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Pharmacognostic analysis and antioxidant activity of *Nepeta mussinii* (Spreng.) and *Nepeta sulphurea* (C.Koch.) growing in Armenian flora**Naira I. Arshakyan***Yerevan State Medical University, Armenia*

Nepeta is multiregional genus of the Lamiaceae or (Labiatae Mint) family. Species of *Nepeta* are extensively used in traditional medicine, particularly in India, in China and Iran. *Nepeta mussinii* (Spreng.) and *Nepeta sulphurea* (C. Koch.) species as a medicinal raw material has a significant potential and population in Armenian flora. From this point of view the aim of this was the pharmacognostic analysis and the study of biological activity of *Nepeta mussinii* and *Nepeta sulphurea* harvested from 3 regions of Armenia. As research materials were served *Nepeta mussinii* (Spreng.) collected from the areas of Tsakhkavot, Vayk and *Nepeta sulphurea* (C.Koch.) gathered from the bank of river Mantash. The determination of the chemical composition of the essential oil was performed by the gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) method. For the evaluation of the antiradical activity of *Nepeta* herb was used the spectrophotometric method. In the essential oils of the plants 148 compounds were identified, in which dominant compound were monoterpenes and their oxygen derivatives (61.29 %). The dominant components in the essential oils obtained from the raw materials collected from 3 regions of Armenia were Copaene and β -Elemene. The result of the investigation showed that *Nepeta mussinii* and *Nepeta sulphurea* herbs growing in different climatic condition express antioxidant and free radicals eliminating activity. According to pharmacognostic parameters and qualitative composition of essential oils, the studied species of *Nepeta* growing in Armenia, which possessed antioxidant activity were endemic species, they did not belong to any of the three known chemorases.

Biography

Naira Ishkhan Arshakyan was born in 1968 in Yerevan. In 1985 finished school with gold medal. In the same year she entered the Faculty of Pharmacy of Yerevan State Medical University after Mkhitar Heratsi. In 1990 graduated with honor the faculty of Pharmacy. 1990-1991 she underwent an internship at the Pharmacy of Yerevan. In 1991, under the leadership of professor YSMU V.T. Amatuni she opened a phytotherapy office in the outpatient clinic of the Republican Hospital. She worked at the Department of Drug Technology of Yerevan State Medical University as a senior laboratory assistant from 1992-1996. 2010-2012 she was an expert in Scientific Center of Drug and Medical Technology after academician E. Gabrielyan. She was a lecturer at Yerevan State Base Medical College in 2013-2015. From 2011-2016 she was an assistant at YSMU drug technology Department. 2016 up today she is an assistant at the Department of Pharmacognosy at YSMU after Mkhitar Heratsi. She is married and has a son and two daughters.