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Diploma in Pharmacy 1st Year

Pharmacognosy

Experiment

To study morphological identification Rauwolfia

Aim:

To study morphological identification Rauwolfia.

Reference :

Dr. Gupta G.D , Dr. Sharma Shailesh , Kaur Navjit , “Practical Manual of Pharmacognosy” Published by Nirali Prakashan , Pg.No 43 - 46

Biological Sources:

Rauwolfia consists of dried roots of Rauwolfia serpentina Benth, belonging to family Apocynaceae.

Chemical Constituents:

Rauwolfia contains about 0.7-2.4% total alkaloidal bases from which more than 80 alkaloids have been isolated. The prominent alkaloids isolated from the drug are reserpine, rescinnamine, γ reserpine, rescidine, raubescine and deserpidine: The other alkaloidal components are ajmalinine, ajmaline, ajmalicine (8-yohimbine). serpentine, serpentinine, tetrahydroreserpine, raubasine, reserpinine, ispajamaline and yohambinine,

Morphological Characters:

- The roots and rhizomes are almost identical in external characters.
- The drug occurs in cylindrical or slightly tapering, tortuous pieces.
- 2.10 cm long 5.22 mm in diameter.
- The roots are rarely branched.
- The outer surface is greyish-yellow, light-brown or brown.

- Young pieces contain slight wrinkles.
- Taste is bitter.



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Uses:

- ✓ Rauwolfia is used as hypnotic, sedative and antihypertensive.
- ✓ It is specific for insanity, reduces blood pressure and cures pain due to affections of the bowels.
- ✓ Ajmaline, which has pharmacological properties similar to those of quinidine used in the treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.
- ✓ The usual antihypertensive dose of rescinnamine is 500 µg two times a day. Higher doses may cause serious mental depression.

Result

The morphological study of Rauwolfia was performed.



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