % (AA).

From the group of tested coumarins the highest anti-aggregation activity exhibited the group of 5,7-dihydroxy-4-methylcoumarin and its C3 derivatives. *Ortho*-dihydroxy-4-methylcoumarins exhibited anti-platelet activity approximately 10x lower compared to ASA, when the aggregation was induced by ADP and 20x lower, when the aggregation was induced by AA.