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Comparative analysis of antioxidant property of some common medicinal plants (viz. Rauvolfia serpentina, Cymbopogon citrates, Hibiscus rosa sinensis, Zingiber officinale, Calotropis procera and Spinacia oleracea)

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ABSTRACT : Medicinal plants are potential antioxidative agents and serve as a sources of new drugs for treatment of several diseases. In the current study, we carried out a comparative analysis of the antioxidant activities of extracts of the selected leaves of 6 common medicinal plants. Total Ascorbic Acid Content, Total Carotenoid Content, Antioxidant potential using FRAP assay and Total Phenol Content was quantitatively estimated from leaves of *Rauvolfia serpentina, Cymbopogon citrates, Hibiscus rosa sinensis, Zingiber officinale, Calotropis procera* and *Spinacia oleracea*. It was found in this study that the highest total ascorbic acid content was present in *Cymbopogon citratus,* whereas, *Calotropis procera* showed the least content of total ascorbic acid present. On the other hand total carotenoid content of *Cymbopogon citrates* was the highest and that of *Hibiscus rosa sinensis* was the lowest. *Hibiscus rosa sinensis* exhibited highest FRAP value, which was subsequently found to be least in *Cymbopogon citrates. Spinacia oleracea* was found to have highest total phenol content and the least was present in *Hibiscus rosa sinensis*.

Key Words: Antioxidants, ascorbic acid, carotenoid, FRAP, phenol.