Abstract

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Antiprotozoal activity of alkaloids II.

The development of new antiprotozoal agents for the treatment of infections is very important. Natural substances can be the source of effective drugs. The aim of this study was to evaluate the antiprotozoal activity of these alkaloids - canadine, scoulerine, tetrahydropalmatine and stylopine. The experiment was conducted on typical model organism *Tetrahymena thermophila*. Percentage inhibition of the organism was determined using the MTT assay. Subsequently median inhibitory concentration IC_{50} of the test substances was calculated. From our alkaloids stylopine had the greatest antiprotozoal activity. Antiprotozoal activity decreased in the following order stylopine > canadine > scoulerine > tetrahydropalmatine.

Key words: *Tetrahymena thermophila*, antiprotozoal activity, canadine, scoulerine, tetrahydropalmatine, stylopine