

**PROTECTIVE EFFECT OF *Polygonum minus* LEAVES ETHANOL EXTRACT ON CADMIUM CHLORIDE-INDUCED TOXICITY ON SPERMATOGENIC CELLS OF MICE (*Mus musculus*) TESTES**

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**ABSTRACT**

The aim of this study was to investigate the protective effect of *Polygonum minus* leaves ethanol extract on histopathological changes of spermatogenic cells in the testes induced by cadmium chloride in mice (*Mus musculus*). Thirty male mice were divided into five groups, six mice each group and administered through intragastric gavage with different treatments for 21 days. The treatment groups were C- (CMC Na 0.5% solution + aquadest), C+ (CMC Na 0.5% solution + 12 mg/kg bw cadmium chloride), T1, T2, and T3 (200, 400, and 800 mg/kg bw *Polygonum minus* leaves ethanol extract respectively + 12 mg/kg bw cadmium chloride). The observation was done by examining the histopathological changes of spermatogenic cells using Johnsen scoring method. The data was analyzed by Kruskal Wallis and Mann-Whitney Test. The research showed significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) among the treatment groups. The conclusion of this research is *Polygonum minus* leaves ethanol extract can protect the spermatogenic cells of mice testes from destructive effect of cadmium chloride, and the best dose is 400 mg/kg bw.

**Keywords :** *Polygonum minus*, cadmium chloride, *Mus musculus*, testes