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Phytochemical studies and antimicrobial investigations of n-hexane extract of the leaves of *Paullinia pinnata* family Sapindaceae

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The leaves of the plant *Paullinia pinnata*, family Sapindaceae is variously used by the natives of Ogidi in Idemili North Local Government Area of Anambra State, Nigeria for the treatment of wounds, running stomach - diarrhoea, pains as well as fever and other infections. This investigation was therefore carried out to ascertain the veracity of the claim and ethnopharmacological uses of the drug. The leaves were collected and dried at ambient temperature and pulverized. 500 gm of the powdered drug was extracted with one litre of n-hexane using the cold maceration technique for 24 hours with occasional shaking. This was filtered and the process repeated using the marc. The combined filtrates were concentrated under reduced pressure with rotary evaporator. The preliminary phytochemical tests were conducted using standard methods. The antimicrobial activity was evaluated using cup plate agar diffusion method. The n-hexane leaves extract of *Paullinia pinnata* family Sapindaceae exhibited antimicrobial property. Alkaloid, steroids flavonoids, saponins, terpenoids and glycosides were found.

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