



## Potent Therapeutic Effects of Polysaccharides Isolated From Some Edible Plant Wastes: Characterization and Bioactivities

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### Abstract

Polysaccharides have various effects and exhibit several bioactivities that possess an enormous influence on healthcare due to their therapeutic beneficial and comparatively low toxicity. The study is focusing in investigation of the chemical structure of the isolated polysaccharides from wastes of *Punica granatum*, *Musa acuminata*, and *Brassica oleracea*, beside to validation of the analgesic, anti-inflammatory, antipyretic and antiulcer activities. Moreover, very expressive biological activities were obviously presented by all the isolated polysaccharides. The highest analgesic and anti-inflammatory activities exhibited by polysaccharides of *B. oleracea* outer leaves (62.98 and 81.69 %), followed by that of *P. granatum* peels (53.31 and 78.17%), and that of *M. acuminata* peels (50.50 and 76.05%), while the antipyretic activity was showed nearly the same results for both *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* polysaccharides (6.59 and 6.35%), then that of *P. granatum* peels (5.30%). On the other, the antiulcer activities of polysaccharides of different wastes showed corrective action of inflammatory markers including tumor necrosis factor  $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ), interleukin -6,8 (IL-6 &8), myeloperoxidase (MPO) as well as lowering oxidative stress, improved lesion count which lead to ameliorations in histopathological picture of stomach. In conclusion, the polysaccharide isolated from *Musa acuminata* showed the most potent therapeutic effect in the majority of the biomarkers under investigation.

**Key words:** *Punica granatum*, *Musa acuminata*, *Brassica oleracea*, polysaccharides, antiulcer, antipyretic

### 1. Introduction

Peptic ulcer is a medical condition encompassing ulcers in the digestive system in both stomach and/or duodenum. Stress and spicy food developed these types of ulcers. Some of its most common causes are *H. pylori* and some drug reactions especially non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs are considered as the major responsible factors [1].

Losing weight, dysappetite, bloating, pain and vomiting in addition to gastrointestinal bleeding are considered as the main diagnosis for peptic ulcers [2].

The mechanism of ethanol-causes stomach damage is differed, including the depletion mucus content in gastric tissue, perturbations in blood flow

of mucosal layer as well as disruption of mucosal cell. It has been reported that alcohol induced great gastrointestinal damage begins with injury of microvascular cells leads to increase cell membranes permeability and formation of edema. Al Rashdi et al. [3] stated that post-gastric ethanol administration leads to production of endothelin-1 in the systemic bloodstream. Moreover, a decrease in the secretion of bicarbonate ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ) levels and the production of mucus, ethanol causes necrotic lesions of the gastric mucosa and leads to activation of TNF $\alpha$  and mitogen-activated protein kinases (MAPKs) [4]. Furthermore, an initiation of apoptosis leading to cell death, and increment in lipid peroxidation [5]. The elevation in

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oxygenated free radicals causes significant alteration at the cellular level, leading to membrane damage and cell death [6].

Cytokines have a vital effect in the mucosal immune system regulation and hence they are crucial for mucosal defense. Various proinflammatory cytokines such as: IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-2, IL-6, IL-8 and TNF- $\alpha$  have dominant pathogenetic markers in peptic ulcer. Upon inflammation of the gastric mucosa, neutrophils and mononuclear cells infiltration occurs resulting in production of various proinflammatory cytokines [7]. IL-1 plays an important role in reduction of the gastroduodenal damage severity [8].

Nitric oxide (NO) proved to have an essential role in gastrointestinal mucosal defense and the mucosal injury pathogenesis. Also, NO may affect the tone of muscles as well as endocrine and exocrine secretions. On the other hand, it decreases the gastric secretion through prohibition of histamine release [9].

Prostaglandins (PGs) are considered as one of the fatty acid precursors originated from arachidonic acid through cyclooxygenase. Konturek et al. [10] reported that prostaglandins have their cytoprotective effects via enhancing both mucus and bicarbonate secretions leading to stabilizing the mucosal blood flow. Nevertheless, they cause augmentation of the epithelial cells resistance to damage resulted from cytotoxins. Moreover, (PGs) suppress the production of the leukocytes which proved their significance in protection of the inflamed mucosa. Prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) has a powerful inhibitor of histamine release and of tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  from mast cells of both intestinal and peritoneal mucosa which in turn suppress the production of reactive oxygen species by neutrophils [11].

Polysaccharides belong to a structurally various class of macro-molecules which exist in polymers form attached together by glycosidic bonds [12]. They have attracted important consideration in pharmacology and natural chemistry fields due to their significant bioactivities being effective as antioxidants [13], glucosidase inhibitors, anticoagulants [14; 15], prebiotics, anticancers, immunobiological agents [16], immuno-inflammatory and antiviral activities [17]. Most plant based polysaccharides are quite safe comparing to synthetic drugs [18]. In the field of pharmaceutical industries, polysaccharides are exceedingly used as thickener, water retention agent, suspending agent, binders and film former.

Pomegranate peels (*Punica granatum*) belongs to family Punicaceae. It is one of the oldest famous plants worldwide [19]. It is a nutritious food source rich in phytochemical compounds. The peel is wealthy of phenolics, flavonoids and other phytoconstituents [20] with antioxidant and antimicrobial capacities, and could be utilized as bio-preservative in food and nutraceutical industries [21]. Banana peels (*Musa*

*acuminata*) belongs to family Musaceae, phytochemical characterization of banana peel refers to the existence of reducing sugars and carbohydrates, therefore it has been utilized as binding, thickening and stabilizing agent [22]. Also, cauliflower (*Brassica oleracea*), family Brassicaceae, is one of the dominant food crops which contain several phytoconstituents which are essential to human health such as vitamins (C, B and K), soluble fibers and carbohydrates [23].

The current study targeted to isolate, and structurally elucidation of the water-soluble polysaccharide fractions from peels of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata*, and outer leaves of *B. oleracea* as analgesic, anti-inflammatory, antipyretic and antiulcer agents. The obtained results can be preliminary used for detailed studies of the structure-activity correlation and further applications of the polysaccharides.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

### 2.1. Plant material

Fresh peels of *P. granatum* and *M. acuminata*, outer leaves of *Brassica oleracea* were collected in September and October 2020, from local markets, Egypt. Specimen of the plants was identified by Prof. Dr. Gamal Farag. The collected plant wastes were dried in shades, separately powdered and kept in tightly-closed containers.

### 2.2. Chemicals

All solvents used in the study are of pure analytical grade and distilled water. The anti-inflammatory and analgesic slandered drug for ulcer induction in this study was indomethacin (EPICO, Egypt). For acute inflammation induction in rats, carrageenan (Sigma Co.) was used while, acetic acid was used for pain induction. Absolute ethanol (99%) was purchased from Multipharma, Egypt, indomethacin (IND) was purchased from Nile Co. for pharmaceuticals. Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA kit, Elabscience, USA) was used for measuring of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- $\alpha$ ) and IL-1 $\beta$ . All other chemicals were of analytical grade and bought from commercial sources.

### 2.3. Phytochemical study

#### 2.3.1. Extraction, isolation, and purification of polysaccharides (cold and hot extraction method)

The powdered plant peels of *P. granatum* and *M. acuminata*, in addition to outer leaves of *Brassica oleracea* (250g) were extracted with cold and boiling distilled water three times (2 L X 3) and filtered. The aqueous extract was evaporated at 45°C on a rotavapor under reduced pressure, and then acidified with

HCl to pH 3.5. The polysaccharides were obtained by precipitation with four volumes of absolute ethanol overnight. The precipitate was collected and washed with absolute ethanol, and acetone till free from chloride ions [24]. The polysaccharides were then vigorously stirred in absolute ethanol, filtered and dried in vacuum desiccators over anhydrous calcium chloride [25]. The attained polysaccharides gave negative result to both potassium hydroxide reaction and gel formation test which assures absence of pectin [26&27].

### 2.3.2. Analysis of chemical composition of the isolated polysaccharides

#### 2.3.2. 1. UV-Visible Spectroscopy

UV-Visible Spectrophotometer double beam UVD-3500 spectrophotometer, Labomed, Inc., Visible Spectrophotometer, Shimadzu UV 240 (PIN 204-58000) (Japan) was used to measure the UV absorption of the isolated polysaccharides under 190–400 nm [28].

#### 2.3.2. 2. Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy

Room temperature Fourier transform infrared, FTIR spectra of the samples in KBr pellets were measured using MB154S Bomem spectrometer, Quebec, Canada equipment, in the range 4000–500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  by averaging 20 scans at a maximum resolution of 4  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is used for the qualitative analysis of the functional groups in the isolated polysaccharides.

#### 2.3.2. 3. The $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectroscopy

$^1\text{H}$ NMR data were recorded on an FT-NMR spectrometer using DMSO as a solvent at 400 MHz (BRUKER, Germany).

#### 2.3.2.4. GLC Analysis

Derivatization of sugar Hydrolyzate was performed according to [29]. One  $\mu\text{l}$  was injected in GLC for analysis using column (ZB-170, 30mx 0.25x0.25 $\mu\text{m}$ , 14% cyanopropyl phenyl methyl). Helium was carrier gas at a flow rate 1.2ml/min under pressure 10.6psi with velocity and the following temperature program Initial temperature: 150°C and initial time: 2 min with rate: 7c/min. Final temperature: 200°C final time: 20 min using detector FID, 270°C with air flow 450mL/min and  $\text{H}_2$  flow 40mL/min.

## 2.4. Biological study

### 2.4.1. Animals

Male Wistar albino rats (140–150 g) were obtained from Animal House Lab, National Research Centre (NRC). They were acclimatized for one week before the starting of the experiment (adaptation period). Then, housed with a well-ventilation (20°C) for twelve hours cycle. The standard diet consisted of commercial rat chow (El-Nile Company). Animals were cared according to the Ethical Committee guide lines of NRC, Giza, Egypt for animal experiments (ethics number approval no: 16/193). Prior to the study, rats were fasted for 24 hours and to avoid variations due to diurnal rhythms of putative regulators of gastric functions, all experiments were performed at the same time of the day.

### 2.4.2. Acute toxicity

To determine the oral  $\text{LD}_{50}$ , the different extracts dissolved or suspended in water were administered to Waster rats (4 rats /group) as a single oral dose of 100- 500 mg /kg body weight via gavage. The control group was treated with water vehicle. The animals were observed during 24 h investigation for signs of morbidity or mortality [30].

### 2.4.3. Analgesic activity (Writhing test)

The analgesic activity was measured using acetic acid induced writhing method on Swiss male albino mice (20-25g). Adult male albino mice (30) were divided to five groups, each of six animals, as follows: First group; mice received 1 ml saline (control). The second, third, and fourth groups; mice had 100 mg/kg b.wt. of the isolated polysaccharides of peels of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata*, and outer leaves of *B. oleracea*, respectively. Fifth group; mice received 4 mg/kg b.wt. of indomethacin as a standard drug. After 30 min. acetic acid (0.6%) was intraperitoneally injected (0.2 ml/mice). Then, each mouse was kept separately in an individual clear plastic observed chamber and the total number of writhes/ 30 min. was counted [31].

The number of writhing and stretching was determined in comparing against the standard drug. The percentage of protection was calculated using the following ratio:

$$\% \text{ of protection} = \frac{\text{Control mean} - \text{treated mean}}{\text{Control mean}} \times 100$$

#### 2.4.4. Acute anti-inflammatory activity

Rat paw edema method is used for evaluation of acute anti-inflammatory activity [32]. Carrageenan is used as to cause paw edema irritation. Typically, the isolated polysaccharides are tested for acute anti-inflammatory by measuring their capacity for decreasing and/or preventing the carrageenan-induced paw swelling. Indomethacin alleviates the paw swelling in a dose-dependent manner. Adult male albino rats (42) were divided into seven groups, each of six, as follows: First group; animals received 1 ml saline (control). Second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth groups; rats received 100 mg/kg b.wt. of the isolated polysaccharides of peels of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata*, and outer leaves of *B. oleracea*, respectively. Seventh group received 20 mg/kg b.wt. of indomethacin. One hour later to oral administration, all groups were sub-plantary injected with 0.1 ml of 1% carrageenan solution in saline in the right hind paw and 0.1 ml saline in the left hind paw. After 4 hours of drug administration, the animals were sacrificed. Both hind paws were, separately, excised and weighed. The oedema percentage was calculated according to the following equation:

$$\% \text{ Oedema} = (\text{Wt. of right paw} - \text{Wt. of left paw}) \times 100 / \text{Wt. of left paw}$$

$$\% \text{ Oedema inhibition} = (\text{Mc} - \text{Mt}) \times 100 / \text{Mc}$$

Where: Mc= the mean edema in control group, Mt = the mean edema in the drug- treated group.

#### 2.4.5. Antipyretic activity[33]

Male albino rats (30) were divided into 5 groups each of 6. The normal rectal temperature was measured before beginning of the experiment. Yeast suspension (44%) was intramuscularly injected (1ml /100 g b.wt.) to induce pyrexia. After 18 hours, the rectal temperature was remeasured for all groups to act as the base line of elevated body temperature, to which the antipyretic activity will be attributed. A single oral dose of each tested polysaccharide, paracetamol or saline has been administrated.

#### 2.4.6. Antiulcer activity

##### 2.4.6. 1. Biochemical analysis

ELISA methods were applied for determination of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-6, IL-8 and MPO. Optical densities were measured at 450 nm. The samples concentration was calculated from the standard curve, multiplied by the dilution factor and was expressed as mean standard deviation. Certain enzyme markers;

succinate dehydrogenase (SDH) (mitochondria marker) [34], lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) (cytoplasm marker) [35] and acid phosphatase (AP) (lysosome marker) [36] have been in the gastric tissue. All groups were subjected for stomach oxidative stress markers; glutathione (GSH) [37], malondialdehyde (MDA) [38] and glutathione peroxidase (GPX) assays[39]. Gastric total protein was determined as well[38].

##### 2.4.6. 2. Experimental design

Fifty four male Wister rats were divided into nine groups of six each as follows: Groups 1 Control male rats were daily orally administered 1 ml of 0.9% normal saline solution. Groups 2-4: rats were administered 200 mg /kg b.wt. of different extracts. Group 5: Gastric ulcer was induced in rats (ulcerogenic group) with 1 mL of absolute ethanol orally [40]. One hour after administration of ethanol animals were intraperitoneally anesthetized with ketamine (50 mg/kg) and xylazine (10 mg/kg). The Dissection of stomachs were performed, then they were opened along greater curvature for evaluation of the number of gastric lesions [41]. A piece of the stomach was dissected and homogenized in cold potassium phosphate buffer (0.05 M, pH 7.4). The homogenate was centrifuged at 5000 rpm for 10 min. The supernatant was stored at -80 °C until measurement of antioxidant, oxidative stress and inflammatory markers. Group 6-8, ulcerated rats were treated with 200 mg /kg b.wt. of different polysaccharides for consecutive 14 days . Group 9 ulcerated rats were treated with Ranitidine (50 mg/kg) as a standard drug for 14 days .At the end of 14 days rats were anesthetized and the stomach was dissected.

##### 2.4.6.3. Analysis of gastric juice

The gastric contents were collected, measured and centrifuged at 5000 rpm to remove solid debris. The supernatant of the gastric juice (1 ml) was diluted in 10 ml of distilled water. Two drops of phenolphthalein were added and titrated with 0.1M sodium hydroxide until a permanent pink color appeared. The alkali amount was recorded and the acidity was calculated using the formula below [42].  
Acidity = volum of NaOH x normality of NaOH X 100 /0.1 mEq/l

##### 2.4.6.4. Evaluation of gastric mucosal lesion

The collected stomachs were washed with normal saline and examined using microscope for

measuring perforation and ulcer lesions number. The lesions were expressed in the terms of ulcer index (U.I) [43; 44].

## 2.5. Histopathological Examination

Histopathological stomach variation were recorded and scored as following, no changes (0), mild (1), moderate (2) and severe (3) changes, the grading was determined by percentage as follows: <30% changes (mild change), <30% – 50% (moderate change), and >50% (severe change) [45]. The U.I for each group was calculated by finding the mean score for all rats in the group. Therapeutic index (T.I) was calculated using this equation [46].

$T.I = \frac{UI \text{ of ethanol group} - UI \text{ of treatment group}}{UI \text{ of ethanol group}} \times 100$ .

On the other hand, stomach tissues were fixed in 10% buffered formalin solution and were embedded in paraffin. Sections were deparaffinized and stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) for further histopathological assessment [47].

## 2.6. Statistical analysis

one way analysis of variance, ANOVA (SPSS) was performed using computer program combined with co state computer program, whereas different letters are significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ . The quantitative data were expressed as mean $\pm$ SD. All statistical comparisons were carried out using one-way ANOVA (analysis of variance) test followed by Tukey's test. P-values of 0.05 were considered to be statistically significant.

## 3. Results

### 3.1. Monosaccharide analysis and characterization of polysaccharides

The isolated polysaccharides were pale grey in color, odorless, soluble in water and not soluble in ethanol, ether and chloroform. The yields of the total polysaccharides of the studied plant wastes (peels of *P. granatum* and *M. acuminata*, in addition to outer leaves of *B. oleracea*) by the cold and hot methods are listed in table (1).

#### 3.1.1. UV-visible spectra analysis

The UV-visible spectra analysis illustrated the presence of six polysaccharides having an absorption peak at 190 nm, which is attributed to the

polysaccharides. on the other hand, no absorption bands were observed at 260 and 280 nm signifying that the polysaccharides not contain nucleic acids, proteins, or polypeptides.

**Table (1): polysaccharide yields of the studied plant wastes**

Powdered plants	% of the polysaccharide	
	Cold method	Hot method
<i>P. granatum</i> peels	7.13	2.50
<i>M. acuminata</i> peels	8.70	4.60
<i>B. oleracea</i> outer leaves	8.40	3.76

#### 3.1.2. FT-IR analysis

FT-IR data for the cold and hot polysaccharide hydrolyzates of the studied plants are illustrated in Figs. (1-3). The spectra obtained between 400-4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  can be used to analyze the structural features of polysaccharides, including glycosidic bonds and functional groups Kóňa and Tvaroška, 2009 [48] discussed the absorptions of polysaccharides' functional groups from many previous studies. The spectra of the isolated polysaccharides indicate the possible functional groups. The absorption peaks range [I] (3400 - 3500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) are characteristic for -OH stretching in the sugar residues. Peaks at [II] (2863-2940  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) are attributed to C-H. Moreover, the absorbance at (1650-1750  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) are associated with the carboxyl group (C=O stretch), the bands developed at [III] (1640-1655  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) were due to the bending vibrations of HOH, absorption peaks: (1315-1420  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) could be represented to carboxylic acid (C-O stretch) and [IV] (1100-1250  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) for double bond conjugation. Peaks at (1025-1100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) represented the bending vibration of hydroxyl groups; [V] (710-790  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) may be associated with the glycosidic linkage.

Comparative investigation of the isolated polysaccharides of both *P. granatum*, and *M. acuminata* peels beside the outer leaves of *B. oleracea* were performed using GLC analysis. Results are illustrated in Tables (2& 3).

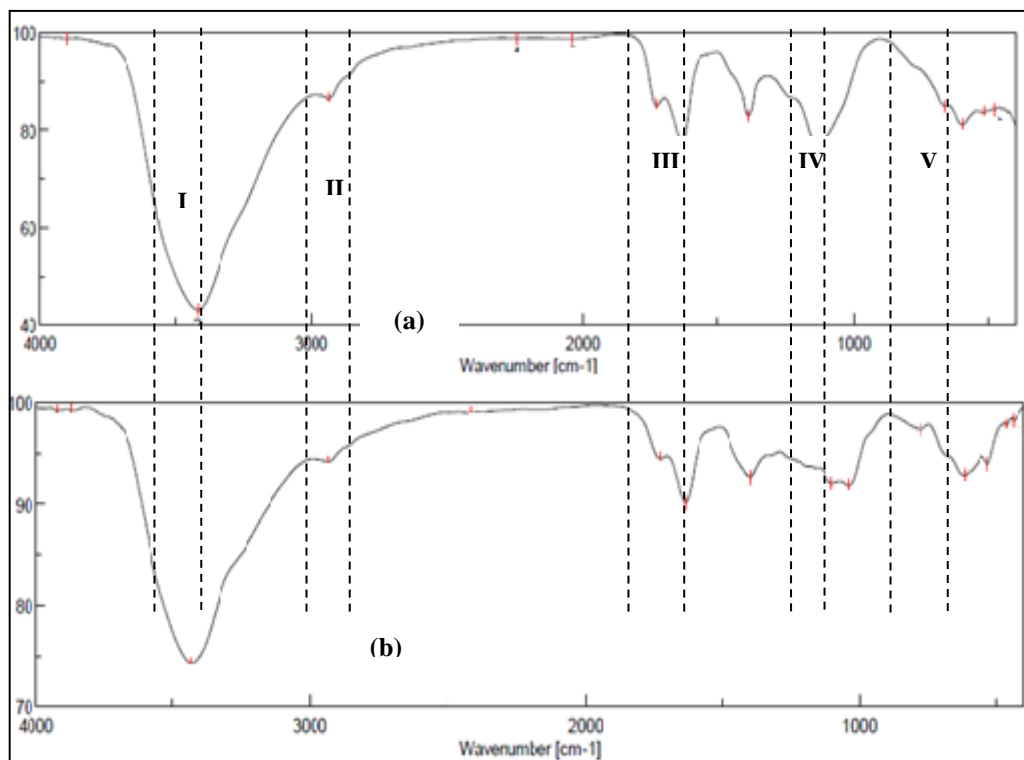


Fig.1: FT-IR spectra of cold (a) and hot (b) Polysaccharide hydrolyzates of *P. granatum*

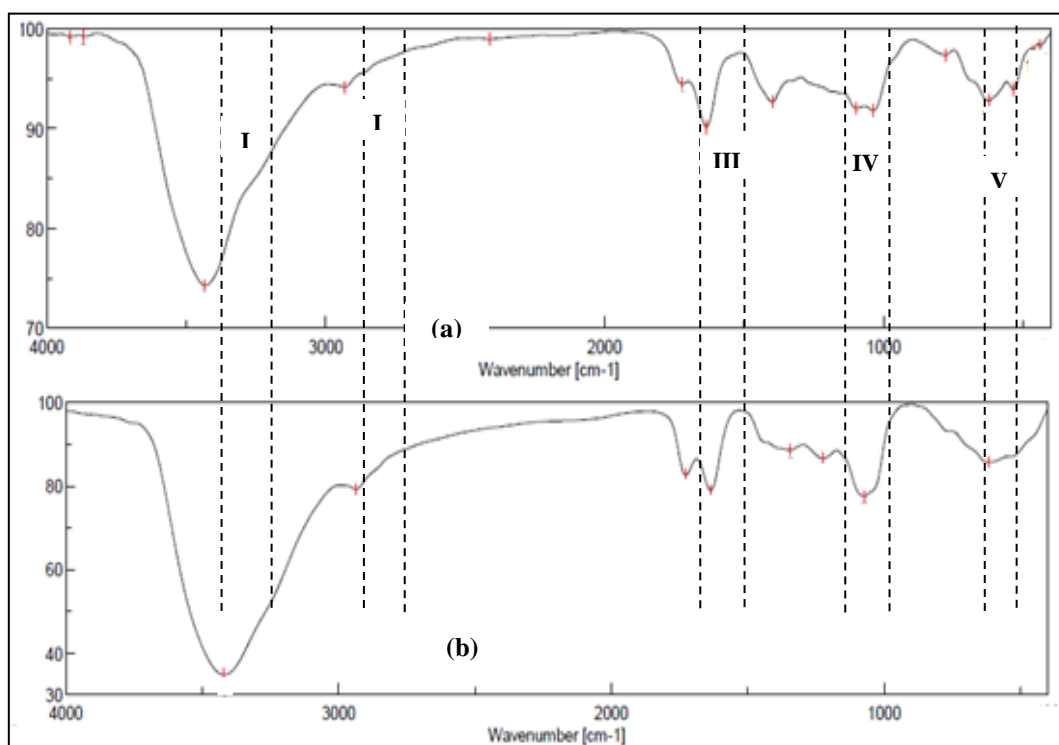


Fig.2: FT-IR spectra of cold (a) and hot (b) Polysaccharide hydrolyzates *M. acuminata*

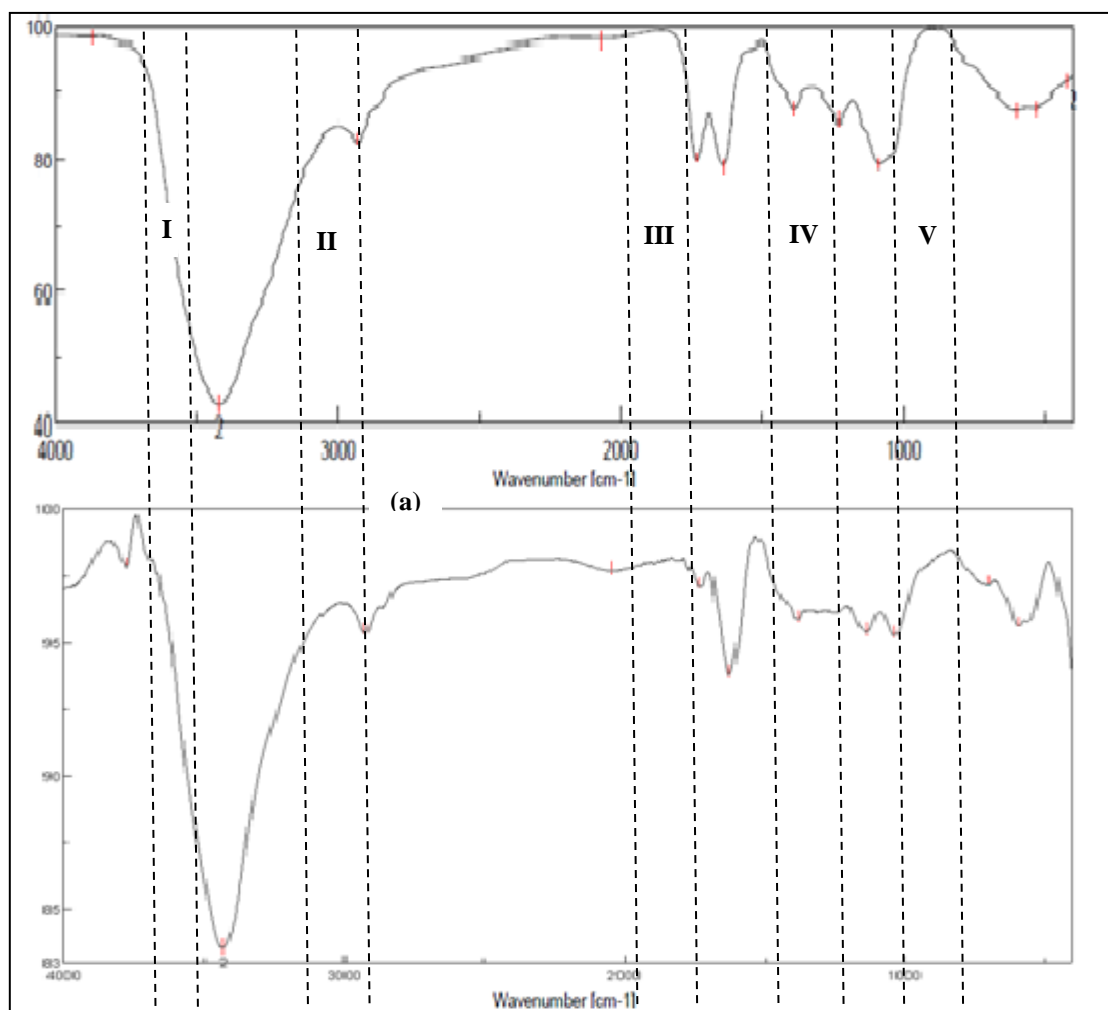


Fig. 3: FT-IR spectra of (a) and (b) Polysaccharide hydrolyzates *B. oleracea*

### 3.1.3. <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectral analysis

<sup>1</sup>HNMR results showed a set of wide signals between  $\delta$  3.40 and 4.95 ppm was characteristic of typical polysaccharide signals [49]. Upon literature, the signal peaks in the range of 3.40 and 4.55 ppm were recognized to be CH<sub>2</sub>-O and CH-O groups of the sugar rings [50]. Moreover, the signals between 4.55 and 5.57 suggested that the three polysaccharide samples contained  $\alpha$ -configuration of saccharide residues [51] which is in accordance with the results of the FT-IR spectra.

### 3.2. GLC Analysis

Tables (2 & 3) showed that the cold polysaccharide hydrolyzate of *P. granatum* contains six sugars representing (76.81%) of the total sugar content in which arabinose was the major identified

sugar (22.59%). While, the polysaccharide hydrolyzate of *M. acuminata* powder contains eight sugars representing (71.89%) of which glucose was the major sugar (45.29%) of the total sugar content. Finally, *B. oleracea* total sugar content yielded 57.43% (six sugars) of which glucose was the major sugar (29.25%). Concerning the sugars identified from the hot polysaccharide hydrolyzate of investigated plants; *P. granatum* contains eight sugars representing (71.30%) of the total sugar content in which glucose was the major identified sugar (40.18%). While, the polysaccharide hydrolyzate of *M. acuminata* contains six sugars representing (64.96%) of which glucose was the major sugar (30.72%) of the total sugar content. Finally, *B. oleracea* total sugar content yielded 76.34% (six sugars) of which mixture of Mannose + galactose was the major sugar (26.43%).

Table (2): Carbohydrates identified by GLC analysis of the cold polysaccharide hydrolyzates of the studied plants

Authentic sugars	R <sub>t</sub> (min.)	Relative percentage (%) of total cold polysaccharide hydrolyzate		
		<i>P. granatum</i>	<i>M. acuminata</i>	<i>B. oleracea</i>
Arabinose	5.59	22.59	02.80	----
Xylose	6.032	03.14	0.72	1.74
Ribose	6.190	00.59	0.218	0.52
Rhamnose	7.436	09.12	01.12	4.50
Mannitol	10.10	---	16.30	7.28
Fructose	11.45	----	01.50	----
Mannose +galactose	13.66	22.18	03.94	14.14
Glucose	14.31	19.19	45.29	29.25
<b>Total identified sugars</b>		<b>76.81%</b>	<b>71.89%</b>	<b>57.43%</b>

R<sub>t</sub>: Retention time

Table (3): Carbohydrates identified by GLC analysis of the hot polysaccharide hydrolyzates of the studied plants

Authentic sugars	R <sub>t</sub> (min.)	Relative percentage (%) of total cold polysaccharide hydrolyzate		
		<i>P. granatum</i>	<i>M. acuminata</i>	<i>B. oleracea</i>
Arabinose	5.98	05.10	6.90	21.93
Xylose	6.20	01.20	2.54	2.54
Ribose	6.68	0.235	0.90	0.28
Rhamnose	7.42	2.51	4.19	11.34
Mannitol	9.94	11.73	---	----
Sorbitol	10.41	1.049	----	----
Fructose	11.45	----	----	----
Mannose + galactose	13.65	09.31	19.71	26.43
Glucose	14.54	40.18	30.72	13.82
<b>Total identified sugars</b>		<b>71.30%</b>	<b>64.96%</b>	<b>76.34%</b>

#### 4. Bioactivities of the isolated polysaccharides

A significant analgesic, anti-inflammatory, antipyretic and antiulcer activities were exhibited by all isolated polysaccharides as indicated by number of abdominal constrictions, inhibition of rat paw edema weight caused by carrageenan and body temperature change. The highest analgesic and anti-inflammatory activities exhibited by polysaccharides of *B. oleracea* outer leaves (62.98 and 81.69 %), followed by that of *P. granatum* peels (53.31 and 78.17%), and that of *M. acuminata* peels (50.50 and 76.05%), while the antipyretic activity was showed nearly the same results for polysaccharides of *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* peels (6.59 and 6.35%), then that of *P. granatum* peels

(5.30%). On the other hand, the severity of the lesions observed in the antiulcer study decreased in the order of polysaccharides of *B. oleracea*, and *P. granatum* peels recording the same percentage 96.74%, then *M. acuminata* peels 95.12% (Tables 4, 5, 6 and 7).

Table (4): Analgesic effect of the isolated polysaccharides of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata*, and *B. oleracea* on number of abdominal constrictions and acetic acid in mice (n=6)

Group	Dose mg/kg b.wt.	Number of abd. Constriction	% inhibition
Control	1 ml saline	49.7 ± 1.1	----
<i>P. granatum</i> peels	100	23.2 ± 0.4*	53.31
<i>M. acuminata</i> peels	100	24.6 ± 0.3*	50.50
<i>B. oleracea</i> outer leaves	100	18.4 ± 0.1*	62.98
Indomethacin	20	16.2 ± 0.2*	67.40

\* Statistically significant from control group at P < 0.01

#### 4.1. Acute toxicity study

Acute toxicity study revealed the polysaccharides of different plants are safe up to 500 mg/kg.body weight and no signs of toxicity or abnormality in food behavior for 48 h.

#### 4.2. Anti-ulcer activity

Reduction in score lesion was noticed in all treated groups compared to ulcerogenic rats. *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* polysaccharides showed lower score lesion than standard drug (Table 7).



Table (5): Anti-inflammatory activity of the isolated polysaccharides of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata*, and *B. oleracea* and indomethacin drug in male albino rats (n=6)

	Zero	1 h		2 h		3 h		4 h		% of inhibition after 4h
	Paw diameter (mm)	Paw diameter (mm)	Oedema thickness (mm)	Paw diameter (mm)	Oed. Thickness (mm)	Paw diameter (mm)	Oed. thickness (mm)	Paw diameter (mm)	Oed. thickness (mm)	
<b>Control</b>	3.49 ±0.04	4.51 ±0.06*	1.02	4.62 ±0.03*	1.13	4.72±0.04*	1.23	4.91±1.42*	1.42	----
<i>P. granatum</i> peels	3.48 ±0.02	4.24 ±0.04*	0.76	4.06 ±0.04*	0.58	3.92±0.04*	0.44	3.82±0.02*	0.34	76.05
<i>M. acuminata</i> peels	3.51 ±0.01	4.22 ±0.05*	0.71	4.02 ±0.06*	0.51	3.97±0.03*	0.46	3.82±0.03*	0.31	78.17
<i>B. oleracea</i> outer leaves	3.46 ±0.03	4.09 ±0.03*	0.63	3.91 ±0.5*	0.45	3.84±0.02*	0.38	3.72±0.01*	0.26	81.69
<b>Indomethacin</b>	3.52±0.08	4.06±0.02*	0.54	3.88 ±0.06*	0.36	3.82 ±0.01*	0.30	3.73±0.01*	0.21	85.21

\* Significantly different from zero time at  $p < 0.05$ .

Table (6): Antipyretic effect of the isolated polysaccharides of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata*, and *B. oleracea* and paracetamol drug in male albino rats (n=6)

Group	Dose in mg/kg b.wt.	Body temperature change				
		Induced rise in temperature	One hour		Two hours	
			Mean ± S.E.	% of change	Mean ± S.E.	% of change
<b>Control</b>	1 ml saline	38.9 ± 0.03	39.2 ± 0.04*	---	39.4 ± 0.04*	----
<i>P. granatum</i> peels	100	39.4 ± 0.04	38.1 ± 0.03*	2.80	37.3 ± 0.02*	5.30
<i>M. acuminata</i> peels	100	39.5 ± 0.03	37.9 ± 0.01*	3.31	36.8 ± 0.03*	6.59
<i>B. oleracea</i> outer leaves	100	39.3 ± 0.04	37.8 ± 0.04*	3.57	36.9 ± 0.03*	6.35
<b>Paracetamol</b>	20	39.6 ± 0.05	37.4 ± 0.02*	4.59	36.5 ± 0.02*	7.36

\*  $P < 0.01$  corresponding induced rise in temperature of the tested group

Table (7): Scoring of histopathological alterations in stomach of ulcerogenic and all treated groups by *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* polysaccharides

Lesions	G1-G5	Ulcerative rats	Ulcerogenic rats + <i>P. granatum</i>	Ulcerogenic rats + <i>M. acuminata</i>	Ulcerogenic rats + <i>B. oleracea</i>	Ulcerogenic rats + Standard drug
Edema in submucosa	0	3	1	1	1	2
Mononuclear inflammatory cells infiltration in submucosa.	0	2	1	1	1	2
Congestion of submucosal blood vessels	0	2	1	1	1	1
Necrosis of mucosa	0	3	0	0	0	0
Mononuclear inflammatory cells infiltration in mucosa	0	3	1	0	0	2
Mucosal hemorrhage	0	2	0	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of goblet cells	0	3	1	1	1	2

The score system was designed as: score 0 = absence of the lesion in all rats of the group (n= 6), score 1= (<30%), score 2= (<30% – 50%), score 3= (>50%).

### 4.3. Acidity of gastric juice

Table 8 revealed significantly reduction in acidity post treatment of ulcerated rats with different extracts compared to untreated ulcerated group. *M. acuminata* polysaccharides showed the most promising treated group, where it showed insignificant difference compared to control and standard drug group, followed by *P. granatum* and finally *B. oleracea*. Referring to ulcer lesion count, significant reduction in ulcer lesion was noticed post treatment of ulcerogenic rats with different extracts compared to untreated ulcerated rats accompanied with reduction in the grade of lesion score. *M. acuminata* showed the highest reduction followed by *M. acuminata* and then *B. oleracea* compared to standard drug.

Table (9) revealed significant highest U.I. for ulcerated rats compared to control group. Treated rats with different polysaccharides of wastes showed significantly lowered U.I, where *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* showed the significant lowest U.I, then *P. granatum*. Also, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* showed the same higher T.I (78.33%), followed by *P. granatum* which recorded T.I 72.00%

Table 8: Effect of different *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea*, on average acidity of gastric juice and ulcer lesion counts of ulcerogenic rats

Groups	Acidity mEq/l	Ulcer lesion counts
Control	9.12±0.23a	-
<i>P. granatum</i>	9.00±0.11a	-
<i>M. acuminata</i>	10.00±0.11a	-
<i>B. oleracea</i>	9.62±0.41a	-
Ethanol group (ulcerated)	55.00 ±4.13b	7.65a ± 0.87a
Treatment <i>P. granatum</i>	17.12±2.13c	3.23± 0.65b
Treatment <i>M. acuminata</i>	12.10±1.00a	1.55± 0.11 c
Treatment <i>B. oleracea</i>	19.00±1.45c	2.32± 0.23 d
Treatment standard drug	11.56±1.00a	1.54± 0.31 c

Data represent the mean ± S.D of observation from 6 rats. Statistical analysis is carried out using SPSS (one way analysis of variance, ANOVA), computer program combined with co state computer program, where different letter are significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ .

Table 9: Effect of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* polysaccharides on U.I and T.I in ethanol induced peptic ulcer in rats.

Groups	U.I	T.I %
Control	0.00 ±0.00 <sup>a</sup>	--
<i>P. granatum</i>	0.00±0.00 <sup>a</sup>	-
<i>M. acuminata</i>	0.00±0.00 <sup>a</sup>	-
<i>B. oleracea</i>	0.00±0.00 <sup>a</sup>	-
Ethanol group (ulcerated) group	3.00 ±0.21 <sup>b</sup>	-
Treatment <i>P. granatum</i>	0.82±0.03 <sup>c</sup>	72.00
Treatment <i>M. acuminata</i>	0.65±0.06 <sup>d</sup>	78.33
Treatment <i>B. oleracea</i>	0.65±0.05 <sup>e</sup>	78.33
Treatment standard drug	1.50±0.20 <sup>d</sup>	50

Data represent the mean ± S.D of observation from 6 rats. Different letters are significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ .

With respect to inflammatory markers (Table 10), TNF- $\alpha$  increased only in the ulcerated group significantly upon comparing to the control group ( $P < 0.05$ ) while the rats treated with different extracts recorded lesser amount of TNF- $\alpha$  comparing to the ulcerated group (Table 4). another inflammatory marker, IL-6 levels in the ulcer groups were higher than that in the control group. While, treated groups with different extracts showed significant lower level. Another inflammatory marker IL-8 level in the gastric tissue significantly elevated in the ulcerated group as compared to control group but the treated rats with different polysaccharides preserved the IL-8 amount in the levels of control tissues (Table 10). In all the detected inflammatory markers, *M. acuminata* polysaccharides showed the most potent effects. Myeloperoxidase enzyme (MPO) activity, that recognized as a significant indicator for the oxidative stress, was extensively increased in the gastric tissues of ulcer group untreated and treated with extracts in comparison to the control group ( $P < 0.05$ ). The elevation value in the untreated ulcer group was four times greater than that recognized in the treated ulcer group.

measuring the LPO enzyme level in the gastric tissue. Consequently, the ulcerogenic rats showed a considerable increase by comparing with the control group ( $P < 0.05$ ). Polysaccharides treatment ameliorated ulcer-induced elevation in gastric LPO levels (Table 11). Ulcerogenesis produced remarkable decrease in gastric GSH levels by comparing with the

control group ( $P < 0.05$ ) while the ulcer group administered with different polysaccharides had dramatically ameliorated levels of GSH ( $P < 0.05$ ), approximately twice –three times higher than the ulcerated group (Table 11). Nevertheless, the amount of an antioxidant enzyme GPx was remarkably reduced in the ulcer group compared to the control group ( $P < 0.05$ ). In addition, GPx amount in ulcer-induced rats treated with different polysaccharides was twice to three times higher than the amount of ulcerated rats (Table 11). From all manipulated biomarkers *M. acuminata* polysaccharides showed the most potent results.

Concerning to the mucosal enzymes, insignificant changes were observed in SDH, LDH and AP after administration of normal rats with polysaccharides extracts. Ulcerogenic rats showed significant decrease in LDH and SDH by 64.27 and

57.98 %, respectively, while a significant increase in AP levels by 329.60 % was observed as compared to control group. Treatment with different polysaccharides or standard drug showed significant increase in LDH level and improved by 21.46, 30.47 and 26.82%, respectively for *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* compared with reference drug (36.05%). An increase in SDH was noticed in therapeutic -ulcerogenic rats with amelioration percentage reached to 9.96, 18.13 and 12.73%, respectively for *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* compared to standard drug (25.93%) Contradictory, the reduction in AP level was observed for different treated groups with improving values amounted 160.98, 171.64 and 122.93%, respectively for *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* compared to standard drug (224.89%) (Table 12).

**Table (10) : Effect of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* polysaccharides on inflammatory markers in ulcerated rats**

Groups/ Markers	Inflammatory markers			oxidative stress
	TNF-a (pg/ml)	IL-6(pg/ml)	IL-8(pg/ml)	MPO(ng/ml)
<b>Control</b>	109.80 ± 7.30 <sup>a</sup>	129.2 ± 6.82 <sup>a</sup>	4.10 ± 0.25 <sup>a</sup>	5.80 ± 0.40 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Normal + <i>P. granatum</i></b>	102.00 ± 9.20 <sup>a</sup>	119.00 ± 10.00 <sup>a</sup>	4.90 ± 0.98 <sup>a</sup>	5.00 ± 0.20 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Normal + <i>M. acuminata</i></b>	100.48 ± 6.19 <sup>a</sup>	120.00 ± 7.30 <sup>a</sup>	5.18 ± 0.87 <sup>a</sup>	4.70 ± 0.60 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Normal + <i>B. oleracea</i></b>	100.00 ± 6.99 <sup>a</sup>	133.00 ± 8.90 <sup>a</sup>	4.09 ± 0.45 <sup>a</sup>	5.00 ± 0.88 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Ulceration</b>	1200.00 ± 90.40 <sup>b</sup>	219.00 ± 10.00 <sup>b</sup>	80.00 ± 6.25 <sup>b</sup>	47.89 ± 3.60 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Ulcerated ++ <i>P. granatum</i></b>	210.00 ± 10.11 <sup>c</sup>	156.00 ± 8.87 <sup>c</sup>	7.00 ± 0.50 <sup>a</sup>	12.80 ± 1.50 <sup>c</sup>
<b>Ulcerated + <i>M. acuminata</i></b>	187.00 ± 8.90 <sup>d</sup>	145.00 ± 9.90 <sup>c</sup>	6.00 ± 0.55 <sup>a</sup>	11.00 ± 1.00 <sup>c</sup>
<b>Ulcerated + <i>B. oleracea</i></b>	265.00 ± 9.00 <sup>c</sup>	155.00 ± 7.94 <sup>c</sup>	12.00 ± 1.05 <sup>c</sup>	12.00 ± 1.00 <sup>c</sup>
<b>Ulcerated + standard drug</b>	108.00 ± 9.00 <sup>a</sup>	150.00 ± 10.11 <sup>c</sup>	6.10 ± 0.20 <sup>a</sup>	8.00 ± 0.95 <sup>a</sup>

Data represent the mean ± S.D of observation from 6 rats. Different letters are significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ . TNF-a: Tumor necrosis factor a, IL-6: Interleukin 6, IL-8: Interleukin 8, MPO: Myeloperoxidase,

**Table (11) : Effect of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* polysaccharides on oxidative stress and antioxidant biomarkers in ulcerogenic rats**

Groups / Markers	MDA (umole/mg protein)	GSH ((umole/mg protein)	GPX (umole/ug protein)
<b>Control</b>	4.89 ± 0.40 <sup>a</sup>	20.50 ± 1.12 <sup>a</sup>	11.10 ± 1.05 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Normal + <i>P. granatum</i></b>	4.00 ± 0.20 <sup>a</sup>	22.00 ± 1.00 <sup>a</sup>	14.00 ± 1.18 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Normal + <i>M. acuminata</i></b>	4.40 ± 0.60 <sup>a</sup>	23.00 ± 1.30 <sup>a</sup>	15.00 ± 1.11 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Normal + <i>B. oleracea</i></b>	4.30 ± 0.99 <sup>a</sup>	20.00 ± 1.90 <sup>a</sup>	14.10 ± 1.40 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Ulceration</b>	16.00 ± 1.40 <sup>b</sup>	4.00 ± 0.20 <sup>b</sup>	3.00 ± 0.20 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Ulcerated + <i>P. granatum</i></b>	10.00 ± 0.91 <sup>c</sup>	11.00 ± 1.07 <sup>c</sup>	7.00 ± 0.10 <sup>c</sup>
<b>Ulcerated ++ <i>M. acuminata</i></b>	8.00 ± 0.90 <sup>d</sup>	14.00 ± 1.00 <sup>c</sup>	9.00 ± 0.95 <sup>d</sup>
<b>Ulcerated + <i>B. oleracea</i></b>	10.00 ± 0.20 <sup>c</sup>	9.00 ± 1.04 <sup>d</sup>	7.00 ± 0.15 <sup>c</sup>
<b>Ulcerated + standard drug</b>	8.00 ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	15.00 ± 1.10 <sup>c</sup>	9.10 ± 0.50 <sup>d</sup>

Data represent the mean ± S.D of observation from 6 rats. Different letters are significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ .

Table 12: Effect of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata* and *B. oleracea* polysaccharides on some mucosal of cell organelles marker enzymes of ulcerogenic rats

Groups Parameters	Control	Controls -Treated			Ulcerative rats	ulcerative-Treated rats			
		<i>P.</i> <i>granatum</i>	<i>M.</i> <i>acuminata</i>	<i>B. oleracea</i>		<i>P.</i> <i>granatum</i>	<i>M.</i> <i>acuminata</i>	<i>B. oleracea</i>	Standard drug
LDH Mean± SD % <sup>a</sup> % <sup>b</sup>	9.32±0. 45 <sup>a</sup>	8.50±2 .42 <sup>b</sup>	8.55±0.8 7 <sup>b</sup>	8.56±0.87 <sup>b</sup>	3.33±0.88 <sup>e</sup>	5.33±1.75 <sup>d</sup>	6.17±1.47 <sub>c</sub>	5.83±1.47 <sup>d</sup>	6.69±0.43 <sub>c</sub>
SDH Mean± SD % <sup>a</sup> % <sup>b</sup>	8.33±0. 32 <sup>a</sup>	7.51±0 .30 <sup>b</sup>	7.33±1.8 8 <sup>b</sup>	7.42±1.69 <sup>b</sup>	3.50±0.33 <sup>e</sup>	4.33±0.7 <sup>d</sup>	5.01±0.53 <sub>c</sub>	4.56±1.90 <sup>d</sup>	5.66±0.98 <sub>c</sub>
AP Mean± SD % <sup>a</sup> % <sup>b</sup>	11.25± 0.41 <sup>d</sup>	11.89± 1.34 <sup>d</sup>	11.67±1. 16 <sup>d</sup>	11.98± 0.83 <sup>d</sup>	48.33± 1.16 <sup>a</sup>	30.22± 1.22 <sup>b</sup>	29.02± 1.75 <sup>c</sup>	34.50± 1.87 <sup>b</sup>	23.03± 1.72 <sup>c</sup>
	-	-	-	-	-	160.98	171.64	122.93	224.89

a: % change as compared to normal control rats, % b: % of improvement. Data are means ± SD of ten rats in each group. Data are expressed as Unit/mg protein. Statistical analysis is carried out using SPSS computer program (version,8) coupled with Co-Stat computer program, where unshared letters between groups are the significance value at  $P \leq 0.05$ .

#### 4.4. Stomach histopathological picture

In this study, severe lesions, edema and infiltration of mononuclear inflammatory cells in the sub mucosa, diffuse necrosis in the mucosa (yellow arrow), and edema and infiltration of mononuclear inflammatory cells in the submucosa with obstruction of the submucosal blood vessels (yellow and black arrows) were observed (H and EX100). The *P. granatum* treatment group showed a normal mucosal layer with mild mucosal blood vessel obstruction (arrow) and mild submucosal edema. While treatment of ulcerogenic rats with *M. acuminata* showed normal histological structure of the mucosal layer with slight edema in the submucosa. Furthermore, treatment of ulcerogenic rats with *B. oleracea* revealed normal histological structure of the mucosal layer with mild edema and little mononuclear infiltration in the submucosa. In addition, the standard drug showed a normal mucosal layer with edema in the submucosa (yellow arrow) and a slight congestion of the submucosal blood vessels (Figures 1 and 2).

#### 5. Discussion

In the current study, the isolated polysaccharides promising anti-inflammatory activity of the rat paw oedema weight induced by carrageenan. This effect due to reduction of TNF- $\alpha$  and IL1- $\beta$  secretion induced by a pro-inflammatory agent (LPS) as mentioned by [52]. No previous studies has directly

handled the analgesic and antipyretic effects of the isolated polysaccharides from plant origin so far.

Ethanol is normally used to induce stomach lesions in rodents [53]. It is characterized by state of inflammatory cascade, free radicals generation and cell death [53 & 54]. Lesion counts and acidity level are considered two indicative factors in gastric ulcer post toxins exposure [55]. The acidity and the gastric juice levels are principally dependent on the value of pH, therefore the decrease in the concentration of hydrogen ion in gastric secretion resulting in gastric injury [56]. These results are in accordance with our results showed significant reduction in PH of gastric tissue and increment in lesion counts which may be attributed to the equilibrium between the formation of free radicals and scavenging ability [53]. Recently, numerous researches are targeted to discover novel safe and powerful antiulcer drugs or dietary supplements of herbal sources [53 & 57]. The therapeutic effects of different polysaccharides under investigation succeeded to improve the PH level and lower lesions counts in stomach tissue of ulcerative rats. [53 & 58] illustrated that, the materials which relieve acidity have the efficacy to treat the gastric lesions and protect the stomach mucosa layer from injury. With respect to the inflammatory mediators, the present results are run in parallel with the study of [59 & 60] who revealed that ethanol ingestion up-regulated the inflammatory response as documented by a suppress in the IL-10 anti-

inflammatory marker. Moreover, ulcer is surrounded by inflammatory regions which induce the migration of macrophages and polymorphonuclear cells, resulting in enhance production of pro-inflammatory cytokines from these cells. From these mediators, TNF- $\alpha$  and IL-6 and -8 are known to elevate particularly in ulcer patients with *H. pylori* [61].

The present results on oxidative stress, inflammatory mediators and mucosal enzymes clearly indicated severe disturbance and damage which are in accordance with the findings of [53, 57 & 58] who observed that ethanol enhances gastric juice that leads to increment in oxidative stress associated with reduction in the concentration of GSH, inhibition in GPX activity, damage in mucosal layer pathological conditions and cellular dysfunctions (Figs 1 and 2).

Regarding the mucosal enzymes, SDH is a mitochondria marker enzyme, ethanol induced a decrease in the mitochondrial membrane potential of stomach that might be due to the cumulative products of lipid peroxidation and protein oxidation, allowing the release of its enzymes into the cytosol [62]. These observation ascertained the inhibition activity of SDH enzyme in ulcerogenic gastric tissue [53]. A positive correlation between ethanol administration and destruction of mucosal cell membranes was observed [62], resulting in enzyme leakage. This additionally supported the reduction of the enzyme LDH due to its release from the cytoplasmic membrane. Additionally, [58] found that ethanol ingestion caused severe gastropathy, gastroduodenal ulceration, and damage to lysosomal membranes and leakage of their enzymes. This was consistent with the observed release of AP enzyme. Previously, Amirov and Trubitsyna (1982) [63] observed the increase in AP accompanied with an increase in proteolytic activity, leading to the release of lysosomal proteases by disrupting the lysosomal membranes.

Regarding to the histopathological examinations and parallel to Park et al. (2008) [64], ethanol causes damage in mucosal layer of stomach, rupture of mucosal cell membranes and gastric micro vessels injuries which in turn cause bleeding and necrosis, submucosal edema and epithelial cell damage [59]. In a good agreement with our results, Beserra et al. (2016) [65], declared that the antiulcer efficacy by suppressing the formation of gastric lesion. The possible mechanisms involved in the gastroprotective effect of polysaccharides can be explained by their ability to bind to the gastric surface. Mucosa, thus

acting as a protective layer, antisecretory activity against gastric juice, as well as increased mucus synthesis to improve and protect the mucosal layer

## Conclusions

The isolated polysaccharides from wastes of *P. granatum*, *M. acuminata*, and *B. oleracea* exhibited significant effects as analgesic, anti-inflammatory, antipyretic and antiulcer activities through suppress inflammatory mediators, improve antioxidant status and raises acidity as well as alleviates lesions and ameliorate histopathological pictures of mucosal layer of stomach. Thus, they could be utilized as dietary supplement in different dosage forms due to their broad margin of safety. This requires the development of phytopharmaceuticals containing the standardized bioactive ingredients after applying clinical studies.

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## Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts to declare.

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