

# ICOSECS 8

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8<sup>th</sup> International Conference  
of the Chemical Societies  
of the South-East European Countries

# BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

organized by

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## Phytochemical profiling by UHPLC-DAD/ $\pm$ HESI-MS/MS analyzes and hepatoprotective activity of *Gentiana cruciata* L. against CCl<sub>4</sub> induced liver injury in Wistar rats

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Many *Gentiana* species are known for their pharmaceutical values, such as *Gentiana cruciata* L., commonly called cross gentian [1]. The dried roots and above-ground parts of *G. cruciata* are consumed in the Balkan region as herbal tea or a medicinal wine for loss of appetite, as a stomachic and component in preparations showing beneficial effects in gall and liver diseases [2]. This study using *in vivo* model investigates hepatoprotective activity of *G. cruciata* aerial part methanol extract (GCA) against carbon tetrachloride-induced liver injury in rats. Wistar rats were orally pretreated with GCA (100, 200, and 400 mg/kg) and silymarin (100 mg/kg) for seven days before they were treated with CCl<sub>4</sub> (1 ml/kg, 1:1 mixture in olive oil) which caused liver injury. Separation, determination and quantification of components in GCA was performed using Dionex Ultimate 3000 UHPLC system equipped with a diode array detector (DAD) and connected to a triple-quadrupole mass spectrometer. Pretreatment with GCA dose-dependently and significantly ( $p < 0.001$ ) decreased levels of serum transaminases, alkaline phosphatase and total bilirubin, whereas an increase was found in the level of total protein compared with CCl<sub>4</sub>-treated group. In the liver tissue antioxidant studies, we found a significant increase in the levels of catalase, superoxide dismutase and reduced glutathione, whereas there was marked reduction in the levels of thiobarbituric acid-reactive substances, as compared to CCl<sub>4</sub> treated group. Histological analyses also show that GCA reduced the incidence of liver lesions including necrosis, ballooning degeneration and micro- and macro-vesicular changes induced by CCl<sub>4</sub> in rats. GCA was characterized by the presence of sweroside, swertiamarin, gentiopicrin, loganic acid, isovitexin 4',7-diglucoside, orientin and vitexin, as revealed by UHPLC-DAD-MS and UHPLC-MS/MS analyses. Quantification of targeted compounds in the SRM (selected reaction monitoring) experiment of UHPLC-MS/MS analysis clearly indicated that gentiopicrin (1.067%) was the dominant secoiridoid glycoside in GCA, whereas concentrations of sweroside (0.064%) and swertiamarin (0.033%) were significantly lower.

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