Vasodilating effect of the root bark extract of Ficus saussureana on guinea pig aorta

Abstract:
The effect of the aqueous extract of the root bark of Ficus saussureana DC. (Moraceae) on KCl- and noradrenaline-induced contractions of guinea pig aortic strips was studied. The extract produced a dose-dependent relaxation of 30 mM KCl induced contraction of the aortic strips. In contrast, no significant relaxant effect was seen with noradrenaline-induced contractions. The inhibition of contractions was most significant: 62.47 +/- 3.79% and 20.78 +/- 3.97%, at the doses 100 and 300 mug/ml, respectively. The results suggest that the relaxation effect of the extract may be due to the blockade of the influx of extracellular Ca2+ through voltage-operated channels into the cell.
Institut für Pharmakologie und Toxikologie

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