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Analysis of Phytoconstituents Present in Terminalia arjuna Bark Extract Using Spectroscopic Techniques

B. Anita^{1*} and V. Renganayaki²

¹Department of Physics, Queen Mary's College, Chennai – 600 004, India

²Department of Physics, D. G. Vaishnav College, Chennai- 600 106, India

Abstract : Plants have been in use as medicines since the beginning of human culture. Plant extracts have been used as medicines to treat a wide range of ailments, ranging from cancer to pain management. One of the most widely used plant to treat heart ailment is *Terminalia arjuna*. The *arjuna* was introduced into the Ayurveda system of medicine to treat heart disease as early as 7th century. The bark extract of the *arjuna* tree is a commonly used medicine for cardiac problems. In the present investigation, the ethanolic bark extract of the *arjuna* was subjected to spectroscopic studies such as FTIR and GC-MS and the structure of various phytochemicals present in the extract were analysed. Even though the use of bark of *arjuna* plant as a cardiac medicine has been well established, its use as medicine of other ailments is still under investigation. So, as a next step in the current investigation, the anti-fungal properties of the bark extract of the *arjuna* plant has been studied by disc-diffusion method and the results have been discussed.

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