An in vitro evaluation of extracts from some medicinal plants in Kenya against herpes simplex virus

Kofi-Tsekpo, MW; Rukunga, GM; Kurokawa, M; Kageyama, S; Mungai, GM; Muli, JM; Tolo,

FM; Kibaya, RM; Muthaura, CN; Kanyara, JN; Tukei, PM; Shiraki, K.

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Abstract:

The extracts from 21 medicinal plants commonly used in traditional remedies in Kenya were screened for antiviral activity against wild type 7401H strain herpes simplex virus type 1. The plant extracts exhibited antiviral activity against the virus in the plaque and yield reduction assays. The results reveal that twelve plants may contain constituents that could be exploited for the management of HSV infections. Although the extracts used in these experiments contain a complex matrix of a large number of compounds the results indicate that useful compounds can be isolated for further exploitation.