

## Thin layer chromatography fingerprints of some ameliorated medicines based medicinal plants extract in the democratic republic of the Congo: A preliminary study

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### Abstract

A program on the standardization of prepared medicine based on different plants extracts was initiated in RD Congo by the Faculty of pharmaceutical sciences of the University of Kinshasa. The studies conducted in the program aimed the establishment of chromatographic fingerprints of these preparations in the present study, five preparation including Diazostimul (tablets), Manadiar (tablets and suspension), Meyamycin (tablet and suspension), Manalaria (tablets and suspension) and N'sansiphos (suspension) were investigated.

These thin layer chromatographic fingerprints were recorded on which major compounds were detected. These compounds showed different intensity according to the type of preparation. For the some preparation in tablets or suspension, these majors' compounds were present with different intensity of fluorescence under UV at 361nm.

These TLC fingerprints had specific characteristic related to each analyzed medicine. They showed uniformity and homogeneity of analyzed medicinal based on phase finishing, some analyzed ameliorated medicines were detected as standardized.

**Keywords:** herbal medicines, standardization, TLC fingerprint

### Introduction

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a herbal medicine is a finished medicinal product, labeled, which contains as active ingredients exclusively extracts from plants (underground or aerial parts), other plant materials or combinations of extracts from plants in the raw state. Plant products include juices, gums, fatty oils, essential oils or any other substance of a natural plant nature, in a standardized state (WHO, 1998).

The drugs that are locally produced are often prepared outside of an official framework regulating manufacturing and quality control standards and do not always meet requirements for chemical and pharmacotherapeutic reproducibility. For this purpose, WHO suggests reference to guidelines for their evaluation, in particular the use of chromatographic fingerprints to guarantee the constant quality of a preparation. (WHO, 1998).

In this study, we established the thin layer chromatographic fingerprints of some herbal medicines registered in the DRC. These fingerprints were established on the basis of the results of the phytochemical screening of reactions in solution.

They will be useful to manufacturers, analysts and regulatory authorities who may use them in compiling analytical quality assurance dossiers and in renewing and granting marketing authorizations.

### Materials and methods

Ameliorated preparation

Different batches of five herbal medicines registered at the DPM (Department of Pharmacy and Medicines) of the

Ministry of Public Health were collected from different manufacturers and purchased in a few pharmacies open to the public for our research in different pharmaceutical forms. These are Diazostimul (tablets), Manadiar (tablets and suspension), Manalaria (tablets and suspension), Meyamycin (tablets and suspension), and N'sansiphos suspension.



**Fig 1:** Registered medicines collected in the city of Kinshasa

### Phytochemical screening

The search for secondary metabolites was carried out by means of chemical methods (reagents in solution) and TLC according to the methodology proposed by Marini-Bettolo *et al.* (1981)<sup>[4]</sup> and Harborne 1998<sup>[3]</sup>. The following metabolic groups were investigated in each batch: Alkaloids, polyphenols, flavonoids, tannins, coumarins, quinones, cardiotonic heterosides, anthocyanins, saponins, steroids and terpenoids. All analyzes were performed in triplicate.

## Preparation of extracts

### Extraction of flavonoids in tablets and suspension

After grinding 10 tablets from each batch with a mortar, the obtained powder were weighed, dispersed in 20 mL of methanol and then heated in a bain-marie at 60°C for 10 minutes. The resulting dispersions were filtrate for analysis. One hundred milliliters of suspension were evaporated in an oven under ventilation at 40 ° C. The dried residues were dispersed in 20 mL of methanol and then heated in a bain-marie at 60°C for 10 minutes. The resulting dispersions were filtrate for the analysis of flavonoids.

### Extraction des tanins

For extraction of tannins, 10 g of each tablet powders (or 100 ml of suspension) were mixed with 20 ml methanol 80 % for 24 hours. After filtration on paper filter Whatman n°1, each filtrate was evaporated in vacuum (40 °C) yielding dried extracts. The residue was dissolved in sulfuric acid solution (1N, XXX ml). The extraction of tannins was then performed thrice with 15 ml of ethyl acetate. After concentration, the

obtained extract was used for analysis.

- For the extraction of alkaloids, the dried residues were firstly dissolved in aqueous solution containing 10 % ammonia. The extraction was fulfilled by using chloroform (3 × 15 mL). After concentration, the chloroformic extract was used for analysis.

The chromatographic fingerprints of each drug were established according to its metabolites revealed during a prior phytochemical screening (Brain and Turner, 1975; Harbone, 1998; Trease and Evan, 2002; Marini *et al.* 1981; Ngombe, 2010) [2, 8, 3, 4]. All analyzes were performed three times. All the chromatographic conditions were adapted in relation to the specificity of each group of substances analyzed.

## Results and discussion

### Results

The results of the chemical screening are shown in Table I.

**Table 1:** Phytochemical screening results

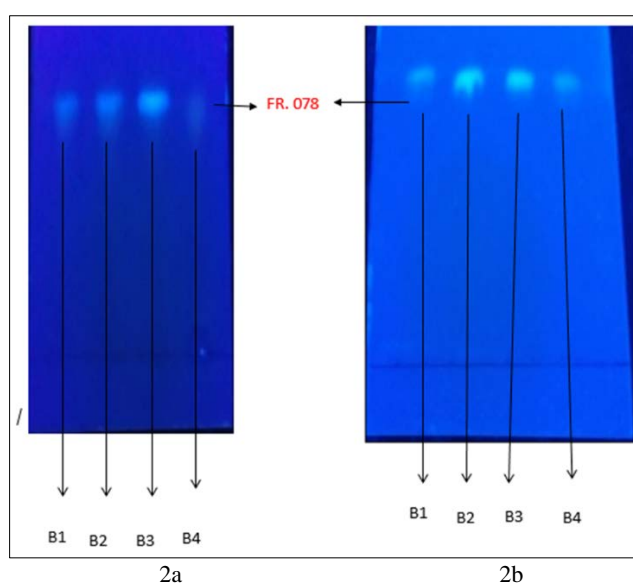
Samples Chemical groups	Meyamycin (tablets and suspension)				Manadiar (tablets and suspension)				Manalaria (tablets and suspension)				Diazostimul (tablets)		N'sansiphos (suspension)	
	Batch 1	Batch 2	Batch 3	Batch 4	Batch 1	Batch 2	Batch 3	Batch 4	Batch 1	Batch 2	Batch 3	Batch 4	Batch 1	Batch 2	Batch 1	Batch 2
Alkaloids	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Polyphenols	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Flavonoids	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Tannins	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Coumarins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quinones	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Cardiotonic heterosides	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Steroids terpenoids	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Anthocyanins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saponins	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-

+: Presence

-: Absence

Chromatographic fingerprints of the different products are shown in Figures 3 to 5. In each case, the chromatographic

fingerprint is only for the most dominant metabolic group found in the filtrate.



**Fig 2a:** Chromatographic fingerprints of four different batches of meyamycin syrup (polyphenols), Fig 2b: Chromatographic prints of four





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