

# **FORMULATION OF HERBAL GEL FROM *Pimpenella anisum* PLANT SEEDS EXTRACT AND EVALUATE THE WOUND HEALING ACTIVITY**

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**ASSAM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY,  
GUWAHATI, ASSAM**



**In the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the degree of Master of  
Pharmacy (M.Pharm) in Pharmaceutics**

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I wish him all success in life.

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**DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled “**FORMULATION OF HERBAL GEL FROM *Pimpenella anisum* PLANT SEEDS EXTRACT AND EVALUATE THE WOUND HEALING ACTIVITY**” is a bonafide and genuine research work carried out by me under the supervision of **Dr. Tapash Chakraborty, Assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutics, Girijananda Chowdhury Institute of Pharmaceutical Science, Azara, Guwahati-17.** The work embodied in this thesis is original and has not been submitted in part or full for the award of degree, diploma, associateship or fellowship of any other university or institution.

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*Affectionately  
Dedicated  
To  
My Beloved Parents*





## ABSTRACT

*Pimpinella anisum* (anise), belonging to Umbelliferae family, is an aromatic plant which has been used in Iranian traditional medicine (especially its fruits) as carminative, aromatic, disinfectant, and galactagogue. So far, different studies were performed on aniseeds and various properties such as antimicrobial, antifungal, antiviral, antioxidant, muscle relaxant, analgesic and anticonvulsant activity as well as different effects on gastrointestinal system have been reported of aniseeds. It can also reduce morphine dependence and has beneficial effects on dysmenorrhea and menopausal hot flashes in women. In diabetic patients, aniseeds showed hypoglycemic and hypolipidemic effect and reduce lipid peroxidation. The most important compounds of aniseeds essential oil were trans-anetole, estragole,  $\gamma$ -hymachalen, para anis aldehyde and methyl cavicol. Anise oil showed excellent antioxidant activity, in comparison with the reference compounds. Anise oil has the potential to be used as a therapeutic, antimicrobial, and antioxidant agent. Increasing microbial resistance to chemical antibiotics and their probabilistic side effects cause popularity of medicinal plants, so there is an instantaneous and steady need for novel antimicrobial compounds from plants.

This experiment was conducted in order to compare the effects of *Pimpinella anisum* Extracts on healing of wounds in rats. Eighteen adult, male Wistar-albino rats were divided into three groups of six rats each. Group A received *Pimpinella anisum* extract (prepared in the lab) and Group B received a *Pimpinella anisum* oil (bought from market) and Group C, as the control group, didn't receive any treatment. The results show that *Pimpinella anisum* extract (prepared in lab) served to accelerate the wound healing process and specifically increased epithelialization in treatment groups compared to the other groups. Thus, this study demonstrates that *Pimpinella anisum* may be effective in stimulating the enclosure of wounds. Results from our investigation suggest a positive effect of *Pimpinella anisum* on aseptic surgical skin wound healing.

**KEYWORDS:** *Pimpinella anisum*, chemical composition, pharmacological properties, antimicrobial effect, anise, essential oil, wound healing

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# **CHAPTER 1**

# **INTRODUCTION**

## 1.INTRODUCTION:

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION:

Anise, also called aniseed or rarely anix, is a flowering plant in the family Apiaceae native to the Eastern Mediterranean region and South-west Asia. The flavor and aroma of its seed have similarities with some other species, such as star anise, fennel and liquorice.

Scientific name: *Pimpinella anisum*.

Higher classification: Pimpinella

Family: Apiaceae

Order: Apiales

Kingdom: Plantae

Many studies have been described that aniseeds extracts demonstrated some pharmacological effects such as fungicidal, antibacterial and antioxidant, anti-inflammatory antispasmodic and relaxant effects on rat anococcygeus smooth muscle, anesthetic and hypothermic activities.

Moreover, recent studies reported that *P. anisum* extract has great potential as a skin whitening agent. [1]



Fig 1: *Pimpinella anisum* plant    Fig 2: *Pimpinella anisum* seed



*Pimpinella anisum* L., is a plant belonging to the Umbelliferae family, hails from the same family as carrots, celery and parsley; which is one of the oldest medicinal plants. It is an annual grassy herb with 30–50cm high, white flowers, small white fruits and small green to yellow seeds, which grows in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, West Asia, the Middle East, Mexico, Egypt, and Spain.

*Pimpinella anisum* is primarily grown for its fruits (aniseeds) that harvested in August and September. Aniseeds contain 1.5–5% essential oil and used as flavoring, digestive, carminative, and relief of gastrointestinal spasms. Consumption of aniseed in lactating women increases milk and also relieves their infants from gastrointestinal problems. Anise has a distinct, licorice-like taste. Hence, in the food industry, anise is used as flavoring and aromatic agent for fish products, ice-cream, sweets, and gums. So, the objective of this study was collecting all published articles about the chemical constituents, antimicrobial properties and wound healing process of aniseeds with literature search of Google Scholar, PubMed, ScienceDirect, Scopus, and SID database from 1970 up to 2011. Anise seeds are used as analgesic in migraine and also as carminative, aromatic, disinfectant, and diuretic in traditional medicine. Aniseed has warm and dry nature and can increase milk production, menstruation, urine, and sweat secretion and also making good complexion. It is also effective in polishing of teeth. In some traditional texts, anise is mentioned for melancholy, nightmare, and also in treatment of epilepsy and seizure. It is also known for its powerful health-promoting properties and acts as a natural remedy for a wide variety of ailments. Anise seed is low in calories but contains a good amount of several important minerals, including iron, manganese and calcium.

Umbelliferae (Apiaceae) is the most temperate herbal plants, with umbellate inflorescences, consisting of more than 3,000 species and over 300 genera. There are pairs of fruits or seeds. Plants, as members of this family, are commonly utilized in the food industry and medicine. Many plants in this family, such as, parsley, celery, and carrots, are popular vegetable crops. In contrast, others, such as cumin, anise, and fennel, are known for their therapeutic and fragrant characteristics. Anise [*Pimpinella anisum* L. (*P. anisum* L.)], is an annual grassy plant with a white flower, which is grown in warm regions around the globe.

About 1.5 to 3.5% of the mass of anise seed are essential oil (volatile oil), consisting of mainly cis- and trans-anethole. The key ingredient of anise (trans-anethole) is used, in the

synthesis of different pharmaceutical products, as a substrate. Fatty oils (non-volatile) are derived from the Umbelliferae family. The potency of the seed oils obtained from Apiaceae fatty oils depends on the chemical structure of the fatty acid and the composition of minor constituents in the oil. The main fatty acid constituent in oils is petroselinic acid, which is common in the Apiaceae seeds, compared to oleic acid. Aside from oleic acid, a small residue of one more isomer, cis-vaccenic acid is also noticed.

The volatile oil is applied as a carminative, in cough medicine, particularly for pediatric applications. The significant phenyl-propane, such as, estragole and trans-anethole, has a stabilization effect on the autonomic nervous system. In traditional medicine, anise was applied as a tranquilizer, a diuretic, and appetizer. It was documented that it has various healing properties in various cases, such as, gynecology, respiratory, neurology, and digestive illnesses. Several recent studies showed that oils with plant origin exhibit good antioxidant activity against several microorganisms. Nowadays, plant oils could be used as an alternative to synthetic packing materials that are harmful to human health. Moreover, spices are also considered as a source of antioxidants due to the large contents of bioactive compounds, such as, phenolic compounds, flavonoids, tannins, phenolic diterpenes, sulfur-containing compounds, alkaloids, and vitamins. Also, polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA) compounds can be obtained from some spices, such as the seeds of Apiaceae. Thus, this study aimed to examine the antimicrobial and antioxidant properties and chemical composition of essential and fixed oils in the anise seeds. [2]

### **1.2 *Pimpinella anisum* in Traditional Medicine of Iran:**

Anise seeds are used as analgesic in migraine and also as carminative, aromatic, disinfectant, and diuretic in traditional medicine. Anise seed has warm and dry nature and can increase milk production, menstruation, urine, and sweat secretion and also making good complexion. It is also effective in polishing of teeth. In some traditional texts, anise is mentioned for melancholy, nightmare, and also in treatment of epilepsy and seizure. [4]

### **1.3 Uses of Aniseed:**

Anise is used for upset stomach, intestinal gas, “runny nose,” and as an expectorant to

increase productive cough, as a diuretic to increase urine flow, and as an appetite stimulant.

Women use anise to increase milk flow when nursing, start menstruation, treat menstrual discomfort or pain, ease childbirth, and increase sex drive.

Men use anise to treat symptoms of “male menopause.” Other uses include treatment of seizures, nicotine dependence, trouble sleeping (insomnia), asthma, and constipation.

Anethole: Anethole also known as anise camphor is an organic compound that is widely used as a flavoring substance. It is derivative of phenylpropene. Anethole is only slightly soluble in water but exhibits high solubility in ethanol. [2]

## 1.4 PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF ANISE SEED:

### 1.4.1 Antibacterial and Antifungal Effects:

The antibacterial activities of the aqueous, 50% (v/v) methanol, acetone and petroleum ether extracts of *Pimpinella anisum* L. fruits were tested against 4 pathogenic bacteria (*Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Escherichia coli*, and *Klebsiella pneumoniae*) by disc diffusion method. The results showed that only aqueous and methanol extracts exhibited fair antibacterial activity against all of the test bacteria and the aqueous extract was found to be more effective than methanolic extract, whereas acetone and petroleum ether extracts cannot inhibit the growth of the pathogenic test bacteria.

Antimicrobial effects of water and ethanolic extracts of anise seed were studied by Gulcin et al. against 10 bacterial species and also *Candida albicans* with disc diffusion method. In this study, ethanolic extract showed significant inhibitory activity against all tested bacteria but not effective on *Candida albicans*. However, the antimicrobial effect of water extract was not detected against Gram-negative bacteria, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Escherichia coli*, but it was effective against *Candida albicans*. The alcoholic extracts of *Pimpinella anisum* seeds also showed antibacterial activity against *Micrococcus luteus* and *Mycobacterium smegmatis*. In another study, synergic antibacterial activity between *Thymus vulgaris* and *Pimpinella anisum* essential oil and methanol extract was evaluated against 9 pathogenic bacteria. Essential oil and methanol extract of these plants exhibited antibacterial activity against most tested

pathogens, and the maximum effect was observed against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus cereus*, and *Proteus vulgaris*. However, combination of essential oil and methanol extracts of these plants showed an additive effect against most tested bacteria especially *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The antibacterial potential of aqueous decoctions of black pepper, bay leaf, aniseed, and coriander against 176 bacterial isolates belonging to 12 different genera were detected by the mean of disc diffusion technique. The findings showed that the aqueous decoction of black pepper was the most bacterial-toxic exhibited 75% antibacterial activity and decoction of aniseed exhibited 18.1% antibacterial activity (maximum antibacterial activities exhibited against *Micrococcus roseus*). In addition to antibacterial activity, the essential oil of aniseed showed significant inhibitory activity against fungi, and the most active component of it was anethol. In a study by Kosalec et al., antifungal activities of fluid extract and essential oil of anise fruits studied on seven species of yeasts and four species of dermatophytes by the means of diffusion method with cylinders and the broth dilution method. The findings revealed that the fluid extract of aniseed showed antimycotic activity against *Candida albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. tropicalis*, *C. pseudotropicalis*, and *C. krusei*, and the largest inhibition zone was observed in *C. albicans*. It is also showed inhibitory effect against dermatophyte species (*Trichophyton rubrum*, *T. mentagrophytes*, *Microsporum canis*, and *M. gypseum*), and the largest inhibitory zone was detected for *T. mentagrophytes*. The essential oil of anise exhibited strong antifungal activity against yeasts and dermatophytes, and the largest inhibition zone was found in *C. parapsilosis* (30 mm), followed by *C. albicans*, *C. glabrata*, and *Geotrichum* spp. In this study, anise essential oil exhibited stronger antifungal activities rather than its extract against yeasts and dermatophytes. Antifungal activity of anise essential oil also was reported against *Aternaria alternata*, *Aspergillus niger*, and *Aspergillus parasiticus*, and the most effected fungus was *A. parasiticus*. Investigation of antifungal activity of methanolic extracts of aniseed against four dermatophyte species, and one saprophyte fungus showed that the extract inhibited only dermatophyte species included *Candida albicans*, *Trichophyton mentagrophyte*, and *Microsporum canis* but demonstrated no inhibitory effect on saprophyte *A. niger*. [7]

### 1.4.2 Muscle Relaxant Effect:

The relaxant effect of *Pimpinella anisum* on isolated guinea pig tracheal chains and its possible mechanism was studied by Boskabady and Ramazani-Assari. In this research, the



bronchodilatory effects of aqueous and ethanol extracts and essential oil of anise were examined on precontracted isolated tracheal chains of the guinea pig by 10 mM methacholine in two different conditions including nonincubated tissues (group 1) and incubated tissues with 1 mM propranolol and 1 mM chlorpheniramine (group 2).

The results showed that aqueous and ethanol extracts, essential oil, and theophylline (1 mM) showed significant relaxant effects compared to those of controls. The relaxant effects of aqueous and ethanol extracts were not significantly different from that of theophylline, but the effect of essential oil was significantly lower than theophylline. There was also no significant difference between the relaxant effects obtained in group 1 and 2 experiments. The results also showed that the relaxant effect of this plant is due to inhibitory effects on muscarinic receptors.

In another study, antispasmodic and relaxant effects of three hydroalcoholic extracts of the aerial parts of *Pimpinella anisum* (ethanol: water; 40 : 60, 60 : 40, and 80 : 20) were investigated on rat anococcygeus smooth muscle. The entire three hydroalcoholic extracts attenuated acetylcholine-induced contraction. The finding of this study described that only the extract contains 60% ethanol (HA60) showed concentration dependently relaxed acetylcholine-precontracted tissues, but two other hydroalcoholic extracts cannot produce relaxation. Studying the possible mechanisms underlying the relaxant effect showed that this effect is mainly dependent on the activation of the NO-cGMP pathway. [3]

### 1.4.3 Anticonvulsant Effect:

Anticonvulsant effects of an essential oil of the fruits of *Pimpinella anisum* were studied against seizures induced by pentylenetetrazole (PTZ) or maximal electroshock (MES) in male mice. This study revealed that *P. anisum* increases the threshold of clonic seizures induced by i.v. infusion of PTZ, and it can also block tonic convulsions induced by i.p. injection of PTZ. Moreover, *P. anisum* possesses anticonvulsant activity against tonic seizures induced by MES [34]. In another study by Heidari and Ayeli, the effect of methyl alcoholic extract of anise on picrotoxin-induced seizure in mice was studied. The results showed that anise extract caused an increased delay in the onset of seizure in the mice which had been pretreated with different doses of the extract, and the most effective dose was 200 mg/kg ( $P < 0.05$ ). In addition, this dose delayed the time of death in mice ( $P < 0.01$ ) more satisfactory

than phenobarbital (40mg/kg) on delaying death time [35]. Results of the other study for investigating the effect of the aqueous extracts of leaves and stems of some Arab medicinal plants including *Pimpinella anisum* on the picrotoxin-induced seizures in mice revealed that the extracts of *Rosmarinus officinalis*, *Pimpinella anisum*, *Matricaria chamomilla*, and *Artemisia vulgaris* were found to delay the onset of picrotoxin-induced seizures and to decrease the mortality rate.

In year 2008, Janahmadi et al. studied the cellular mechanisms of antiseizure effect of anise fruits. In this study, they determined whether the fruit essential oil of anise affects the bioelectrical activity of snail neurons in control condition or after pentylenetetrazol-(PTZ-) induced epileptic activity. The results indicate that the candidate cellular mechanisms probably underlying the hyperexcitability produced by anise oil include enhancement of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channels activity or inhibition of voltage and/or  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  dependent  $\text{K}^{+}$  channels activity underlying post-hyperpolarization potential. [3]

#### **1.4.4 Anti-depressant effect:**

Depression is a common yet debilitating condition that affects up to 25% of women and 12% of men around the world. Interestingly, some researches found that anise seed may help treat depression. Human and animal studies showed that anise seed extract exhibited powerful antidepressant properties in mice and was effective as a common prescription medication used to treat depression. Anise seed may help reduce symptoms of depression and may be as effective as some types of anti-depressants. [3]

#### **1.4.5 Effect on gastric ulcer:**

Stomach ulcers, also called gastric ulcers, are a painful sore that forms in the lining of your stomach, causing symptoms like indigestion, nausea and a burning sensation in your chest. Though traditional treatment typically involves the use of medications to decrease the production of stomach acid, preliminary research suggests that anise seed could help prevent stomach ulcers and reduce symptoms. For instance, one animal study noted that anise reduced stomach acid secretion, helping prevent the formation of stomach ulcers and protecting cells against damage. However, research on anise seed's effects on stomach ulcers

is still very limited. Though research is extremely limited, anise seed reduced stomach acid secretion and protected against stomach ulcer formation in one animal study.

For studying the effect of aqueous suspension of anise against gastric ulcers in rat, acute gastric ulceration was produced by various noxious chemicals and indomethacin. The results showed that anise significantly inhibited gastric mucosal damage induced by necrotizing agents and indomethacin. The antiulcer effect was further confirmed histologically. [3]

#### **1.4.6 Palliation of Nausea:**

In a case study, an aromatherapy treatment containing *Pimpinella anisum*, *Foeniculum vulgare*, var. *dulce*, *Anthemis nobilis*, and *Mentha piperita* was examined in twenty-five patients suffering from the symptoms of nausea in a hospice and palliative care program. A majority of patients who used the aromatherapy treatments reported relief. However, all patients in this study were also using a variety of other treatments for their symptoms. [3]

#### **1.4.7 Effect on Constipation:**

The laxative efficacy of a phytotherapeutic compound containing *Pimpinella anisum* L., *Foeniculum vulgare* Miller, *Sambucus nigra* L., and *Cassia augustifolia* was studied in a randomized clinical trial included 20 patients presenting with chronic constipation according to the criteria of the American Association of Gastroenterology. The primary endpoint was colonic transit time (CTT), measured radiologically. Secondary endpoints included number of evacuations per day, perception of bowel function, adverse effects, and quality of life. The results of the study revealed significant laxative effects of phytotherapeutic compound when compared with placebo. This effect was demonstrated by a decrease in colonic transit time as well as an increase in the number of daily evacuations. Although quality of life did not show significant differences among the study periods and no significant differences were observed in terms of adverse effects throughout the study period, so this compound can be a safe alternative option for the treatment of constipation. [3]

#### **1.4.8 Analgesic and Anti-Inflammatory Effect:**

The effects of essential oil of *Pimpinella anisum* on the expression and acquisition of conditioned place preference (CPP) induced by morphine in mice were studied. The findings showed that subcutaneous injections of morphine (2–5 mg/kg) produced place preference in a dose-dependent manner and injection of essential oil of *P. anisum* may induce conditioned place aversion in mice, that is, the essential oil has some aversive effects as investigated by place conditioning paradigm. In addition, this oil has also a GABAergic effect.

In a study by Tas, essential oil of *Pimpinella anisum* showed significant analgesic effect similar to morphine and aspirin. Also, fixed oil of anise was investigated for anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity in mice. The finding showed that the fixed oil of anise has anti-inflammatory effect as strong as indomethacin and it showed analgesic effect comparable to that of 100mg/kg aspirin and 10mg/kg morphine at 30th min. In many cases, inflammation is considered a normal response by your immune system to protect against injuries and infection. However, high levels of long-term inflammation are linked to chronic conditions, such as heart disease, cancer and diabetes. Animal and test-tube studies suggest that anise seed may reduce inflammation to promote better health and prevent disease. For example, one study in mice showed that anise seed oil reduced swelling and pain. Other research indicates that anise seed is high in antioxidants, which can reduce inflammation and prevent disease-causing oxidative damage. Animal and test-tube studies have found that anise seed is high in antioxidants and can reduce inflammation to help prevent chronic disease. [8]

#### **1.4.9 Effect on Morphine Dependence:**

The effects of essential oil of *Pimpinella anisum* on the expression and acquisition of conditioned place preference (CPP) induced by morphine in mice were studied. The findings showed that subcutaneous injections of morphine (2–5mg/kg) produced place preference in a dose-dependent manner and injection of essential oil of *P. anisum* may induce conditioned place aversion in mice, that is, the essential oil has some aversive effects as investigated by place conditioning paradigm. In addition, this oil has also a GABAergic effect.

Opioid dependence is a major health problem worldwide that often requires long-term treatment and care. Morphine is one of the major opioid analgesics mainly used for alleviating pain and chronic diarrhea. But, its repeated use leads to physical dependence and



tolerance. Furthermore, after abrupt cessation of morphine or an administration of opioid antagonist (e.g. naloxone), withdrawal signs will appear. Today, pharmacotherapies for opioid addiction include administration of opioid agonists (e.g. methadone), partial agonists (e.g. buprenorphine), opioid antagonists (e.g. naltrexone), and alpha-2-adrenergic agonists (e.g. clonidine), which are targeted toward either detoxification or long-term agonist maintenance. Several medicinal herbs including *Cymbopogon citratus*, *Avena sativa*, *Carthamus tinctorius*, *Rosa damascena*, *Otostegia percica*, *Carum copticum*, and *Rodmarinus officinalis* have been investigated for the treatment of some aspects of morphine dependence in animal models of drug dependence.

*Pimpinella anisum* L. form Apiaceae (Umbelliferae) family grows in different parts of Mediterranean countries and Iran. In Iranian traditional medicine, *P. anisum* is used for treating gastrointestinal and nervous system disorders. Previous phytochemical studies revealed that the prominent component of *P. anisum* is 1.5%–6.0% essential oil consisting primarily of trans-anethole. Other studies demonstrated the presence of eugenol, trans-anethole, methyl chavicol, anis aldehyde, estragole, coumarins, scopoletin, umbelliferone, estrols, terpenhydrocarbons, polyenes, and polyacetylenes as the other major components of the essential oil. *P. anisum* L. extract and essential oil showed different biological and pharmacological activities including antispasmodic, analgesic, anticonvulsant, antibacterial and laxative effects, as well as alleviating morphine dependence property. Furthermore, our recent study revealed the antidepressant-like effects of *P. anisum* in animal models of depression. Hence, the aim of the present study was to investigate the effect of *P. anisum* ethanolic extract on morphine physical dependence in mice. [11]

#### **1.4.10 Effect on Menopausal Hot Flashes:**

In a double blind clinical trial, the effect of anise extract on menopausal hot flashes in 72 postmenopausal women was examined. In this study, consumption of 3 capsules of anise extract (each capsule contains 100mg of extract) for 4 weeks leads to significant reduction in hotflash frequency and intensity and in postmenopausal women. [3]

#### **1.4.11 Effect on Dysmenorrhea:**

In a study by Khoda Karami et al., the effectiveness of a herbal capsule containing dried extracts of celery, saffron, and anise was compared with mefenamic acid capsule in 180 female students (with age 17–28) with primary dysmenorrhea. The results showed significant reduction in pain intensity in both herbal and mephenamic acid group compare to placebo group. Also, the results revealed that the effectiveness of herbal capsule was better than mephnamic acid in pain relief and can be a suitable alternative in primary dysmenorrhea. [3]

#### 1.4.12 Antioxidant Activity:

In a study by Gulcin et al., the antioxidant properties of water and ethanolic extracts of aniseeds were evaluated using different antioxidant tests, and antioxidant activities were compared with synthetic antioxidantssuch as butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA), butylatedhydroxytoluene (BHT), and  $\alpha$ -tocopherol. Both extracts of aniseeds showed strong antioxidant activity, reducing power, DPPH radical and superoxide anion scavenging, hydrogenperoxide scavenging, and metal chelating activities comparedto BHA, BHT, and  $\alpha$ -tocopherol, and water extract exhibitedgreater antioxidant capacity than ethanolic extract. Also, investigation of in vitro and in vivo antioxidantpotential of aniseeds showed that ethanolic extract of aniseeddisplayed scavenging activity against nitric oxide, superoxideand 1,1-diphenyl, 2-picryl hydrazyl (DPPH) radicals andreducing power in a concentration-dependent manner. The antioxidant potential of essential oil and oleoresinsfrom anise seeds was studied. The antioxidant activitieswere assessed by inhibition of linoleic acid peroxidation, 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) radical scavenging,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  reducing power, and various lipid peroxidation assays. The findings showed that the anise oil and its methanololeoresin showed highest antioxidant activity, even higherthan BHA and BHT. However, the antioxidant activities of other oleoresins were somewhat lower. Screening of antioxidant properties of some Umbelliferaefruits from Iran (including *Pimpinella anisum*) by the DPPH (2,2\_-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl) radical scavengingtest showed that all the extracts exhibited antioxidantcapability, and *P. anisum* extract ( $\text{IC}_{50} = 109.80$ ) exhibitedthe strongest activity and the ethyl acetate fraction of the extract exhibited the highest activity and flavonoid content. A positive correlation was found between the antioxidantpotency and flavonoid content of the fractions. In another study the antioxidant activity of water and alcohol extracts of chamomile flowers, anise seeds, and dill seedswas investigated. The extracts showed marked antioxidantactivity in both linoleic acid and liposome model

systems, although the water extracts showed higher antioxidant activity than the corresponding alcohol extracts. Also, antioxidant activity of aniseeds was lower than chamomile flowers and dill seeds. The antioxidant properties of thirteen herbal teas including anise tea were assessed *in vitro*. The findings indicate that anise tea showed weak antioxidant activity in Trolox equivalent antioxidant capacity (TEAC assay) and moderate effect in hypochlorite quenching assay and peroxynitrite quenching assay rather than other herbal teas. [7]

#### 1.4.13 Insecticidal Effects:

Plant essential oils from 40 plant species including *Pimpinella anisum* were tested for their insecticidal activities against larvae of *Lycoriella ingenua* using a fumigation bioassay. Some of the essential oils including anise and garlic essential oil showed good insecticidal activity against the larvae. Among the identified compounds in effective essential oils, allyl isothiocyanate was the most toxic against larvae of *L. ingenua* followed by *trans*-anethole, diallyl disulfide, and *p*-anisaldehyde. Prajapati et al. showed that the essential oils of *Juniperus macropoda* and *Pimpinella anisum* were highly effective as larvicidal and ovicidal against three mosquito species. Also, the anise essential oil showed repellency against mosquito *Culex pipiens*. In another study, the exposure to vapours of essential oils from anise and cumin resulted in 100% mortality of the eggs of two stored-product insects (the confused flour beetle, *Tribolium confusum*, and the Mediterranean flour moth, *Ephestia kuehniella*). The acaricidal activity of *p*-anisaldehyde derived from anise seed oil and commercially available components of anise seed oil were studied against the house dust mites, *Dermatophagoides farina*, and *D. pteronyssinus*. The results showed that the compound most toxic to these dermatophagoides was *p*-anisaldehyde followed by benzyl benzoate and, therefore, *p*-anisaldehyde may be useful as a lead compound for the selective control of house dust mites. [3]

#### 1.4.14 Antiviral Effects:

The effects of the essential oil of *Foeniculum vulgare* and *Pimpinella anisum* were examined against PVX (potato virus), TMV (tobacco mosaic virus) and TRSV (tobacco ring spot virus), on the hypersensitive host *Chenopodium amaranticolor*. The essential oil is at

3000 ppm completely inhibited PVX, TMV, and TRSV. Three lignin-carbohydrate-protein complexes (LC1, LC2, and LC3) with antiviral and immunostimulating activity were isolated from a hot water extract of seeds of *Pimpinella anisum* by combination of anion exchange, gel filtration, and hydrophobic interaction column chromatographies. These complexes showed antiviral activities against herpes simplex virus types 1 and 2, human cytomegalovirus, and measles virus. Also, the effects of these complexes in activation of macrophage were investigated. After RAW 264.7, murine macrophage cells had been incubated with these compounds for 20 h, and the nitric oxide (NO) production was enhanced in a dose-dependent manner. The effects of these compounds on mRNA and protein expression of inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) in RAW 264.7 cells showed that they induced mRNA iNOS expression in a time-dependent manner. Furthermore, they induced expression of both IL-1 $\beta$  and IL-10 mRNAs. These results suggest that the lignin carbohydrate-protein complexes from *P. anisum* possessed potency as functional food ingredients against infectious diseases. [7]

#### 1.4.15 Effects on Diabetic Patients:

The antidiabetic, hypolipidemic, and antioxidant activities of aniseeds and coriander seeds were compared in type 2 diabetic patients. The seed powders (5g/day) were administered to two groups of type 2 diabetes patients for 60 days. The results indicated 11% rise of fasting blood glucose in control and 36% decrease in aniseed-treated, and 13% decrease in coriander-treated type 2 diabetics. Also, significant decrease in serum cholesterol and triglycerides in aniseed treated and coriander seed-treated patient was observed. Protein oxidation in serum and lipid peroxidation in erythrocytes and plasma was decreased in both treated groups as compared with the initial values. Both the groups showed rise in serum  $\beta$ -carotene and vitamin A levels which could have resulted in a significant decrease in lipid peroxidation in RBC and plasma, and also rise in vitamin C was detected in both anise and coriander group. So, both the seeds have antidiabetic, hypolipidemic and antioxidant effects in diabetic patient. [3]

#### 1.4.16 Effect on Glucose Absorption:

The effect of aniseed oil on the absorption of glucose from the jejunum and water from the

colon and kidney tubules and also its mechanism of action was studied by Kreydiyyeh et al. The findings showed that aniseed oil increased significantly glucose absorption in the rat jejunum, because the oil enhanced the activity of the  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+$  ATPase which increases the sodium gradient that gears the mucosal glucose transport. However, adding of anise oil at a 0.05% concentration did not have any significant effect on colonic water absorption, and it seems thus that the ATPase in the colon is resistant to the oil effect. Furthermore, adding aniseed oil to drinking water, reduced the volume of urine produced in the rat and increased the activity of the renal  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+$  ATPase even at extremely low concentrations. [3]

#### **1.4.17 Effect on Broiler Performance:**

In the study by Ciftci et al., adding 400 mg/kg of anise oil to the diet of day-old broilers was improved feed conversion ratio by approximately 6% compared to antibiotic group. So anise oil can be considered as a natural growth promoter for poultry. [3]

#### **1.4.18 Effect on Milk Production:**

The effects of diet supplementation with aniseed and fenugreek seeds on the performance of does and kits were studied. Finding revealed that the daily milk intake of kits in anise-fenugreek group was equivalent to that of control rabbits. Also, the 17 days body weight did not differ significantly between two groups. At 35 days of lactation, the differences between anise-fenugreek group and control groups were not significant in litter size, litter weight, kit weight and 1–35 day weight, gain. In conclusion, further studies are needed to investigate the palatability and optimal level of these spices in the feed of lactating rabbits. [3]

#### **1.4.19 Antimicrobial effect:**

Test-tube studies show that anise seed and its compounds possess potent antimicrobial properties that prevent infections and block the growth of fungi and bacteria. One test-tube study demonstrated that anise seed and anise essential oil were especially effective against certain strains of fungi, including yeasts and dermatophytes, a type of fungus that can cause

skin disease. Anethole, the active ingredient in anise seed, inhibits bacterial growth as well. In one test-tube study, anethole blocked the growth of a specific strain of bacteria that causes cholera, an infection characterized by severe diarrhea and dehydration. However, further research is needed to examine how anise seed may affect the growth of fungi and bacteria in humans. Test-tube studies show that anise seed and its components may decrease the growth of certain strains of fungi and bacteria. Antimicrobial effects of water and ethanolic extracts of aniseed were studied by Gulcin et al. against 10 bacterial species and also *Candida albicans* with disc diffusion method. In this study, ethanolic extract showed significant inhibitory activity against all tested bacteria but not effective on *Candida albicans*. However, the antimicrobial effect of water extract was not detected against Gram-negative bacteria, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Escherichia coli*, but it was effective against *Candida albicans*. The alcoholic extracts of *Pimpinella anisum* seeds also showed antibacterial activity against *Micrococcus luteus* and *Mycobacterium smegmatis*. [8]

**TABLE NO. 1: PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF ANISE SEED**

System	Effect	Preparation
Organism	Anti-bacterial	Aqueous and 50% (v/v) methanol extract
		Ethanol extract
		Essential oil and methanol extract (in combination with <i>Thymus vulgaris</i> )
		Aqueous decoction
	Antifungal	Essential oil
		Fluid extract
		Methanol extract
	Insecticidal	Essential oil
		<i>p</i> -Anis aldehyde from aniseed oil
	Antiviral	Essential oil
		Lignin-carbohydrate-protein complexes from hot water extract

Muscle	Muscle relaxant of tracheal chain	Aqueous extract
		Ethanol extract
	Antispasmodic and relaxant of anococcygeus smooth muscle	Essential oil
		Hydro alcoholic extract (60% ethanol)
Nervous system	Anticonvulsant	Essential oil
		Methanol extract of seeds
		Aqueous extract of leaves and stem extract
	Analgesic	Essential oil
		Fixed oil
	Conditioned place aversion in morphine dependence	Essential oil
Gastrointestinal	Antiulcer	Aqueous suspension
	Palliation of nausea	Essential oils of aniseeds, foeniculum vulgar, Anthemis nobilis, and Mentha piperita
	Laxative	Phytotherapeutic compound of anise and foeniculum vulgar, Sambucus nigra, Cassia angustifolia
	Increase glucose absorption from the jejunum	Essential oil
Renal	reduce volume of urine by increased activity of the renal Na <sup>+</sup> -K <sup>+</sup> -ATPase	Essential oil
Endocrine	Anti-diabetic	Seed powder
	Hypolipidemic	Seed powder
Immune system	Antioxidant	Ethanol extract
		Water extract
		Essential oil
		Oleoresin
		Ethyl acetate fraction of ethanol extract
		Anise tea

	Increase of $\beta$ -carotene, vitamins A, C	Seed powder
Other	Reduction of menopausal hot flashes	Capsules of anise extract
	Growth promoter of day-old broilers	Essential oil
	Reduction of pain in dysmenorrhea	Herbal capsule (extracts of anise, celery, saffron)

## 1.5 WOUND HEALING:

Wound healing is a normal biological process of repair, following injury to the skin and other soft tissues, which is achieved through overlapping phases such as haemostasis, inflammation, proliferation and maturation. A fibrous scar containing large amounts of collagen is an end product of this process. Well-vascularised granulation tissue that is made within the wound area is responsible for synthesis of collagen and provides strength and integrity to the dermis. Many important factors such as malnutrition, ageing, medication, radiation, and some diseases including diabetes, hypertension and obesity are associated with delayed wound healing.

Wound care can be traced back to early civilisations, when use of herbal remedies were the basis of many treatments. Some plants have a high content of tannins, flavonoids, saponins, naphthaquinone, alkaloids, and triterpenes, which can increase the quality and the rate of wound healing.

Iran has a rich flora widely distributed throughout the country, particularly in the west. In Iranian traditional medicine, herbal medicines have been the basis of treatments and cures many physiological conditions and diseases. *Pimpinella anisum* (anise), also known as 'Badian Roomi', from the umbelliferae family is one of the most important herbal medicines and is widely consumed in the west of Iran.

Concurrent with these findings, it seems that the *Pimpinella anisum* genus can cope with the oxidative and inflammatory changes involved in diabetic wounds, stimulate fibroblast



deposition and enhance wound closure by its compounds.

The present study was conducted to assess the dermal wound healing potential of *Pimpinella anisum* after topical application of its methanolic extract on experimentally-induced cutaneous wounds in Wistar-albino rat model. [9]

# **CHAPTER 2**

# **LITERATURE REVIEW**

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW:

- **Gilligan NP. stated that:** The treatment contains *P. anisum* and oils from *Foeniculum vulgare* var. dulce, *Anthemis nobilis*, and *Mentha piperita*, which was examined in twenty-five patients who were suffering from the symptoms of nausea in a hospice and palliative care program. The symptoms of majority of patients who used this treatment were significantly relieved. However, all patients in this study were also using a variety of other treatments for their symptoms. [8]
- **Nahidi F, Taherpoor M, Mojab F, Alavi Majd H. stated that:** The effect of anise oil on menopause was investigated in 72 postmenopausal women. In this clinical study, consumption of 3 capsules of anise oil (each capsule contains 100 mg of *P. anisum*) for 4 weeks leads to significant reduction in a period, frequency and intensity of hot flush in menopausal and postmenopausal women. [10]
- **Khaled Mohamed Mohamed Koriem stated that:** *P. anisum* increases glucose absorption and reduces urine output in the rat. The plant oil has pharmacological (antimicrobial, hepatoprotective, anticonvulsant, anti-inflammatory, antispasmodic, bronchodilator, estrogenic, expectorant and insecticidal) effects and clinical effects on nausea, constipation, menopausal period, virus, diabetes, obesity and sedative action. It is recommended for more clinical trails to discover a new medication from the active constituents of the plant oil in the future to treat human diseases especially chronic ones. [11]
- **Chaudhry and Tariq stated that:** The aqueous decoction of *P. anisum* seed showed no activity against both gram positive and gram-negative bacteria. This result is different from that reported by Chaudhry and Tariq, (2006) who found that the aqueous extract possesses broad antibacterial spectrum against gram positive and gram-negative bacteria. [12]
- **Asie Shojaii and Mehri Abdollahi Fard stated that:** *Pimpinella anisum* (anise), belonging to Umbelliferae family, is an aromatic plant which has been used In Iranian traditionalmedicine (especially its fruits) as carminative, aromatic, disinfectant, and galactagogue. Because the wide traditional usage of *Pimpinella anisum* for treatment of

diseases, in this review published scientific reports about the composition and pharmacological properties of this plant were collected with electronic literature search of Google Scholar, PubMed, ScienceDirect, Scopus, and SID from 1970 to 2011. So far, different studies were performed on aniseeds and various properties such as antimicrobial, antifungal, antiviral, antioxidant, muscle relaxant, analgesic and anticonvulsant activity as well as different effects on gastrointestinal system have been reported of aniseeds. It can also reduce morphine dependence and has beneficial effects on dysmenorrhea and menopausal hot flashes in women. In diabetic patients, aniseeds showed hypoglycemic and hypolipidemic effect and reduce lipid peroxidation. The most important compounds of aniseeds essential oil were trans-anetole, estragole,  $\gamma$ -hymachalen, paraanisaldehyde and methyl cavicol. Due to broad spectrum of pharmacological effects, and very few clinical studies of *Pimpinella anisum*, more clinical trials are recommended to evaluate the beneficial effects of this plant in human models and synthesis of new drugs from the active ingredients of this plant in future. [13]

- **Maryam Rezaei, Mohamad Dalvand, Forozan Hadipor, Mahbobe Pirhemat, Mohamad Alipor, Omolbanin stated that:** This experiment was conducted in order to compare the effects of *Achillea millefolium* and *Pimpinella anisum* Extracts on healing of wounds in rats. Twenty-four adults, male Wistar-albino rats were divided into four groups of six rats each. The results show that *P. anisum* extract served to accelerate the wound healing process and specifically increased epithelialization in treatment groups compared to the other groups. Thus, this study demonstrates that it may be effective in stimulating the enclosure of wounds. Results from our investigation suggest a positive effect of *P. anisum* on aseptic surgical skin wound healing. [14]
- **Muthanna J. Mohammed<sup>1</sup>, Hiyam A. Ebraheem stated that:** Essential and fixed oils of anise plant *Pimpinella anisum* growing in Iraq have been investigated regarding their chemical components, antioxidant, and antimicrobial properties. Essential oils were extracted using the Clevenger-apparatus, while fixed oil was extracted using a Soxhlet apparatus. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) was used for the analysis of the oil components. Six strains of bacteria, namely *S. epidermidis*, *S. aureus*, *E. coli*, *B. cereus*, *P. vulgaris*, and *S. typhimurium* were tested against the antimicrobial activity of each oil. Anise oil demonstrated a broad antibacterial property range, against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria, through the inhibition zone. The antibiotic sensitivity

test was performed by disk diffusion process against the test organisms. The agar dilution method was used at five different concentrations (12.5, 25, 50, 100, and 200 mg/mL) throughout the test. The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) was determined for each volatile and fixed oil. The DPPH radical scavenging assay was used to test the antioxidant activities of essential and fixed oils. Anise oil showed excellent antioxidant activity, in comparison with the reference compounds. Anise oil has the potential to be used as a therapeutic, antimicrobial, and antioxidant agent.[15]

- **Azadeh Foroughi, Pouya Pournaghi, Reza Tahvilian, Mohammad Mahdi Zangeneh, Akram Zangeneh, Rohallah Moradi stated that:** Increasing microbial resistance to chemical antibiotics and their probabilistic side effects cause popularity of medicinal plants, so there is an instantaneous and steady need for novel antimicrobial compounds from plants. As we know, there is no documented proof on antibacterial effects of *Pimpinella anisum* (PA) hydroalcoholic extract in west of Iran. Gas chromatography mass spectrometry was done to determine chemical composition. As a screen test to discover antibacterial properties of the extract, agar disk and agar well diffusion methods were employed. Macrobroth tube test was performed to specify MIC. The findings show that the most substance found in PA was anethole. The results indicated the MIC and MBC values were 0.031 g/ml for PA except in case of *B. subtilis* which was 0.062 g/ml. Thus, the present research demonstrates the antibacterial effects of the medical plant on *E. coli*, *S. aureus* and *B. subtilis*, suggesting to use as antibacterial supplement in the developing countries towards the development of new therapeutic agent.[16]
- **Mehmet Musa Özcan, Jean Claude Chalchat said that:** The composition of the essential oil of *Pimpinella anisum* L fruit is determined by GC and GC-MS. The volatile oil content obtained by hydro distillation was 1.91%. Ten compounds representing 98.3% of the oil were identified. The main constituents of the oil obtained from dried fruits were trans-anethole (93.9%) and estragole (2.4%). The olfactorially valuable constituents that were found with concentration higher than 0.06% were (E)-meth eugenol,  $\alpha$ -cymene,  $\alpha$ -himachalene,  $\beta$ -bisabolene, p-anis aldehyde and cis-anethole. Also, the different concentrations of anise oil exerted varying levels of inhibitory effects on the mycelial growth of *Alternaria alternata*, *Aspergillus niger* and *Aspergillus parasiticus* used in experimental. The results showed that the most effected fungus from anise oil was *A.*

*parasiticus*, which is followed by *A. niger* and *A. alternata*. Individual of this plant oil may provide a useful to achieve adequateshelf-life of foods.[17]

- **Zohra Ghissi, Rim Kallel, Fatma Krichen, Ahmed Hakim, Khaled Zeghal, Tahiya Boudawara, Ali Bougatef, Zouheir Sahnoun said that:**The polysaccharide preparation from *Pimpinella anisum* seeds (PAP) was isolated and characterized to evaluate its laser burn wound-healing and anti-inflammatory activities in mice. The structure characterization of PAP by Infra-red spectrometry (IR), Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), Gas chromatogram-Mass spectrometer (GC-MS) and colorimetric methods revealed an optimum yield of 8.84 %, a high quantity of carbohydrate (64.75 %) and low levels of lipids, protein and sulfate. Galactose (33.47 %),  $\beta$ -D-Glucose (26.71 %) and  $\alpha$ -D-Mannose (18.21 %) were the major monosaccharides components presenting in PAP, and a smaller amount of  $\beta$ -D-Galactose, D-Fructose,  $\alpha$ -D-Glucose,  $\alpha$ -L-Galactose and arabinose were detected. PAP showed noticeable antioxidant and antibacterial properties. The anti-inflammatory activity of PAP in the carrageenan-induced paw edema model in mice, demonstrated by reduced edema and cellular infiltration, and oxidative stress markers in muscle tissue. A beneficial wound healing effect was also revealed. The topical application of PAP based gel on laser burn lesions accelerates wound contraction, the re-epithelization and remodeling phases after seven days of treatment. The results demonstrated that PAP is a novel promising source of natural wound healing and anti-inflammatory drugs. The high content and varied PAP monosaccharides seem to be responsible for the observed biological activities.[18]
- **Shojaii, Asie; Abdollahi Fard, Mehri said that:***Pimpinella anisum* (anise), belonging to Umbelliferae family, is an aromatic plant which has been used in Iranian traditional medicine (especially its fruits) as carminative, aromatic, disinfectant, and galactagogue. Because the wide traditional usage of *Pimpinella anisum* for treatment of diseases, in this review published scientific reports about the composition and pharmacological properties of this plant were collected with electronic literature search of Google Scholar, PubMed, Sciencedirect, Scopus, and SID from 1970 to 2011. So far, different studies were performed on aniseeds and various properties such as antimicrobial, antifungal, antiviral, antioxidant, muscle relaxant, analgesic and anticonvulsant activity as well as different effects on gastrointestinal system have been

reported of aniseeds. It can also reduce morphine dependence and has beneficial effects on dysmenorrhea and menopausal hot flashes in women. In diabetic patients, aniseeds showed hypoglycemic and hypolipidemic effect and reduce lipid peroxidation. The most important compounds of aniseeds essential oil were trans-anetole, estragole,  $\beta$ -hymachalen, para-anisaldehyde and methyl cavitcol. Due to broad spectrum of pharmacological effects, and very few clinical studies of *Pimpinella anisum*, more clinical trials are recommended to evaluate the beneficial effects of this plant in human models and synthesis of new drugs from the active ingredients of this plant in future. [19]

- Park, Ii-Kwon; Choi, Kwang-Sik; Kim, Do-Hyung; Choi, In-Ho; Kim, Lee-Sun; Bak, Won-Chull; Choi, Joon-Weon; Shin, Sang-Chul said that:** Plant essential oils from 40 plant species were tested for their insecticidal activities against larvae of *Lycoriella ingenua* (Dufour) using a fumigation bioassay. Good insecticidal activity against larvae of *L. ingenua* was achieved with essential oils of *Chenopodium ambrosioides* L., *Eucalyptus globulus* Labill, *Eucalyptus smithii* RT Baker, horseradish, anise and garlic at 10 and 5  $\mu\text{L L}^{-1}$  air. Horseradish, anise and garlic oils showed the most potent insecticidal activities among the plant essential oils. At 1.25  $\mu\text{L L}^{-1}$ , horseradish, anise and garlic oils caused 100, 93.3 and 13.3% mortality, but at 0.625  $\mu\text{L L}^{-1}$  air this decreased to 3.3, 0 and 0% respectively. Analysis by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry led to the identification of one major compound from horseradish, and three each from anise and garlic oils. These seven compounds and m-anisaldehyde and o-anisaldehyde, two positional isomers of p-anisaldehyde, were tested individually for their insecticidal activities against larvae of *L. ingenua*. Allyl isothiocyanate was the most toxic, followed by trans-anethole, diallyl disulfide and p-anisaldehyde with LC(50) values of 0.15, 0.20, 0.87 and 1.47  $\mu\text{L L}^{-1}$  respectively. [20]
- Tavallali, Vahid; Rahmati, Sadegh; Bahmanzadegan, Atefeh said that:** The antioxidant activity and essential oil content of plants may vary considerably with respect to environmental conditions, especially nutrient availability. Among micronutrients, zinc (Zn) is needed by plants in only small amounts but is crucial to plant development. This study aimed to evaluate the effects of Zn fertilization on the antioxidant activity,

polyphenolic contents and essential oil composition of *Pimpinella anisum* fruit. Foliar application of Zn fertilizer considerably increased the number of detected essential oil components from 27 to 45. Zinc application at a rate of 0.2% (w/v) significantly enhanced the levels of  $\beta$ -bisabolene, germacrene D, n-decane and  $\beta$ -zingiberene, whereas the opposite trend was observed for (E)-anethole and  $\alpha$ -terpinene. Application of 0.2% Zn considerably increased the levels of phenolic compounds, with chlorogenic acid showing the highest content among eight phenolic compounds detected in treated plants. The maximum antioxidant activity was achieved through application of 0.2% Zn fertilizer. These findings indicated that the quality and quantity of anise fruit essential oil components were significantly altered by application of low levels of Zn. After foliar application of Zn, polyphenolic contents as well as antioxidant activity of anise fruit increased. Using Zn fertilizer is an efficient method to improve the pharmaceutical and food properties of anise fruit. © 2017 Society of Chemical Industry. © 2017 Society of Chemical Industry.[21]

- **Soto-Argel, Camilo; Hidalgo, Diego; Palazon, Javier; Corchete, Purificación** said that: To explore the potentiality of undifferentiated *Pimpinella anisum* L. cell cultures for the production of secondary metabolites by means of elicitation. Two chromone compounds were secreted to the medium of undifferentiated cultures of *P. anisum*: 4-methoxyfuro[3,2-g] chromen-7-one, known as bergapten, which is constitutive to anise, and 5-hydroxy-7-methoxy-2-methylchromen-4-one, the rare chromone eugenin, not yet described in *P. anisum*. Caffeoyl quinic acid species were also identified in the biomass. Elicitation with methyl jasmonate enhanced chromone accumulation in the medium and stimulated phenolic acid metabolism in the biomass (11 mg caffeoyl quinic acids g<sup>-1</sup> DW cells). The application of 2,6-dimethyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextrins to cultures led to an intense accumulation of chromones, with nearly 10 mg l<sup>-1</sup> bergapten and 150 mg l<sup>-1</sup> eugenin being accumulated extracellularly after optimal elicitation conditions. The significant amounts of eugenin obtained in the anise cultures and the stability of production over long periods of time can be of interest for its biotechnological production and for future studies on biosynthesis regulation.[22]

- **Fitsiou, Eleni; Mitropoulou, Gregoria; Spyridopoulou, Katerina; Tiptiri-Kourpeti,**



**Angeliki; Vamvakias, Manolis; Bardouki, Haido; Panayiotidis, Mihalis İ<sup>TM</sup>; Galanis, Alex; Kourkoutas, Yiannis; Chlichlia, Katerina; Pappa, Aglaia said that:** Natural products, known for their medicinal properties since antiquity, are continuously being studied for their biological properties. In the present study, we analyzed the composition of the volatile preparations of essential oils of the Greek plants *Ocimum basilicum* (sweet basil), *Mentha spicata* (spearmint), *Pimpinella anisum* (anise) and *Fortunella margarita* (kumquat). GC/MS analyses revealed that the major components in the essential oil fractions, were carvone (85.4%) in spearmint, methylchavicol (74.9%) in sweet basil, trans-anethole (88.1%) in anise, and limonene (93.8%) in kumquat. We further explored their biological potential by studying their antimicrobial, antioxidant and antiproliferative activities. Only the essential oils from spearmint and sweet basil demonstrated cytotoxicity against common foodborne bacteria, while all preparations were active against the fungi *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Aspergillus niger*. Antioxidant evaluation by DPPH and ABTS radical scavenging activity assays revealed a variable degree of antioxidant potency. Finally, their antiproliferative potential was tested against a panel of human cancer cell lines and evaluated by using the sulforhodamine B (SRB) assay. All essential oil preparations exhibited a variable degree of antiproliferative activity, depending on the cancer model used, with the most potent one being sweet basil against an in vitro model of human colon carcinoma.[23]

- **Abdul-Hamid, Manal; Gallaly, Sanaa Rida said that:** The study aims to investigate the protective effect of *Pimpinella anisum* oil on aspartame (ASP) which resulted in cerebellar changes. The rats were divided into four equal groups: Group 1: (control group): served as control animals. Group 2: control *P. anisum* oil received .5â€‰mL/kg/d/b wt. once daily. Group 3 (ASP group): received daily 250â€‰mg/kg/b wt. of ASP dissolved in distilled water and given orally to the animals by intra-gastric tube for 2 months. Group 4: received .5â€‰mL/kg/b wt. of prophylactic *P. anisum* oil once daily, followed by ASP after 2â€‰h for 2 months. The histopathological approach revealed marked changes in the Purkinje cells, myelinated nerve fibers and granular cells of ASP-treated animals. Some of these cells appeared with deeply stained cytoplasm. Ultrastructural examination showed Purkinje cells with dilated rough endoplasmic reticulum and condensed mitochondria. Granular cells appeared with less c

nuclei and surrounded by dissolution of most Mossyroses structures. Most myelinated nerve fibers showed thickening of myelinated sheath and others showed splitting of their myelin sheath. The histopathological, immunohistochemical and ultrastructural alterations were much less observed in concomitant use of *P. anisum* oil with ASP. Cerebellar cortex is considered target areas of ASP neurotoxicity, while *P. anisum* oil, when used in combination with ASP displays a protective action against neurotoxicity.[24]

- **PubMed Central said that:** Background Essential oil of *Pimpinella anisum* L. Apiaceae (anise oil) has been widely used in traditional Persian medicine to treat a variety of diseases, including some neurological disorders. This study was aimed to test the possible anti-seizure and anti-hypoxia effects of anise oil. Methods The effects of different concentrations of anise oil were tested on seizure attacks induced by pentylenetetrazol (PTZ) injection and neuronal hypoxia induced by oxygen withdrawal as well as on production of dark neurons and induction of long-term potentiation (LTP) in *in vivo* and *in vitro* experimental models of rat brain. Results Anise oil significantly prolonged the latency of seizure attacks and reduced the amplitude and duration of epileptiform burst discharges induced by injection of intraperitoneal PTZ. In addition, anise oil significantly inhibited production of dark neurons in different regions of the brain in epileptic rats. Anise oil also significantly enhanced the duration of the appearance of anoxic terminal negativity induced by oxygen withdrawal and inhibited induction of LTP in hippocampal slices. Conclusions Our data indicate the anticonvulsant and neuroprotective effects of anise oil, likely via inhibition of synaptic plasticity. Further evaluation of anise oil to use in the treatment of neurological disorders is suggested. [25]
- **PubMed Central said that:** Background A phytotherapeutic compound containing *Pimpinella anisum* L., *Foeniculum vulgare* Miller, *Sambucus nigra* L., and *Cassia augustifolia* is largely used in Brazil for the treatment of constipation. However, the laxative efficacy of the compound has never been tested in a randomized clinical trial. The aim of this study was to evaluate the efficacy and safety of the product. Methods This randomized, crossover, placebo-controlled, single-blinded trial included 20 patients presenting with chronic constipation according to the criteria of the American Association

of Gastroenterology. The order of treatments was counterbalanced across subjects: half of the subjects received the phytotherapeutic compound for a 5-day period, whereas the other half received placebo for the same period. Both treatment periods were separated by a 9-day washout period followed by the reverse treatment for another 5-day period. The primary endpoint was colonic transit time (CTT), measured radiologically. Secondary endpoints included number of evacuations per day, perception of bowel function, adverse effects, and quality of life. Results Mean CTT assessed by X ray was 15.7 hours (95% CI 11.1-20.2) in the active treatment period and 42.3 hours (95% CI 33.5-51.1) during the placebo treatment ( $p < 0.001$ ). Number of evacuations per day increased during the use of active tea; significant differences were observed as of the second day of treatment ( $p < 0.001$ ). Patient perception of bowel function was improved ( $p < 0.01$ ), but quality of life did not show significant differences among the study periods. Except for a small reduction in serum potassium levels during the active treatment, no significant differences were observed in terms of adverse effects throughout the study period. Conclusions The findings of this randomized controlled trial allow to conclude that the phytotherapeutic compound assessed has laxative efficacy and is a safe alternative option for the treatment of constipation. [26]

- **Gamberini, Maria Thereza; Rodrigues, Domingos SÃ;vio; Rodrigues, Daniela; Pontes, Victoria Bottino said that:** *Pimpinella anisum* L. is considered one of the first plants used for medicinal purposes. Pharmacological actions of the plant on the central nervous system have been proven but previous analyses have focused on anticonvulsant and neuroprotective actions. In traditional medicine worldwide, the use of *Pimpinella* is commonly recommended as a tranquilizer, although no scientific information supporting this use is available. Therefore, it was decided to investigate the central actions of the plant to observe behavioral responses, with an emphasis on the emotional component. To investigate the effects of the aqueous extract of *Pimpinella* seeds on exploratory activity and emotional behavior in rats using the open field and elevated plus maze tests. Seeds of *Pimpinella* were extracted with distilled water, concentrated and freeze-dried yielding the aqueous extract (AE). Rats were divided into four groups: control (water 5 mL/kg, p.o.) and AE 0.5, 1.0 and 2.0 g/kg, p.o. Individual observations were performed in an open field and the parameters locomotor activity, rearing, grooming and defecation were recorded.

In elevated plus maze test, rats were divided into four groups: control (water 5 mL/kg, p.o.) and AE 0.5, 1.0 and 2.0 g/kg, p.o. The parameters arm entries, total time spent in open and closed arms; and total number of arrivals at the end of an open or closed arm were recorded for each rat. Among the parameters assessed with the open field test, only rearing was reduced in the AE 0.5 g/kg group. When AE 1.0 g/kg was administered, only the initiation of exploratory activity was delayed, without impairing the animals' general activity. The highest dose of AE (2.0 g/kg) induced a reduction in the animals' habituation during the open field test within the same session, as evidenced by the maintenance of high levels of peripheral locomotion and rearing throughout the test. [27]

- **Obando Pacheco, Pablo; Martínez-Martínez, Patricia Luisa; Pérez de Eulate Bazán, Yolanda; de la Mota Ybancos, José Luis; Milano Manso, Guillermo; Sierra Salinas, Carlos said that:** Intoxications in pediatric age represent a frequent cause of visit to the hospital emergency unit. Herb-made products can be toxic for the infant. The neurotoxic properties of the star anise (*Illicium verum*) have been widely described, although it is a classic product used to treat the infantile colic. Hepatic failure due to the consumption of anise herb elaborated infusions is presented as an exceptional finding in our environment. A case of a 4-month-old infant with hypertransaminasemia, severe coagulopathy, nonketotic hypoglycemia, moderated metabolic acidosis and neurologic symptoms such as seizures and nystagmus is described. After discarding infectious, metabolic and autoimmune etiology and through a meticulous anamnesis, the family referred having administered in the last two months a daily star anise and green anise (*Pimpinella anisum*) infusion to the patient. It is important to emphasize the serious risk of administering homemade herb infusions to infants. [28]
- **Koeduka, Takao; Baiga, Thomas J.; Noel, Joseph P.; Pichersky, Eran said that:** The phenylpropene *l*-anethole imparts the characteristic sweet aroma of anise (*Pimpinella anisum*, family Apiaceae) seeds and leaves. Here we report that the aerial parts of the anise plant accumulate *l*-anethole as the plant matures, with the highest levels of *l*-anethole found in fruits. Although the anise plant is covered with trichomes, *l*-anethole accumulates inside the leaves and not in the trichomes or the epidermal cell layer. We have obtained anise cDNA encoding *l*-anethol/iso Eugenol synthase 1 (AIS1), an NADPH-

dependent enzyme that can biosynthesize t-anol and isoeugenol (the latter not found in anise) from coumaryl acetate and coniferyl acetate, respectively. In addition, we have obtained a cDNA encoding S-[methyl-14C]adenosyl-l-methionine:t-anol/isoeugenol O-methyltransferase 1 (AIMT1), an enzyme that can convert t-anol or isoeugenol to t-anethole or methylisoeugenol, respectively, via methylation of the para-OH group. The genes encoding AIS1 and AIMT1 were expressed throughout the plant and their transcript levels were highest in developing fruits. The AIS1 protein is 59% identical to petunia (*Petunia hybrida*) isoeugenol synthase 1 and displays apparent  $K_m$  values of 145  $\mu\text{M}$  for coumaryl acetate and 230  $\mu\text{M}$  for coniferyl acetate. AIMT1 prefers isoeugenol to t-anol by a factor of 2, with  $K_m$  values of 19.3  $\mu\text{M}$  for isoeugenol and 54.5  $\mu\text{M}$  for basilicum) and *Clarkia breweri* phenylpropene O-methyltransferases, but unlike these enzymes, which do not show large discrimination between substrates with isomeric propenyl side chains, AIMT1 shows a 10-fold preference for t-anol over chavicol and for isoeugenol over eugenol. [29]

- **Koeduka, Takao; Baiga, Thomas J; Noel, Joseph P; Pichersky, Eran said that:** The phenylpropene t-anethole imparts the characteristic sweet aroma of anise (*Pimpinella anisum*, family Apiaceae) seeds and leaves. Here we report that the aerial parts of the anise plant accumulate t-anethole as the plant matures, with the highest levels of t-anethole found in fruits. Although the anise plant is covered with trichomes, t-anethole accumulates inside the leaves and not in the trichomes or the epidermal cell layer. We have obtained anise cDNA encoding t-anol/isoeugenol synthase 1 (AIS1), an NADPH-dependent enzyme that can biosynthesize t-anol and isoeugenol (the latter not found in anise) from coumaryl acetate and coniferyl acetate, respectively. In addition, we have obtained a cDNA encoding S-[methyl-14C]adenosyl-l-methionine:t-anol/isoeugenol O-methyltransferase 1 (AIMT1), an enzyme that can convert t-anol or isoeugenol to t-anethole or methylisoeugenol, respectively, via methylation of the para-OH group. The genes encoding AIS1 and AIMT1 were expressed throughout the plant and their transcript levels were highest in developing fruits. The AIS1 protein is 59% identical to petunia (*Petunia hybrida*) isoeugenol synthase 1 and displays apparent  $K_m$  values of 145  $\mu\text{M}$  for coumaryl acetate and 230  $\mu\text{M}$  for coniferyl acetate. AIMT1 prefers isoeugenol to t-anol by a factor of 2, with  $K_m$  values of 19.3  $\mu\text{M}$  for isoeugenol and 54.5  $\mu\text{M}$  for S-[methyl-14C]adenosyl-l-methionine. The AIMT1 protein sequence is

approximately 40% identical to basil (*Ocimum basilicum*) and *Clarkia breweri* phenylpropene O-methyltransferases, but unlike these enzymes, which do not show large discrimination between substrates with isomeric propenyl side chains, AIMT1 shows a 10-fold preference for *t*-anol over chavicol and for isoeugenol over eugenol.[30]

- **Erler, F; Ulug, I; Yalcinkaya, B said that:** Essential oils extracted from the seeds of anise (*Pimpinella anisum*), dried fruits of eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), dried foliage of mint (*Mentha piperita*) and basil (*Ocimum basilicum*) and fresh foliage of laurel (*Laurus nobilis*) were tested for their repellency against the adult females of *Culex pipiens*. All essential oils showed repellency in varying degrees, eucalyptus, basil and anise being the most active.[31]
- **De, Minakshi; De, Amit Krishna; Sen, Parimal; Banerjee, Arun Baran said that:** Star anise (*Illicium verum* Hook f) has been shown to possess potent antimicrobial properties. Chemical studies indicate that a major portion of this antimicrobial property is due to anethole present in the dried fruit. Studies with isolated anethole (compared with standard anethole) indicated that it is effective against bacteria, yeast and fungal strains. Copyright 2002 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.[32]
- **Howes, Melanie-Jayne R; Kite, Geoffrey C; Simmonds, Monique S J said that:** The volatile compounds from the pericarps of *Illicium anisatum* L., *Illicium brevistylum* A.C.Sm., *Illicium griffithii* Hook.f. & Thomson, *Illicium henryi* Diels, *Illicium lanceolatum* A.C.Sm., *Illicium majus* Hook.f. & Thomson, *Illicium micranthum* Dunn, and *Illicium verum* Hook.f. were examined by thermal desorption-gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (TD-GC-MS). The volatiles desorbed from the pericarps of *I. verum* (Chinese star anise), the species traded for culinary purposes, were generally characterized by a high proportion of (E)-anethole (57.6-77.1%) and the presence of foeniculin; the latter was otherwise only detected in the pericarps of *I. lanceolatum*. In the pericarps of all other species analyzed, the percentage composition of (E)-anethole was comparatively lower (anise) were characterized by the presence of asaricin, methoxyeugenol, and two other eugenol derivatives, none of which were detected in any of the other species examined. TD-GC-MS enables the direct analysis of

the volatile components from the pericarps of *Illicium* and can assist with differentiating the fruits of *I. verum* from other species of *Illicium*, particularly the more toxic *I. anisatum*. [33]

- Topuz, Osman Kadir; Aşvural, Emin Burak; Zhao, Qin; Huang, Qingrong; Chikindas, Michael; Muharrem said that:** The purpose of this research was to investigate antimicrobial effects of nano emulsions of anise oil (AO) on the survival of common food borne pathogens, *Listeria monocytogenes* and *Escherichia coli* O157:H7. Series of emulsions containing different level of anise oil as potential antimicrobial delivery systems were prepared. Antimicrobial activities of bulk anise oil and its emulsions (coarse and nano) was tested by the minimum inhibitory concentration and time kill assay. Our results showed that bulk anise oil reduced the population of *E. coli* O157:H7 and *L. monocytogenes* by 1.48 and 0.47 log cfu/ml respectively after 6 h of contact time. However, under the same condition anise oil nanoemulsion (AO75) reduced *E. coli* O157:H7 and *L. monocytogenes* count by 2.51 and 1.64 log cfu/ml, respectively. Physicochemical and microbial analyses indicated that both nano and coarse emulsions of anise oil showed better and long-term physicochemical stability and antimicrobial activity compared to bulk anise oil. Copyright © 2016 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved. [34]
- Gradinaru, Adina Catinca; Miron, Anca; Trifan, Adriana; Spac, A; Brebu, M; Aprotosoaie, Ana Clara said that:** This study aimed to investigate the effects of anise essential oil alone and in combination with conventional antibiotics (amoxicillin, ciprofloxacin) against *Streptococcus pneumoniae* clinical isolates. MATERIAL AND METHODS: Anise essential oil (AEO) was isolated by hydrodistillation from dried powdered fruits. Its chemical composition was investigated by GC-MS and GC-FID. Broth dilution assay was used to evaluate the antibacterial effects of anise essential oil. The interactions with antibiotics were studied by the checkerboard assay. Trans-anethole (90.18%) was identified as major constituent in anise essential oil. Almost all combinations AEO-amoxicillin and AEO-ciprofloxacin showed indifferent interactions ( $1 < \text{FIC index} < \text{or} = 2$ ). Positive interactions (addition and weak synergism) were found only for four combinations AEO-amoxicillin (FIC index = 1, 0.62, 0.75 and 0.5) and one combination AEO-ciprofloxacin (FIC index = 0.62). Herbal products containing anise

essential oil may be used as expectorants in combination with amoxicillin or ciprofloxacin in *Streptococcus pneumoniae* infections without diminishing antibiotic efficacy.[35]

- **Bluma, R; Amaiden, M R; Daghero, J; Etcheverry, M said that:** The antifungal effect of *Pimpinella anisum* (anise), *Plantago major* (plantain), *Mentha piperita* (peppermint), *Origanum vulgare* (oregano) and *Minthostachys verticillata* (peperina) essential oils against *Aspergillus section Flavi* (two isolates of *Aspergillus parasiticus* and two isolates of *Aspergillus flavus*) was evaluated in maize meal extract agar at 0.982 and 0.955 water activities, at 25 degrees C. The percentage of germination, germ-tube elongation rate, growth rate and aflatoxin B(1) (AFB(1)) accumulation at different essential oils concentrations were evaluated. Anise and boldus essential oils were the most inhibitory at 500 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> to all growth parameters of the fungus. These essential oils inhibited the percentage of germination, germ-tube elongation rate and fungal growth. AFB(1) accumulation was completely inhibited by anise, boldus and oregano essential oils. Peperina and peppermint essential oils inhibited AFB(1) production by 85-90% in all concentrations assayed. Anise and boldus essential oils could be considered as effective fungitoxins for *Aspergillus section flavi*. Our results suggest that these phytochemical compounds could be used alone or in conjunction with other substances to control the presence of aflatoxigenic fungi in stored maize. [36]
- **Bristol, D W said that:** Estragole is a natural organic compound that is used as an additive, flavoring agent, or fragrance in a variety of food, cleaning, and cosmetic products; as an herbal medicine; as an antimicrobial agent against acid-tolerant food microflora; and to produce synthetic anise oil. Estragole was nominated for toxicity testing by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to characterize its toxicity when administered by gavage to F344/N rats and B6C3F1 mice and to determine how similar its effects might be to those of the structurally related compound, methyl eugenol. Male and female F344/N rats and B6C3F1 mice were given estragole (greater than 99% pure) in corn oil by gavage for 3 months. Genetic toxicology studies were conducted in *Salmonella typhimurium* and mouse peripheral blood erythrocytes. Core and special study (rats only) groups of 10 male and 10 female rats and mice were administered 37.5,



75, 150, 300, or 600 mg estragole/kg body weight in corn oil by gavage, 5 days perweek. The core study groups were given estragole for 3 months and the special study groups for 30 days. All core study rats survived the 3-month exposure period. Mean body weights of the 300 and 600 mg/kg groups were 73% to 92%, respectively, of those of the vehicle control groups. A staining pattern on the ventral surface anterior to the genitalia beginning at week 9 in the 300 and 600 mg/kg groups was attributed to residue of estragole or metabolites in the urine. Alterations in the erythron related to estragole administration occurred in male and female rats; male rats demonstrated a stronger response. The changes in the erythron were characterized as a microcytic, normochromic, nonresponsive anemia. There were decreases in serum iron concentration in the 300 mg/kg females and 600 mg/kg males and females. The average percent saturation of total iron binding capacity was decreased in the 600 mg/kg males and females. [37]

- **Calsamiglia, S; Busquet, M; Cardozo, P W; Castillejos, L; Ferret, A said that:** trans-Anethole (anethole), a major component of anise oil, has a broad antimicrobial spectrum and a weaker antimicrobial potency than other available antibiotics. When combined with polygodial, nagilactone E, and n-dodecanol, anethole has been shown to exhibit synergistic antifungal activity against a budding yeast, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, and a human opportunistic pathogenic yeast, *Candida albicans*. However, the mechanism underlying this synergistic effect of anethole has not been characterized. We studied this mechanism using dodecanol-treated *S. cerevisiae* cells and focusing on genes related to multidrug efflux. Although dodecanol transiently reduced the number of colony forming units, this recovered to levels similar to those of untreated cells with continued incubation beyond 24h. Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction analysis revealed overexpression of an ATP-binding cassette (ABC) transporter gene, PDR5, in addition to a slight increase in PDR11, PDR12, and PDR15 transcriptions in dodecanol-treated cells. In the presence of anethole, these effects were attenuated and the fungicidal activity of dodecanol was extended. Dodecanol showed longer lasting fungicidal activity against a  $\Delta pdr5$ . In addition,  $\Delta pdr3$  and  $\Delta lge1$ , lack transcription factors of PDR5 and PDR3, were partly and completely susceptible to dodecanol, respectively. Furthermore, combination of anethole with fluconazole was also found to exhibit synergy on *C. albicans*. These results indicated that although anethole reduced the transcription of several transporters, PDR5 expression was particularly relevant to dodecanol efflux. Anethole is expected to be

a promising candidate drug for the inhibition of efflux by reducing the transcription of several ABC transporters. Copyright© 2016 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.[38]

- Chang, Kyu-Sik; Ahn, Young-Joon said that:** The insecticidal activities of materials derived from the fruit of star anise, *Illicium verum*, against adults of *Blattella germanica* were examined by direct contact application and fumigation methods, and compared with those of DDVP, deltamethrin and hydramethylnon. The biologically active constituent of the *Illicium* fruit was characterized as the phenylpropene, (E)-anethole, by spectroscopic analysis. In a filter paper diffusion test with females, (E)-anethole caused 80.3% mortality at 0.159 mg cm<sup>-2</sup> at 1 and 3 days after treatment (DAT), whereas 16.7% mortality at 3 DAT was achieved at 0.079 mg cm<sup>-2</sup>. DDVP and deltamethrin gave > 90% mortality at 0.019 mg cm<sup>-2</sup> at 1 DAT. At 0.009 mg cm<sup>-2</sup>, DDVP and deltamethrin showed 73.3 and 60% mortality at 1 DAT, respectively, but 93.3 and 76.7% mortality at 3 DAT. Hydramethylnon exhibited 0 and 93.3% mortality at 0.159 mg cm<sup>-2</sup> at 1 and 3 DAT, respectively, whereas 6.7% mortality at 3 DAT was observed at 0.079 mg cm<sup>-2</sup>. In a fumigation test with females, (E)-anethole was much more effective in closed cups than in open ones, indicating that the insecticidal activity of the compound was largely attributable to fumigant action. (E)-Anethole and DDVP caused 100% mortality at 0.398 and 0.051 mg cm<sup>-2</sup> 4 and 1h after treatment, respectively. (E)-Anethole showed 46.7% mortality at 0.199 mg cm<sup>-2</sup> at 3 DAT, whereas deltamethrin and hydramethylnon at 0.796 mg cm<sup>-2</sup> was ineffective for 3-day period. As naturally occurring insect-control agents, the *I. verum* fruit-derived materials described could be useful for managing populations of *B. germanica*. [39]
- Gaztañaga, Mirari; Aranda-Fernández, P Ezequiel; Chotro, M Gabriela said that:** Rat fetuses can perceive chemosensory stimuli derived from their mother's diet, and they may learn about those stimuli. In previous studies we have observed that prenatal exposure to alcohol during the last days of gestation increases the acceptance and liking of an alcohol flavor in infant and adolescent rats. While these results were not found after prenatal exposure to vanilla, cineole or anise, suggesting that the pharmacological properties of alcohol, mediated by the opioid system, underlie the effects observed with this drug. Considering that other studies report enhanced acceptance of non-alcohol flavors experienced prenatally when subjects were tested before infancy, we explore the

possibility of observing similar results if testing 1-day old rats exposedprenatally to vanilla. Using an "odor-induced crawling" testing procedure, it was observed that neonates exposed prenatally tovanilla or alcohol crawl for a longer distance towards the experienced odor than to other odors or than control pups. Blocking mu,but not kappa opioid receptors, reduced the attraction of vanilla odor to neonates exposed to vanilla in utero, while the response toalcohol in pups exposed prenatally to this drug was affected by both antagonists. Results confirm that exposure to a non-alcoholodor enhances postnatal responses to it, observable soon after birth, while also suggesting that the mu opioid receptor systemplays an important role in generating this effect. The results also imply that with alcohol exposure, the prenatal opioid system iswholly involved, which could explain the longer retention of the enhanced attraction to alcohol following prenatal experiencewith the drug. Copyright Â© 2014 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.[40]

# **CHAPTER 3**

# **AIM & OBJECTIVE**

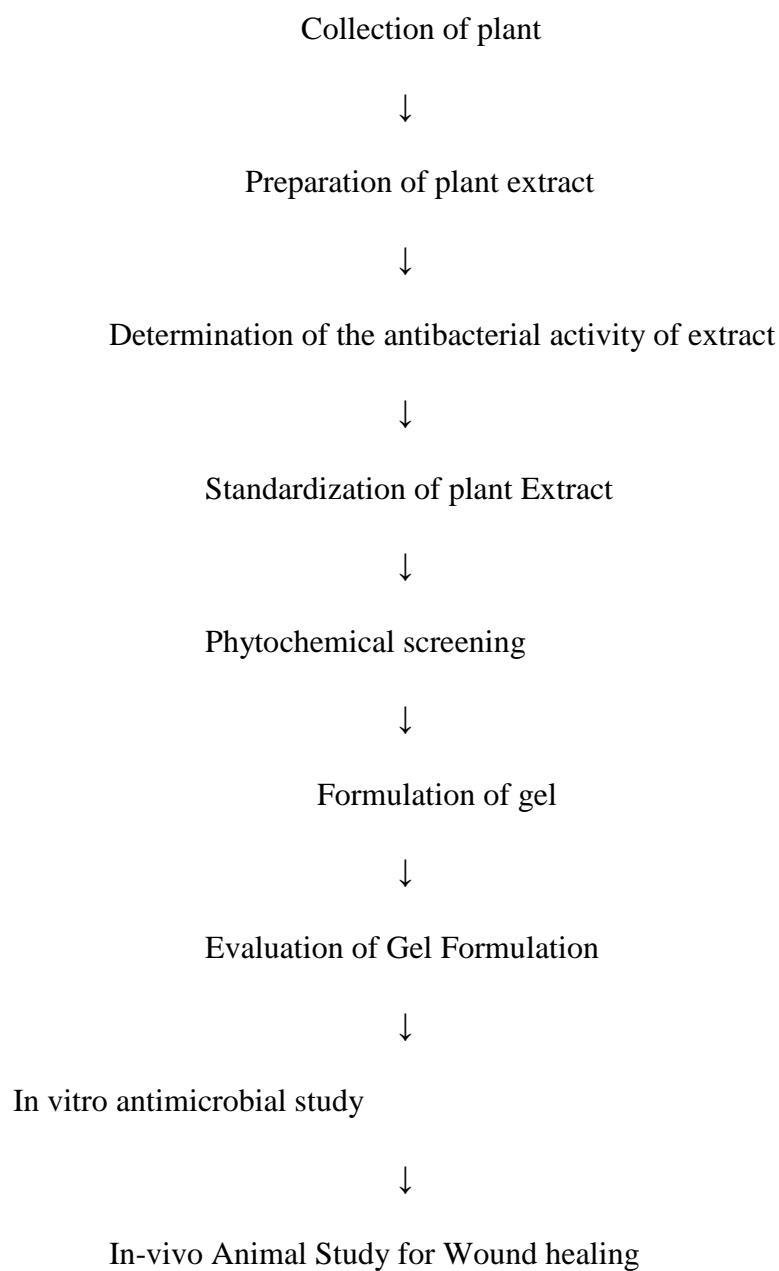
### 3.1 AIM:

This study aims to formulate the herbal gel from *Pimpinella anisum* plant seed extract and to evaluate the wound healing activity.

### 3.2 OBJECTIVE:

- Literature survey in the context of national/international scientific journals, books, e-sources etc.
- Extraction of oil from *Pimpinellaanisum* seeds using ethanol as solvent.
- Identification test
- Phytochemical Screening
- Formulation of gel
- Evaluation of gel
- In-vitro antimicrobial study
- In-vivo wound healing activity

### 3.3PLAN OF WORK:



# **CHAPTER 4**

# **MATERIALS & METHODS**

## 4. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

### 4.1 CHEMICALS USED:

All the chemicals are used of analytical grade and the manufacturers for respective chemicals are listed below:

**TABLE NO.2 : LIST OF CHEMICALS USED:**

Sl no.	Chemicals	Suppliers
1.	Ethanol	Infinity solution
2.	Methanol	Infinity solution
3.	Liquid CO <sub>2</sub>	Rankem, Mumbai.
4.	Hydro Chloric acid	Rankem, Mumbai.
5.	KOH	Infinity solution
6.	Anise tincture	B S Trading, Kolkata
7.	Acetone	Infinity solution
8.	Estragole	B S Trading, Kolkata
9.	Trans-anethole	B S Trading, Kolkata
10.	4-methoxy benzoic acid	Rankem, Mumbai.
11.	Sodium hydroxide	Infinity solution
12.	Chloroform	Infinity solution

### 4.2 INSTRUMENTS USED:

All the instruments are used of analytical grade and the manufacturers for respective chemicals are listed below:



**TABLE NO.3 : LIST OF INSTRUMENTS USED:**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Instruments</b>
1.	Clevenger apparatus
2.	Separating funnel
3.	Digital weighing balance
4.	Mechanical grinder
5.	Magnetic stirrer with a hot plate
6.	Hot air oven
7.	Refrigerator

**4.3 CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF ANISE SEED:****TABLE NO. 4: CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF ANISE SEED:**

<b>CHEMICALS</b>	<b>AMOUNT PRESENT IN ANISE OIL</b>
Trans-anethole	87- 94.0%
Estragole	0.5-5.0%
Anis aldehyde	0.1- 1.4%
Linalol	< 1.5%
Alpha-terpineol	< 1.2%
Cis-anethole	0.1-0.4%
Pseudoisoeugenyl 1, 2-methylbutyrate	0.3-2.0%
Fenchone max	0.01%

Aniseed contains 1.5–6.0 mass % of a volatile oil consisting primarily of trans-anethole and also as much as 8–11 mass % of lipids rich in fatty acids, such as palmitic and oleic acids, as well as approximately 4 mass % of carbohydrates, and 18 mass % of protein. Other studies have demonstrated the presence of eugenol trans-anethole, methyl chavicol, anis aldehyde, estragole, coumarins, scopoletin, umbelliferone, estrols, terpene hydrocarbons, polyenes, and polyacetylenes as the major compounds of the essential

oil of anise seed. Study of the essential oil of *Pimpinella anisum* L. fruits by GC and GC-MS showed the presence of trans-anethole (93.9%) and estragole (2.4%).

Other compounds that were found with concentration higher than 0.06% were (E)-methyl eugenol,  $\alpha$ -cuparene,  $\alpha$ -himachalene,  $\beta$ -bisabolene, p-anis aldehyde, and cis-anethole. In another study for determination of the composition of essential oil of *Pimpinella anisum* L. fruits obtained from different geographical areas of Europe, in addition to the major components (trans-anethole (76.9–93.7%) and  $\gamma$ -himachalene (0.4–8.2%)), some other compounds such as trans-pseudoisoeugenyl 2-methylbutyrate, p-anis aldehyde, and methyl chavicol were also identified in essential oil. Study of components of the whole plants and the seeds of *Pimpinella anisum* from Alberta showed that the major oil constituent (trans-anethole) was 57.4% of whole plant and 75.2% of seed oil. The other constituents of plant oil, present in amounts of 1–5% were cis-anethole, carvone,  $\beta$ -caryophyllene, dihydrocarvyl acetate, estragole and limonene. The chemical constituents of aniseed extract obtained by Supercritical extraction using CO<sub>2</sub> were determined by GCMS.

The major compounds were anethole (~90%),  $\gamma$ -himachalene (2–4%), p-anis aldehyde (<1%), methyl chavicol (0.9–1.5%), cis-pseudoisoeugenyl 2-methylbutyrate (~3%), and trans-pseudoisoeugenyl 2-methylbutyrate (~1.3%). A new terpene hydrocarbon called neophytadiene was isolated from aniseed in 1978 [12]. 4-( $\beta$ -d-glucopyranosyloxy) benzoic acid which is one of the phenolic glycosides of the Umbelliferae family was also isolated from aniseed. In a study by Fujimoto et al., four aromatic compound glucosides, an alkyl glucoside, and a glucide were isolated as new compounds from the polar portion of methanolic extract of anise fruits. The structures of the new compounds were clarified as (E)-3-hydroxy-anethole  $\beta$ -d-glucopyranoside, (E)-10-(2-hydroxy-5-methoxyphenyl) propane  $\beta$ -d-glucopyranoside, 3-hydroxyestragole  $\beta$ -d-glucopyranoside, methyl syringate 4-O- $\beta$ -d-glucopyranoside, hexane-1,5-diol 1-O- $\beta$ -d-glucopyranoside, and 1-deoxy-1-erythritol 3-O- $\beta$ -d-glucopyranoside. Isolation and structure elucidation of flavonoid constituents from anise, caraway, coriander, and fennel by means of chromatography on cellulose columns lead to isolation of quercetin 3-glucuronide, rutin, luteolin 7-glucoside, isoorientin, and isovitexin as crystalline compounds and apigenin 7-glucoside and a luteolin glycoside as noncrystalline compounds from anise. In another study, a silver ion HPLC procedure was used to determine the fatty acids composition of aniseed oil.

The results showed the positionally isomeric 18:1 fatty acids oleic acid (cis 9–18:1),

petroselinic acid (cis 6–18:1), and cisvaccenic acid (cis 11–18:1), in aniseed oil by a single gradient run on a single cation exchange column laboratory converted to the silver ion form. Also, three lignin-carbohydrate protein complexes were isolated from a hot water extract of the seeds of *Pimpinella anisum* by combination of anion exchange, gel filtration, and hydrophobic interaction column chromatographies. [3]

#### 4.4 PREPARATION OF PLANT EXTRACT:

Several techniques had been implemented for the extraction of oils like turbo distillation, super critical fluid extraction, Solvent extraction, hydro distillation, use of superheated and supercritical water and other such as microwave assisted processes, Steam distillation etc.

Out of these techniques the Steam distillation is one of the promising techniques for extraction of oil.

Aniseed, on steam distillation, yields an essential oil, known as `Oil of Aniseed`, which has now replaced the fruits for medicinal and flavoring purposes. Aniseed oil is a colorless or pale-yellow liquid having the characteristic odor and taste of the fruit. The yield of oil generally varies from 1.9 to 3.1 percent. Higher values up to 6 per cent have been reported from Syrian aniseed. Crushing of fruits prior to distillation gives better yields of oil. The material should be distilled soon after the crushing to prevent any loss of oil due to evaporation. Aniseed oil is a highly refractive liquid, which solidifies on cooling. The congealing point depends much on the anethole content and is a valuable criterion for evaluating the oil. Exposure of the oil to air causes polymerization, and some oxidation also takes place with the formation of anisaldehyde and anisic acid. The chief constituent of aniseed oil is anethole, which is present to the extent of 80 to 90 per cent and is mainly responsible for the characteristic flavor of the oil. The oil also contains methyl chavicol, p-methoxyphenyl acetone, and small amount of terpenes and sulfur containing compounds of disagreeable odor.



Fig 3: Clevanger apparatus

Clevanger apparatus consists of a steam generator connected to the round bottom flask through a glass inlet tube. The flask is connected to a water condenser through a glass outlet tube. Condenser is further attached to a receiver through an adaptor. [45]

#### 4.4.1 PROCEDURE OF STEAM DISTILLATION:

- i. Take about 750 ml of water in the steam generator and start heating to produce steam.
- ii. In the round bottom flask take crushed anise seed.
- iii. A vigorous current of steam from steam generator is passed through the round bottom flask.
- iv. A part of the steam condenses in the round bottom flask. As more and more steam is passed, the steam volatile components of anise seed pass through the condenser along with steam. These contents on condensation are collected in the receiver.
- v. The contents in the round bottom flask may be heated by a heating mantle to prevent excessive condensation of steam.
- vi. The process of steam distillation is continued for about half an hour.
- vii. Transfer the distillate to a separating funnel.
- viii. Wait for one day allow settling down to find two layer of phases of different density, raffinate and extract phases.
- ix. Separate the two layers.
- x. Find the weight of the extracted essential oil. Note the color, odor and weight of the essential oil.

#### 4.4.2 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

**Batches:**

*1) first batch of distillation and results:*

Quantity of aniseed = 150 gm

Water quantity = 500 ml

Temperature = 70°C

Oil recovery = 2 ml

*2) Second batch of distillation*

Quantity of aniseed = 150 gm

Water quantity = 400 ml

Oil recovery = 3 ml

*3) Third batch of distillation*

Quantity of aniseed = 250 g

Water quantity = 300 ml

Oil recovery = 2 ml

*4) Fourth batch of distillation*

Quantity of aniseed = 350 gm

Water quantity= 350 ml

Oil recovery= 4 ml



Fig 4: Collected Oil & water

The color of Anise oil was measured using spectrophotometer. The Saponification

value of oil is determined by laboratory method using HCl, KOH chemical. Acid value determines free fatty acid content in oil by laboratory method. Refractive Index was measured by using Refractometer at 25°C. [46]

**TABLE NO.5 : PROPERTIES OF ANISE SEED OIL**

Sl. no.	Parameter	Results
i.	Color	Pale yellow
ii.	Specific gravity	0.987
iii.	Saponification value	168.3
iv.	Acid value	2.55
v.	Iodine value	99
vi.	Refractive index	1.55
vii.	Odor	Sweet like Anethole

#### **4.4.3 OBSERVATION:**

It was observed that very less work was done in obtaining Oil from Aniseed by Steam distillation method. Volume of Essential Oil increases with increases in time of heating keeping the temperature constant. On decreasing the pressure, we can extract Essential Oils at relatively less temperature and within less time of heating.

#### **4.5 ANIMALS REQUIRED:**

- i. Species and Strain: Wistar albino rats
- ii. Age and Weight: Adult (150-180g) rats
- iii. Gender: Male

- iv. Number to be used (Year-wise breakups and total figures needed to be given in tabular form):

**TABLE NO.6 : NUMBER OF RATS TO BE USED**

ANIMAL	NUMBER OF ANIMALS
Control	6
Standard	6
Test	6

Total number of animals: 18

- v. Number of days each animal will be housed: 30 days
- vi. Duration of the animal experiment:

Date of initiation (Proposed): - 01/04/2021

Date of completion (Proposed): - 30/4/2021

#### **4.6 NECESSITY OF ANIMAL USAGE IN SUCH STUDIES:**

- Animal models are the next step when assessing product efficacy.
- Animal models are beneficial to wound research because of their compliance towards wound healing studies [50]

#### **4.7 REASON FOR SELECTING PARTICULAR ANIMAL SPECIES:**

- Albino rats are used for this project because they will eat any food typically eaten by humans
- They have a digestive system similar to humans; they are small, clean, gentle and easily caged animals
- They can safely and easily be handled; they do not transmit disease to humans; and

they grow quickly.

- The estimated number of animals is required to study the wound healing activity and statistical analysis of data. [50]

#### 4.8 PROCEDURE OF WOUND CREATION:

- The rats were weighed prior to the surgical procedure.
- The animals were anaesthetized prior to the infliction of the experimental wound.
- The backs of the animals were shaved and then prepared for aseptic surgery.
- Under sterile conditions, a square shape, full thickness incision (2×2cm) was made in the skin with sharp scalpel and the incised piece was removed.
- The wound was left undressed and no local or systemic antimicrobial drugs were administered.
- Then, the 3 groups were applied with equal aliquots of formulation, standard solution and water for injection respectively.
- Each group of rats received a particular treatment regimen housed separately in a ventilated cage with appropriate bedding, food, and water.
- Rats were checked twice daily during wounds and treatment to ensure no adverse reactions took place and closely observed the wound activity of the gel formulation against the experimental wounds on the experimental rats. [51]

#### 4.9 STUDY DESIGN:

The rats were randomly allocated into three main groups (n=6) as follows:

- **control**
- **Standard**, *Pimpinella anisum* oil (bought from market)
- **Treatment**, *Pimpinella anisum* 10% (prepared in lab)

Once in their main groups, the rats were representing days seven, 14 and 21 post-injury (n=6).



The groups were defined wound dressings were not used in the wound area of rats in the control group.

In the standard groups, the injured area was covered with 1ml *Pimpinella anisum* daily, for 14 days post-injury.

In the treatment group, the wound area was covered with 1ml *Pimpinella anisum* 10% (*Pimpinella anisum* powder, 10g was suspended in 90g Eucerin) for 14 days post-injury.

From each group, three animals were euthanised at days seven, 14 and 21 post-injury by intravenous injection of pentobarbital (50mg/kg). [51]

#### 4.10 RATE OF WOUND CLOSURE:

Wounds were serially photographed using a digital camera on days seven, 14, and 21 post-injury. The wound area was measured using Image J software (Java 1.6.0.20; National Institute of Health, US). The following formula was used to calculate the rate of wound closure:

$$\% \text{ wound closure} = \frac{\text{wound size day 0} - \text{wound size day (n)}}{\text{wound size day 0}} \times 100$$

n=numbers of days (seven, 14 and 21).

Statistical analysis:

Descriptive statistics including the median, mean, standard error (SE), minimum and maximum were calculated for all variables [51]

# **CHAPTER 5**

# **RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS**

## 5.1RESULTS:

**From the oil extraction process, the results are as follows:**

***Batches:***

*1) first batch of distillation and results:*

Quantity of aniseed = 150 gm

Water quantity = 500 ml

Temperature = 70°C

Oil recovery = 2 ml

*2) Second batch of distillation*

Quantity of aniseed = 150 gm

Water quantity = 400 ml

Oil recovery = 3 ml

*3) Third batch of distillation*

Quantity of aniseed = 250 g

Water quantity = 300 ml

Oil recovery = 2 ml

*4) Fourth batch of distillation*

Quantity of aniseed = 350 gm

Water quantity= 350 ml

Oil recovery= 4 ml

The color of Anise oil was measured using spectrophotometer. The Saponification value of oil is determined by laboratory method using HCl, KOH chemical. Acid value determines free fatty acid content in oil by laboratory method. Refractive Index was measured by using Refractometer at 25°C.

Since the experiment of wound healing was not performed, a literature review on “Wound healing activity of *Pimpinella anisum* methanolic extract in streptozotocin-induced Wistar Albino rats” by **Mohammad Hashemnia, Zahra Nikousefat, Adel Mohammadalipour, Mohammad-Mahdi Zangeneh, Akram Zangeneh**, from JOURNAL OF WOUND CARE SILK ROAD SUPPLEMENT VOL 28, NO 10, OCTOBER 2019, was referred for the observation and discussion part.

## 5.2 GENERAL OBSERVATION:

A total of 18 rats were used in the study, with each group containing 6 rats. At day seven post-injury, the wounds exhibited the formation of a scar covering thick granulation tissue in all rats. However, treatment with *Pimpinella anisum* (which was prepared in lab) produced more scar tissue than other groups when examined macroscopically.

Re-epithelialisation was evident in the control, *Pimpinella anisum* standard groups, while rats in the *Pimpinella anisum* 10% (prepared in lab) treatment group indicated minimal re-epithelialisation. At this stage, less cellularity, perivascular oedema and fibrin deposition and more collagen fibres were observed in *Pimpinella anisum* treated wounds compared with the other groups.

At day 14 post-injury, a more organised pattern in the collagen fibres and better tissue alignment were seen in the *Pimpinella anisum* treated group compared with the other groups. In all groups, although the epidermis was disorganised and thick, particularly when compared with the adjacent normal skin, but its size was decreased and its alignment was better in the *Pimpinella anisum* treated lesions in comparison with the *Pimpinella anisum* standard groups and control lesions. At this stage, evidence of pus accumulation, fibrin deposition, polymorphonuclear cells infiltration or oedema were not observed in the lesions of animals in all groups.

At day 21 post-injury, the wounds in groups were totally closed in the *Pimpinella anisum* treated lesions. The size of scar tissue was also smaller and the collagen fibre alignment was better than in those of the *Pimpinella anisum* standard groups and control group lesions. Additionally, the number of lymphocytes and macrophages was decreased in the *Pimpinella anisum* and tetracycline treated groups, and considerably greater tissue maturation and large capillary-sized blood vessels were observed compared with the other groups. [52]

### 5.3 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS:

At days seven and 14 post-injury, the diabetic rats in the control group displayed a significant delay in wound healing compared with those treated with *Pimpinella anisum* ( $p < 0.05$ ).

At day 21 post-injury, the closure of the wounds treated with *Pimpinella anisum* ( $94.07 \pm 1.21\%$ ) was significantly faster than those of the control ( $77.19 \pm 2.97\%$ ) and *Pimpinella anisum* standard group ( $83.24 \pm 2.53\%$ ) groups ( $p < 0.05$ ).

The wounds were almost closed or greatly improved (between 98–100%) in two rats in the *Pimpinella anisum* group, while the wounds were not closed in other groups. [52]

### 5.4 DISCUSSION:

Cutaneous wounds are diverse, multifactorial, complex and persistent in patients. Several mechanisms can cause cutaneous wounds, such as poor blood flow and oxygen release due to increased blood sugar. This condition is believed to be caused by impaired blood flow and oxygen release from increased blood sugar, decreased collagen and fibronectin synthesis from protein malnutrition, impaired local immune and cell defences, and decreased anabolic activity with decreased insulin and growth hormone.

The study of wound healing medicines for patients and the quest for better, more effective remedies is possibly one of the main challenges for investigators. The enormous costs of modern medicines lead the researchers to seek alternative strategies for the better management of wounds in their patients with diabetes. Medicinal plants are common remedies used by people in many countries. [53]

Due to its reported hypoglycaemic, anti-inflammatory and antioxidant effects of *Pimpinella*

*anisum*, and also its anti-ulcer activity and healing properties, we hypothesised that this plant could be used as a compound to accelerate wound healing process.

The results of this study indicate that topical application of *Pimpinella anisum* improved the quality of wound contraction, re-epithelialisation and scar formation in Wistar albino rats in the short-term.

Over a longer time-period, topical application of this compound appeared to decrease total cellularity, improve maturation of fibroblast, increase fibroblast differentiation rate in lesion and ultimately reduce scar tissue size. [54]

A main result of this experiment was the clear difference in wound contraction rate and re-epithelialisation rate between the *Pimpinella anisum* group and the other groups.

Wound contraction is the procedure of mobilising normal skin around the wound to cover the denuded area and contains complex and coordinated interactions of cells, extracellular matrix (ECM) and cytokines.

The higher rate of wound contraction and decrease in healing time in the wounds treated with *Pimpinella anisum* may be due to the plant's anti-inflammatory effects and its effect on the maturation and organisation of the granulation tissue. In this regard, recent studies have established that phytochemical constituents such as flavonoids can stimulate wound contraction and increase the rate of re-epithelialisation. Furthermore, the high level of trans-anethole composition with proven wound healing activity may represent the restorative effect of this compound. [56]

In these wounds, high intracellular reactive oxygen species (ROS) generation comes from hyperglycaemia via activation of protein kinase C (PKC) signalling which suppresses the antioxidant system, similar to glutathione peroxidase. In this current study, imbalance of redox potential was observed by a significantly lower total antioxidant capacity level and glutathione peroxidase activity, and a higher MDA concentration in wound area.

Interestingly, oxidative stress appeared to be ameliorated by the *Pimpinella anisum* through significant reversing of the previously mentioned oxidant/antioxidant parameters, particularly in the later phases of the study. It has been reported that ROS intervenes in proliferation of fibroblasts and keratinocytes in the later stages of wound healing. Therefore, the findings of our study confirm the restorative effect of *Pimpinella anisum* with an

antioxidant mechanism. Similarly, its antioxidant properties against CCl<sub>4</sub> and gentamycin-induced oxidative stress have been previously reported. [55]

Based on histopathological findings, granulation tissue formation appeared to be accelerated by applying *Pimpinella anisum*. The ability to accelerate wound healing was very prominent, especially when these observations were compared with other groups. Moreover, the increase in weight of dry granulation tissue in the *Pimpinella anisum*-treated rats suggested a higher content of protein at the wound site and ability to remodel the wound.

Generally, fibroblasts, collagen and new small blood vessels are the most important components of granulation tissue formed in the final part of the proliferative phase. Our results indicate that there is a positive correlation between the fibroblast count, number of blood vessels and collagen content.

In granulation tissue formation, the adherent cells, defined as fibroblasts, have a capacity to synthesise a new, impermanent ECM by excreting collagen and fibronectin. In the granulation tissue, collagen is the principal extracellular protein that is produced immediately after injury in the wound area. Furthermore, collagen plays an important role in providing strength and integrity to a tissue matrix, as well as in haemostasis. Better collagen maturity and alignment in this present study in wounds treated with *Pimpinella anisum* showed its novel healing effect.

Proliferation, maturation and migration of the epithelial cells and fibroblasts are dependent on an adequate oxygen supply. Therefore, vasculature in the wound area could supply nutrients and oxygen to the cells, enhance fibroblast maturation and support the production of considerably higher amounts of collagen. In addition, better healing in the wound area may also result from a better blood flow due to enhanced smooth muscle relaxation, the muscle relaxant properties of *Pimpinella anisum* have been previously reported. [58]

The presence of a large number of blood vessels in the *Pimpinella anisum*-treated wounds at the earlier stages of wound healing, indicate that the *Pimpinella anisum* is an angiogenic agent that enabled proper circulation of red blood cells for wound healing. In addition, a higher content of hydroxyproline, a specific marker of collagen, in the *Pimpinella anisum*-treated wounds indicate that *Pimpinella anisum* can accelerate production of collagen by fibroblasts and also their release into the ECM.

The wounds treated with *Pimpinella anisum* also showed a decreased total cellularity together

with smaller macrophage and lymphocyte counts in days seven, 14 and 21 post-injury, while the presence of higher levels of macrophages and lymphocytes in the control group, even at the end of experiment, indicate the presence of chronic inflammation in these lesions.

The inflammatory phase is characterised by inflammation and haemostasis, followed by angiogenesis, collagen deposition and re-epithelialisation in the proliferative phase.<sup>8,9</sup> Inflammatory cells, particularly macrophages, play an important role in facilitating fibroplasia during the inflammation phase. Several cytokines, pro-inflammatory mediators and growth factors are released by the macrophages that accelerate mesenchymal cell migration, proliferation, maturation and matrix production. [59]

The lower levels of inflammation in the *Pimpinella anisum*-treated group can be due to the presence of some phytoconstituents, including antioxidants and flavonoids such as isovitexin and epigenin, in this plant species which inhibited the activities of macrophages and production of chemical mediators by inhibiting NF-kappaB as mentioned before. Accordingly, in our study, *Pimpinella anisum* appeared to decrease inflammation and subsequently promote tissue organisation.

#### Limitations:

The higher rate of the wound healing in rats, small population size, and the anatomical and physiological variations between rats and humans should be considered as limiting factors.

Plants have been the origins of many drugs from the ancient times. Pharmacological evaluations of plants may be due to new natural agents for treatment of disease. Furthermore, identification of the active principles of these medicinal plants has an important role in introducing new drugs. *Pimpinella anisum* is one of the medicinal plants which have been used for different purposes in traditional medicine of Iran. So far, different studies were performed on the extracts and essential oil of *Pimpinella anisum* to identify the chemical compounds and pharmacological properties of this plant, and various properties such as antimicrobial, antifungal, antiviral, antioxidant, and insecticidal effects have been reported of aniseeds.

The findings also revealed that aniseeds can cause gastric protection, muscle relaxant, and affect digestive system. In diabetic patients, it has hypoglycemic and hypolipidemic effects and reduces lipid peroxidation. Furthermore, aniseeds showed anticonvulsant effect, reduced morphine dependence, and induced conditioned place aversion in mice. Aniseed also has



beneficial effects on dysmenorrhea and menopausal hot flashes in women. The most important compounds of aniseeds essential oil were *trans*-anethole, estragole,  $\gamma$ -hymachalen, p-anisaldehyde, and methyl chavicol. Due to broad spectrum of pharmacological effects of this plant, and very few clinical studies performed on this plant, more clinical trials are recommended to evaluate the beneficial effects of *Pimpinella anisum* in human models and identification of active compounds of this plant which can lead to synthesis of new drugs from the active ingredients in future. [60]

# **CHAPTER 6**

# **CONCLUSION**

## 6. CONCLUSION:

This present study established topical application of *Pimpinella anisum* can stimulate wound healing activity in Wistar albino rats. It was also observed that in the group treated with *Pimpinella anisum*, wound size, inflammation and cellularity were significantly reduced, and the re-epithelialisation rate, collagen content, fibroblastic response were enhanced.

More scar tissue in the early stages of wound healing was also produced.

In the later stages, *Pimpinella anisum* significantly decreased oxidative stress, scar tissue formation, and improved tissue maturity and remodelling. The wound-healing activity of *Pimpinella anisum* may be due to the individual or the additive effects of phytoconstituents present in the plant.

In this study, the effect of the phytoconstituents of *Pimpinella anisum* were not investigated. More phytochemical studies are needed to characterise and identify the specific active compounds of this plant that are responsible for wound healing activity.

Even the exact mechanisms and modes of action of the PAP extract described in this work have not yet been fully determined; its wound healing effects could presumably be attributed to their bioactive molecules and their associated anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activities. Further investigations are warranted to investigate their structure and thus to elucidate a clear structure–effect relationship.

# **CHAPTER 7**

# **REFERENCES**

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