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Assessment of the Gastroprotective Effect of the Chaga Medicinal Mushroom, *Inonotus obliquus* (Agaricomycetes), Against the Gastric Mucosal Ulceration Induced by Ethanol in Experimental Rats

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Abstract

The chaga medicinal mushroom (*Inonotus obliquus*) was traditionally used to treat various ailments. To establish the pharmacological properties of *I. obliquus*, studies were performed to show the antiulcer activity of the ethanolic extract. The ethanolic extract of *I. obliquus* was prepared. The antiulcer activity of *I. obliquus* was determined using gastric ulcerated rats (ulceration induced by ethanol). The ethanolic extract of *I. obliquus* (200 mg/kg) did not cause any sign of toxicity or sensitivity to rats when the extracts were administered by oral feed. Oral administration of ethanolic extract of *I. obliquus* exhibited antiulcer activity in all models used. The ethanolic extract of *I. obliquus* showed an effective antiulcer activity, which could be due to the presence of various biologically active compounds. This confirmed the traditional uses of *I. obliquus* in the treatment of ailments.

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