Prenatal developmental toxicity evaluation of Verbena officinalis during gestation period in female Sprague-Dawley rats

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Abstract

Verbena officinalis is widely used by women for maintaining general health and treating various gynecological disorders during pregnancy. A case report has indicated that the consumption of V. officinalis induced an abortifacient effect. Hence, this study aimed to investigate the prenatal developmental toxicity of this plant according to OECD guidelines (no. 414). A total of 50 pregnant female rats ( dams) were distributed into five groups (n=10), 900 mg/kg 2500 mg/kg and 5000 mg/kg of V. officinalis extracts and the fifth group served as a normal control. All dams received their respective oral single daily treatment from the 6th to the 30th day of gestation.