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Effects of *Boswellia serrata*, *Zingiber officinale* and *Ginkgo biloba* extracts in combination on memory impairment in mice

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Cognitive decline induced by oxidative brain damage is the critical pathological hallmark of Alzheimer's disease. Studies have shown that individual administration of *Boswellia serrata* Roxb (BS), *Zingiber officinale* Roscoe (ZO) and *Ginkgo biloba* L. (GB) extracts improved memory and learning through a different mechanism of actions. This study aims to compare the individual effects of each extract with their co-administration on memory impairment induced by scopolamine in mice. Memory dysfunction was induced by a single dose of scopolamine (1 mg/kg, i.p) and extracts were administered intraperitoneally in different doses for one week. Memory performance of the mice was evaluated using the object recognition task (ORT) and passive avoidance test (PAT). The outcomes from ORT demonstrated that, ZO and GB extracts at 200 mg/kg and BS extract just in combination group significantly enhanced (by 95%) the memory loss induced by scopolamine ($P < 0.05$). On the other hand, PAT results revealed that BS extract at 60 and 90 mg/kg, ZO and GB extracts at 200 mg/kg and their combinations noticeably improved the latency time (by 80%). Although in PAT, co-administration of extracts was more effective than either alone doses in augmenting of the memory function, ORT results showed no considerable differences.

Key words: *Boswellia serrata*, *Zingiber officinale*, *Ginkgo biloba*, extracts, memory, scopolamine.

INTRODUCTION

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is an irreversible progressive neurodegenerative disease that is characterized by loss of memory, accompanied by behavioral conflicts with a

huge impact on daily activities (Barker et al., 2002; Wilson et al., 2012). AD pathology includes oxidative stress, neuroinflammation and neuronal death, which

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consequently leads to memory impairment (Kanninen et al., 2011; Hampel et al., 2019; Sivera et al., 2019).

At present, there is no suitable cure for dementia-related disorders and existing medications come with many adverse effects without providing satisfactory improvements. Plant-derived compounds have played an important part as a source in formulating synthetic drugs.

Boswellia serrata Roxb (Burseraceae) (BS) is a genus of trees known for its aromatic resins especially triterpenes that are antioxidant agents due to their inhibitory activity of the synthesis of endogenous leukotrienes (Sayed and El Sayed, 2016; Iram et al., 2017; Byler and Setzer, 2018). In addition to this, essential oils of this plant have a relaxing effect on vascular smooth muscles, especially cerebral arteries, and eliminate vascular spasm which leads to a better blood supply to brain tissues and cells (Gomaa et al., 2019).

Zingiber officinale Roscoe (Zingiberaceae) (ZO) contains several bioactive phytochemicals, mainly sesquiterpenes and monoterpenes as well as volatile oils (da Silveira Vasconcelos et al., 2019). Previous studies have confirmed that ginger root extract alters the expression of precursor genes in proteins that induce various oxidative reactions (Azam et al., 2014). Furthermore, the extract of this plant has anti-hypoxic and prevention of cerebral ischemia activity due to its ability to cross the blood-brain barrier (Tung et al., 2017).

The flavonoids and terpenoids of *Ginkgo biloba* L. (*Ginkgoaceae*) (GB) have different neuroprotective effects (Singh et al., 2019). Antioxidant and free radical scavenger properties of ginkgo extract are mainly related to its flavonoids (Wu et al., 2016). Terpenoids on the other hand, have been shown to reduce ischemic neurotoxicity and prevent glutamate-induced toxic irritability (Li et al., 2017). Besides, the extract of this plant disrupts beta-amyloid production and prevents amyloid-induced neurotoxicity (Verma et al., 2020).

Various animal models have been developed to evaluate dementia based on their diverse pathophysiological basis (Newman et al., 2017). Scopolamine, a nonselective antimuscarinic agent, leads to progressive impairment of learning and memory principally by blocking central cholinergic signaling (Muhammad et al., 2019). It is a well-known phenomenon that reactive oxygen species (ROS) generated by scopolamine results in oxidative stress, a critical factor that results in AD-like dementia (Ko et al., 2018; Skalicka-Wozniak et al., 2018).

As stated above, there is a considerable body of evidence that supports the individual action of BS, ZO and GB extracts in improving memory in both normal brains and impaired ones (Jivad and Rabiei, 2014). However, the effect of simultaneous administration of these plant extracts in scopolamine-induced memory dysfunction has not been investigated before. Therefore,

the present study was designed to evaluate the possible ameliorative effects of these plant extracts alone or in combination on cognitive impairment induced by scopolamine in mice.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Scopolamine was purchased from Osve Pharmaceutical Company (Tehran, Iran) and prepared freshly before use in normal saline. ZO, GB and BS dried extracts were supplied by Goldarou Pharmaceutical Company (Isfahan, Iran) and were dissolved in Tween 80 and normal saline at a ratio of 5:95 respectively. Rivastigmine 1.5 mg capsules (Exelon, Novartis, Switzerland) were purchased from local sources and were dissolved in normal saline. Shuttle box was purchased from Teknik-Azma (Tabriz, Iran). Drugs were injected intraperitoneally (i.p) in a volume of 10 ml/kg.

Animals

Male Syrian mice were obtained from Pasture Institute, Iran (weighing 25-30 gram) and kept under a standard condition of controlled temperature (25 °C) and lightning (12/12 light/dark cycle) in the polyacrylic cages. Mice were randomly housed in 6 per cage and were given free access to food and water. Two hours before experiments, mice were acclimated to the main environment. To avoid the diurnal cycle, all injections and tests were carried out between 8:00 AM to 1.00 P.M. All housing and procedures associated with this experiment were approved by the Animal Research Ethics Committee of Isfahan University of Medical Science (ethical approval ID: IR.MUI.RESEARCH.REC.1398.589) and performed by National Institute of Health Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Experimental process

Animals were divided randomly into 18 groups (at least 6 in each group) including:

- Group 1: Control (normal saline for one week)
- Group 2: Scopolamine, (1 mg/kg in all treatments except control group)
- Group 3: Positive control (rivastigmine 2 mg/kg for one week)
- Groups 4 and 5: ZO extract (150 and 200 mg/kg, respectively for one week)
- Groups 6 and 7: BS extract (60 and 90 mg/kg, respectively for one week)
- Group 8 and 9: GB extract (100 and 200 mg/kg, respectively for one week)
- Group 10, 11 and 12: Combination of ZO/BS/GB extracts at 100/45/50, 150/45/50 and 200/45/50 mg/kg respectively, for one week.
- Group 13, 14 and 15: Combination of ZO/BS/GB extracts at 100/45/50, 100/60/50, 100/90/50 mg/kg respectively, for one week.
- Group 16, 17 and 18: Combination ZO/BS/GB extracts at 100/45/50, 100/45/100 and 100/45/200 mg/kg respectively, for one week.

At the end of the experiment (on day 7), scopolamine was injected in every group (except control) of animals one hour before the ORT and PAT training trials. ORT and PAT training trial were performed on day 7, continued by test trials on day 8 (scopolamine was injected 1 h before test trials). Animals were sacrificed at the end of the study (Table 1).

Table 1. Experimental procedures.

Treatment and test	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
Normal saline	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Scopolamine	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
Rivastigmine	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
ZO	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
GB	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
BS	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Extract combinations	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
PAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	Train	Test
ORT	-	-	-	-	-	-	Train	Test

ZO, *Zingiber officinale* extract; GB, *Ginkgo biloba* extract; BS, *Boswellia serrata* extract; PAT, passive avoidance test; ORT, object recognition task.

In this study, mice underwent behavioral tests after receiving scopolamine, rivastigmine and extracts of three plants in different doses separately and in combination (Receive (+), do not receive (-)).

Object recognition task (ORT)

The ORT was carried out according to Leuptow study (Lueptow, 2017), with some modifications. This test is based on the animal's natural desire to touch a new object as opposed to a familiar object. This task does not require external stimuli, reward, or punishment. The test was performed in a circular field with a diameter of 32 cm and a height of 20 cm (Figure 1). To facilitate the assessments, a video tracking camera was set on the top of the box. One hour before the training trial, mice acclimated to the empty field for 10 min and then were brought back to their cage. In the training trial, two identical objects were placed in the field within 10 cm distance from each other and 5 cm distance from the wall. The objects were made of plastic (4 cm height). Mice then were put back in the field (in the position in which their face opposes the objects) for exploration. Exploration was defined as sniffing or touching the objects with the nose or forepaws. Sitting on the object was not considered exploratory behavior. The training trial terminated in 3 min or when the mice explored two objects for at least 5 s. The animals that did not reach the exploration time of five seconds were eliminated from the study. The mice were then brought back to their cage and after 24 h the test trial was carried out by presenting a familiar object and a novel one (with the same size as the familiar object and different shape). The novel object was made of glass. As soon as the mice explored two objects for 25 s or 5 min the test was completed. From several identical objects, each time a pair of objects was chosen randomly for each mouse. After each trial, all the objects and the field were cleaned with ethanol 70%. Finally, the discrimination index (DI) and the recognition index (RI) were recorded. Percentages of DI and RI were calculated as follows where N and R are the exploration time of the novel and familiar objects, respectively.

$$DI = \frac{N-F}{N+F} \times 100 \quad RI = \frac{N}{N+F} \times 100$$

Passive avoidance test (PAT)

The test was performed using the method described by Moosavi et

al. with minor modifications (Moosavi et al., 2018). Passive avoidance is a fear-motivated avoidance task used to assess short- and long-term memory in which the mice learn to refrain from stepping through a door to a dark compartment in which they were previously punished. This test was carried out in the apparatus named the shuttle box made by Teknik-Azma, Iran. The device consists of two chambers of the same size (25 × 25 × 20 cm) that are separated by a guillotine gate (6 × 7 cm) (Figure 2). One of the chambers is dark and the other one is illuminated with LED light. The floors of the dark and light chambers are made of stainless steel bars (3 mm diameter) that are spaced 1 cm apart. The bars of the darkroom are attached to the electronic supply. The animal's position is detected by a high sensitivity photoelectric transducer. The shuttle box was controlled through a microprocessor (SB100) base controller with a touch screen. Before beginning the training pilot, mice were brought into the device to liberally get accustomed to the chambers. In the train session, rodents were placed in the bright room while the door was closed. After 10 s the guillotine gate opened and the rodent out of curiosity went through the gate and entered the darkroom. The latency of entering the brightened chamber was recorded as latency time (The rodents who did not enter the darkroom after 180 s were excluded from the study). At this time, the door sensor detected the passage of the mouse and closed the door. Then after 3 s, the shock was applied to the mouse by the pitch of the dark chamber (1 mA for 3 s). The mouse was then expelled from the device and transferred to its cage until the test phase. The test session was performed 24 h after the train session. In the test session, the rodent was placed in the light chamber while the door was closed. After 10 s the door was opened and the first time that rodent entered the darkroom was recorded as latency time. The number of crossings between chambers and the total time that rodents spent in the dark and light chambers were recorded. Test trial continued for 3 min. The latency time is the most important factor in this experiment which indicated the effect of drugs that improved training of the mouse to overcome its instinct to stay in the dark environment and the escape of light since the punishment of rodents should reverse that natural disposition. After each train and test trial, the chambers were cleaned with ethanol 70%.

Statistics

Statistical analysis for multiple comparisons was conducted by using one-way ANOVA followed by the Tukey POST HOC test for a

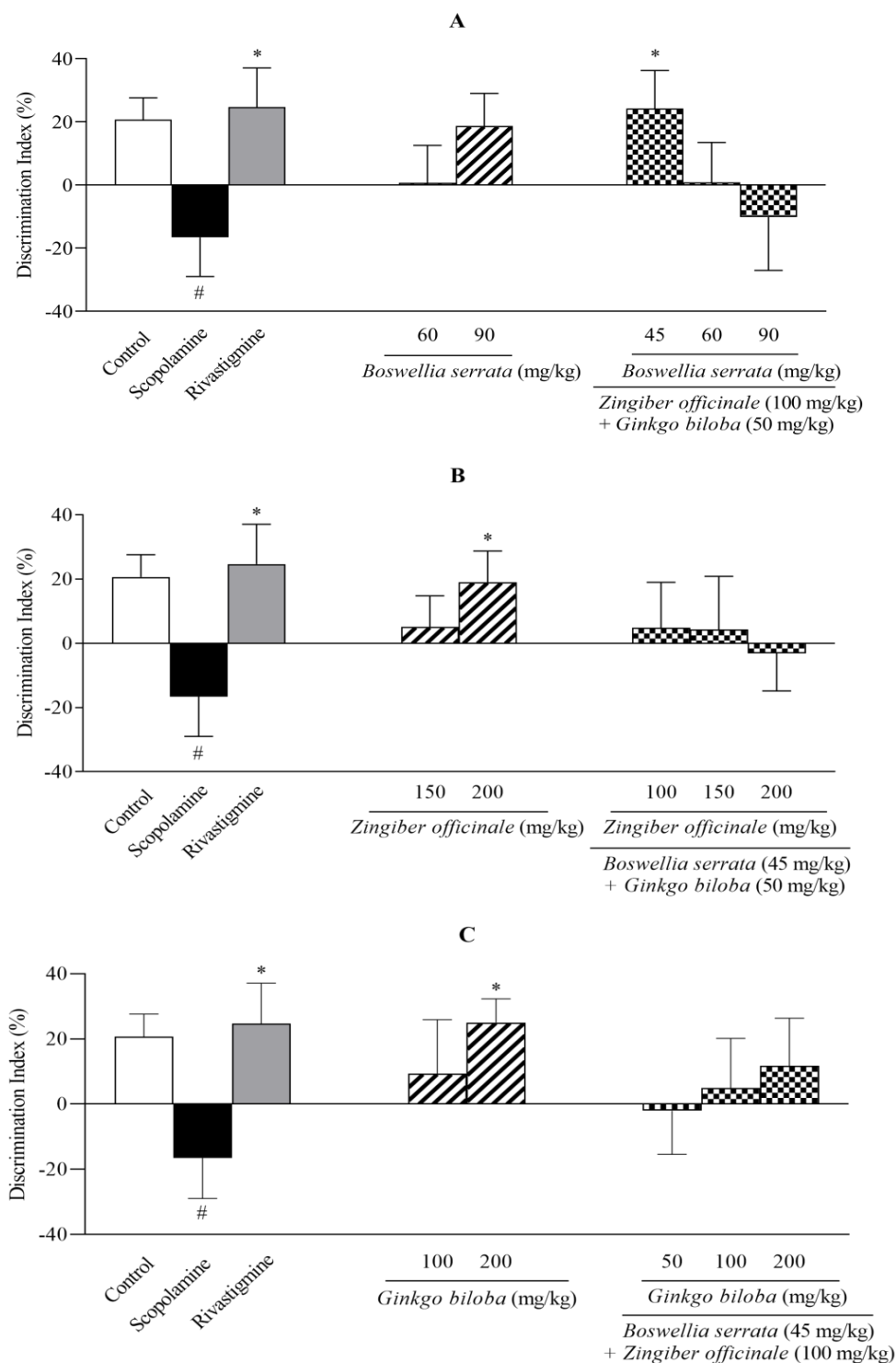


Figure 1. Effects of *Boswellia serrata*, *Zingiber officinale* and *Ginkgo biloba* extracts alone and in combination on memory in object recognition test in scopolamine induced memory impairment in mice.

series of behavior tests with GraphPad Prism software. The data values were defined to be statistically significant at $P < 0.05$. All

data are expressed as mean \pm SEM. Student t-Test was used to compare two groups in some experiments.

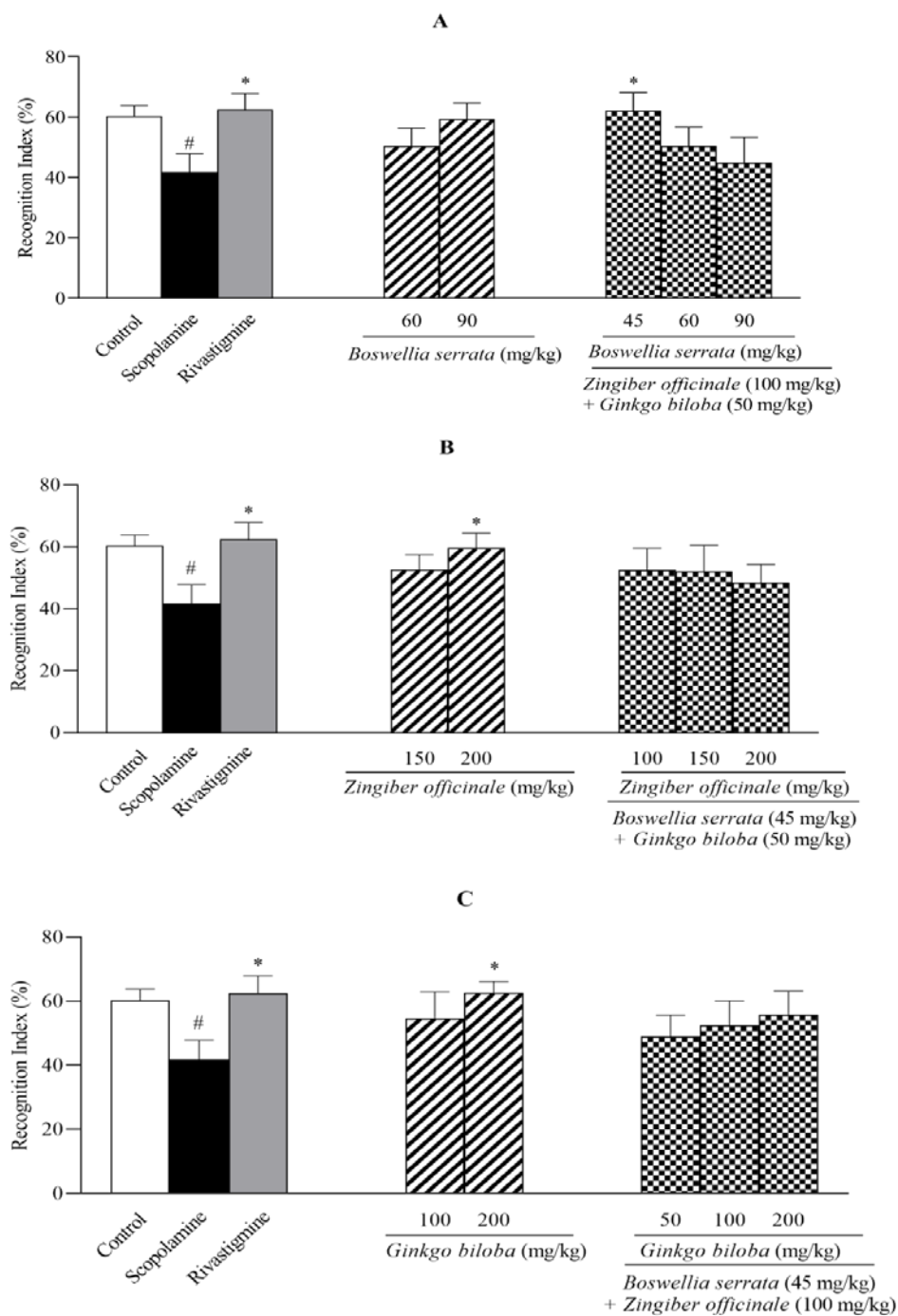


Figure 2. Effects of *Boswellia serrata*, *Zingiber officinale* and *Ginkgo biloba* extracts alone and in combination on memory in object recognition test in scopolamine induced memory impairment in mice.

RESULTS

Object recognition task

A single dose of scopolamine at 1 mg/kg significantly

decreased the discrimination index (DI) ($P < 0.05$ compared to control group; Figure 1). Rivastigmine at 2 mg/kg reversed the scopolamine action by returning the DI to the control level ($P < 0.05$). Although BS extract (60 or 90 mg/kg), ZO extract (150 mg/kg) and GB extract

(100 mg/kg) increased the DI by 40%, neither were significantly different from scopolamine group. At maximum dose of 200 mg/kg, ZO and GB extracts significantly reversed the scopolamine action ($P < 0.05$, Figures 1B and 1C). Among the combinational administration of extracts, only ZO/BS/GB at 100/45/50 mg/kg managed to better the scopolamine effects ($P < 0.05$, Figure 1A). The results of recognition index (RI) were very similar to DI (Figures 2A, B and C). The extent to which the memory was altered in ORT was nearly identical for mono- and combinational extract-treatments.

All groups except control were treated by scopolamine (1 mg/kg). Memory performance was measured by discrimination index (DI) = $((N-F/N+F) \times 100)$ and recognition index (RI) = $((N/N+F) \times 100)$. Results are expressed as mean \pm S.E.M ($n = 6$) and were analyzed by one way ANOVA followed by Tukey POST HOC test and Student t-Test. # $P < 0.05$ or \$ $P < 0.01$ compared to control group and * $P < 0.05$ or ** $P < 0.01$ compared to scopolamine group.

Passive avoidance test

The effect of plant extracts on latency time (LT) is shown in Figure 3. Injection of scopolamine resulted in a notable reduction in LT (compared to control group) which was fully reversed by rivastigmine ($P < 0.05$). A single injection of BS extract (60 or 90 mg/kg) significantly increased the LT by 80% (Figure 3A). In contrast to BS extract, only higher doses of ZO and GB extracts (200 mg/kg) significantly reversed the memory deficit induced by scopolamine ($P < 0.05$). In combinational treatments, three plant extracts at their minimum effective doses were administered. Administration of ZO/BS/GB extracts at 100/45/50 mg/kg resulted in the increase of the LT to values close to control data ($P < 0.01$, Figure 3A). Similarly, increase in LT was observed when ZO/BS/GB extracts was combined at different doses of 150/45/50 and 200/45/50 mg/kg ($P < 0.05$, Figure 3B). Administration of ZO/BS/GB extracts at 100/45/100 and 100/45/200 mg/kg also resulted in more than 80% improvement in LT ($P < 0.05$, Figure 3C).

All groups except control were treated by scopolamine (1 mg/kg). Memory performance was measured by latency time of entering the dark chamber for the first time in the test session which performed 24 h after train session. Results are expressed as mean \pm S.E.M ($n = 6$) and were analyzed by one way ANOVA followed by Tukey POST HOC test and Student t-Test. # $P < 0.05$ or \$ $P < 0.01$ compared to control group and * $P < 0.05$ or ** $P < 0.01$ compared to scopolamine group.

The number of crossings (NC) between the dark and light chambers in the PAT displayed in Figure 4. The NC in scopolamine treated animals was significantly higher than the control group ($P < 0.01$). Rivastigmine reversed

the effect of scopolamine to the control level ($P < 0.05$). Treatment with BS extract (90 mg/kg) significantly decreased the NC to 30% of scopolamine group values ($P < 0.05$); whereas lower dose of BS extract (60 mg/kg) was ineffective in changing the NC (Figure 4A). The co-administrations of ZO/BS/GB extracts at 100/45/50 and 100/60/50 mg/kg resulted in a significant reduction in the NC ($P < 0.01$ and $P < 0.05$ respectively, Figure 4A). Surprisingly, the NC values were almost doubled when ZO/BS/GB extracts was administered at 100/90/50 mg/kg (Figure 4A). Although single injection of ZO extract at 150 or 200 mg/kg and its combination as ZO/BS/GB at 100/45/50 and 150/45/50 mg/kg did not noticeably decline the NC, a significant decrease in NC was found in combination of ZO/BS/GB extracts at 200/45/50 mg/kg in comparison with scopolamine group ($P < 0.05$, Figure 4B). Furthermore, treated groups of GB extract (200 mg/kg) and its combination of ZO/BS/GB at 100/45/100 and 100/45/200 mg/kg reversed the scopolamine effect and reduced the NC to the control level ($P < 0.01$); however, GB extract at 100 mg/kg and its combination as ZO/BS/GB at 100/45/50 mg/kg could not accomplish such effect on the NC significantly (Figure 4C).

All groups except control were treated by scopolamine (1 mg/kg). Memory performance was measured by number of crossings between the dark and light chambers in the test session which performed 24 h after train session. Results are expressed as mean \pm S.E.M ($n = 6$) and were analyzed by one way ANOVA followed by Tukey POST HOC test and Student t-Test. # $P < 0.05$ or \$ $P < 0.01$ compared to control group and * $P < 0.05$ or ** $P < 0.01$ compared to scopolamine group.

Figure 5 demonstrated the total amount of time that rodents spent in the dark chamber (DT) in PAT. Administration of scopolamine resulted in the increase of the time was spent by animal in the dark chamber ($P < 0.01$, compared to control group) and as expected rivastigmine reversed this time to control values ($P < 0.05$). Administration of BS extract at single dose of 90 mg/kg and its combination as ZO/BS/GB at 100/45/50 and 100/60/50 mg/kg considerably decreased the DT ($P < 0.05$ and $P < 0.01$ respectively, Figure 5A). On the other hand, when the dose of BS extract was lowered to 60 mg/kg or co-administrated with other two extracts as ZO/BS/GB (100/90/50 mg/kg), resulted in an increase of 50% compared to scopolamine group in the time was spent by mice in dark chamber (Figure 5A). Moreover, ZO extract at 150 or 200 mg/kg and its combination as ZO/BS/GB (150/45/50 mg/kg) did not reduce the DT; however, ZO/BS/GB extracts at 100/45/50 and 200/45/50 mg/kg decreased that time significantly ($P < 0.05$, Figure 5B). Among single administrations of the GB extract, dose of 100 mg/kg could not reverse the effect of scopolamine considerably though, GB extract at 200 mg/kg represented notable contrast with scopolamine group ($P < 0.05$); as well all its combinations at different

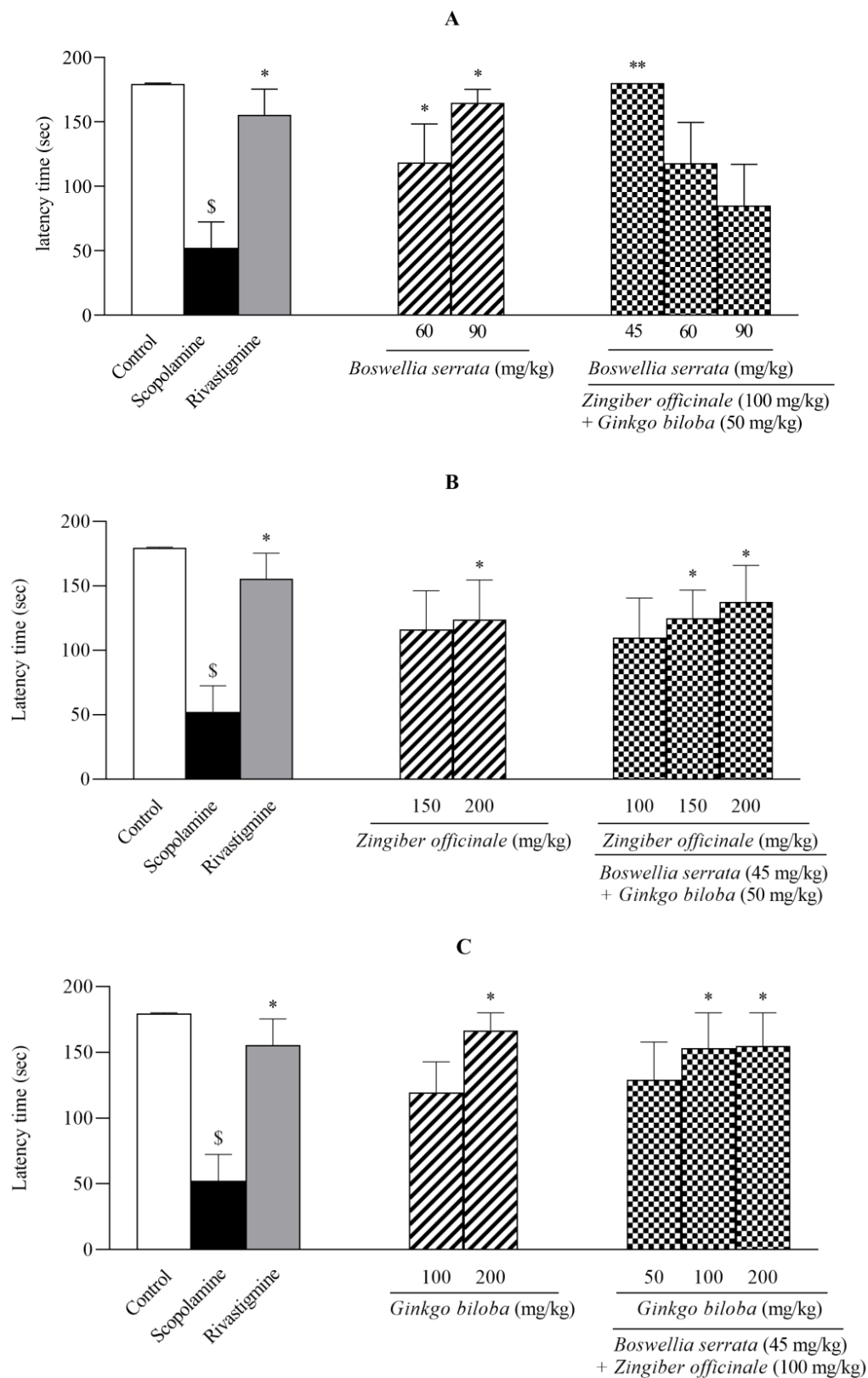


Figure 3. Effects of *Boswellia serrata*, *Zingiber officinale* and *Ginkgo biloba* extracts alone and in combination on memory in passive avoidance test in scopolamine induced memory impairment in mice.

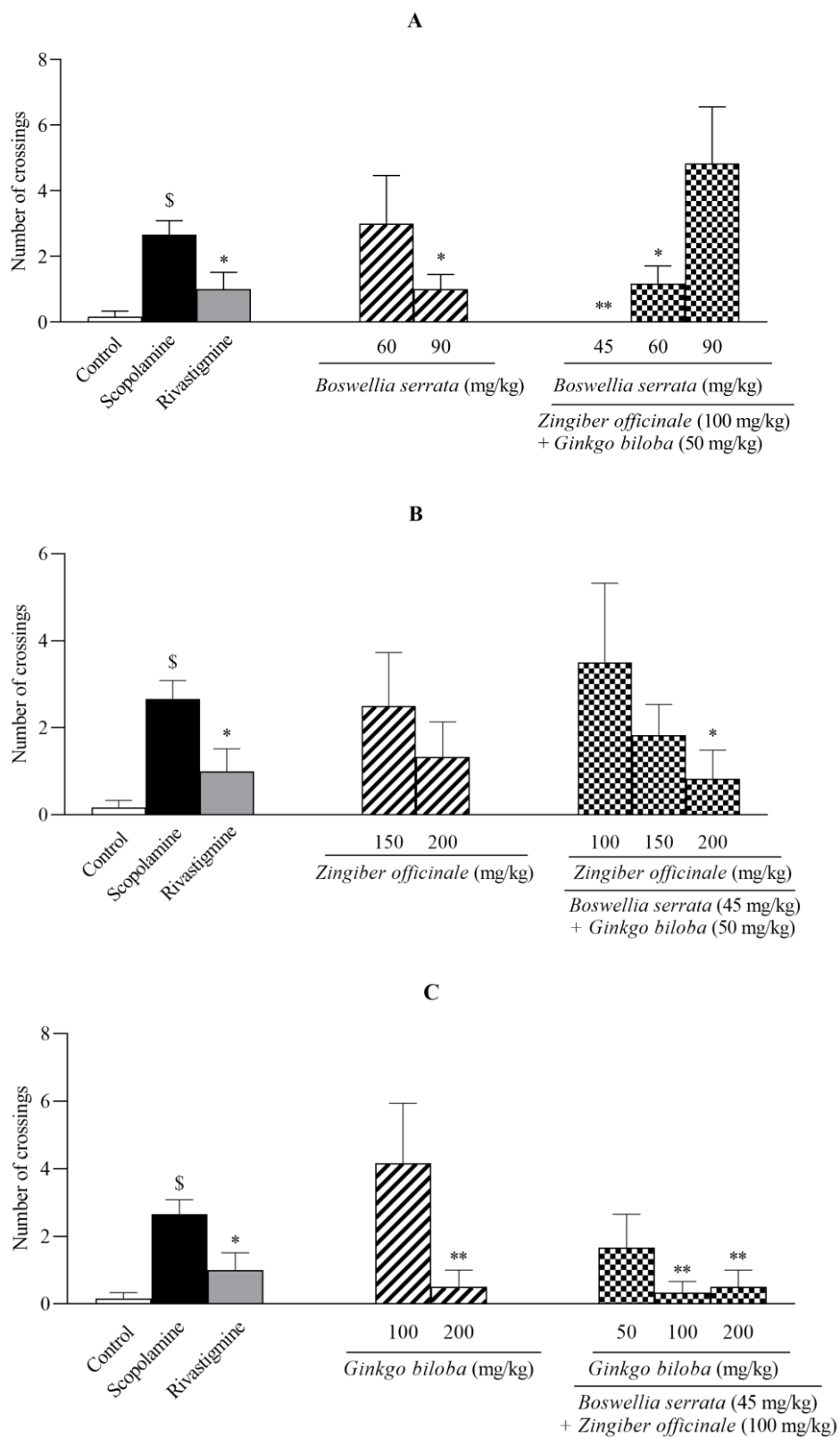


Figure 4. Effects of *Boswellia serrata*, *Zingiber officinale* and *Ginkgo biloba* extracts alone and in combination on memory in passive avoidance test in scopolamine induced memory impairment in mice.

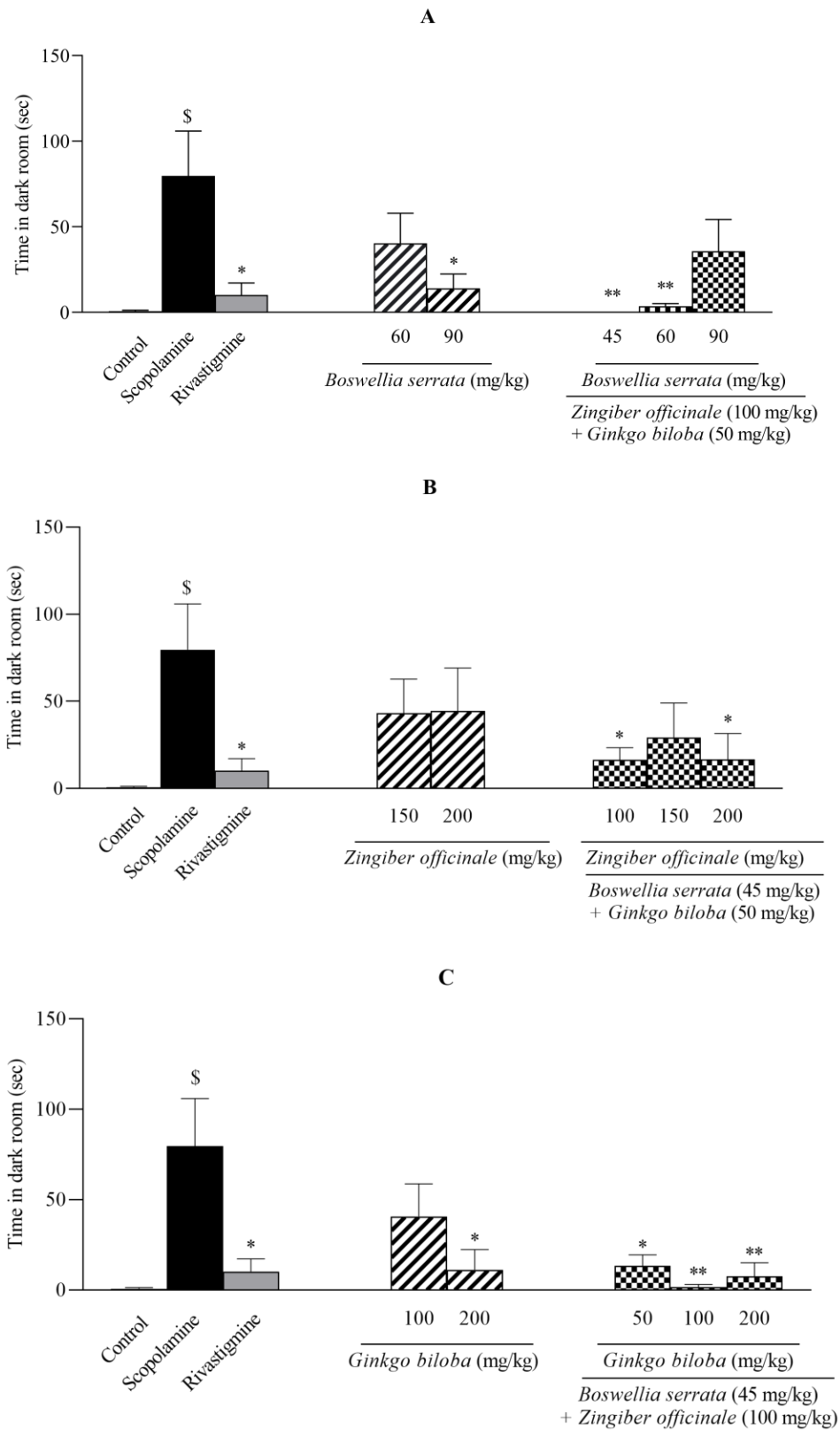


Figure 5. Effects of *Boswellia serrata*, *Zingiber officinale* and *Ginkgo biloba* extracts alone and in combination on memory in passive avoidance test in scopolamine induced memory impairment in mice.

doses could meaningfully diminish the DT to the control level ($P < 0.01$, Figure 5C).

All groups except control were treated by scopolamine (1 mg/kg). Memory performance was measured by total time spent in the dark chamber in the test session which performed 24 h after training session. Results are expressed as mean \pm S.E.M ($n = 6$) and were analyzed by one way ANOVA followed by Tukey POST HOC test and Student t-Test. # $P < 0.05$ or \$ $P < 0.01$ compared to control group and * $P < 0.05$ or ** $P < 0.01$ compared to scopolamine group.

DISCUSSION

Several preclinical and clinical studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of BS, ZO and GB extracts in varied animal models of memory impairment (Ebrahimpour et al., 2017; El Tabaa et al., 2017; Kim et al., 2018). However, none have examined the combinational effects of these three substances on memory functions. Therefore, the present study was aimed to compare the possible ameliorative effects of three plant extracts, namely BS, ZO and GB, alone or in combination on cognitive impairment induced by scopolamine in mice.

In this study, a single i.p injection of scopolamine led to a cognitive deficit in both models of memory assessment, namely the passive avoidance test (PAT) and object recognition task (ORT). In PAT paradigm, the scopolamine group showed an expected performance in learning and memory test, as mice took a shorter time (lower latency) to enter the dark chamber. The same phenomenon was observed in ORT since discrimination index (DI) and recognition index (RI) were significantly affected by scopolamine. Based on studies were carried out on rodents brain, scopolamine caused impairment in learning and memory through degeneration and dysfunction of cortical cholinergic neurons which are the result of several unexpressed genes related to muscarinic receptor signaling pathways, apoptosis and cell differentiation (Khakpai et al., 2012). It has also been reported that the memory impairment effect of scopolamine could be related to a high level of lipid peroxidation and a low amount of antioxidants in the mice brains (Wong-Guerra et al., 2017).

A significant decrease in DI and RI values which were observed in animals treated with scopolamine in ORT model was completely reversed by administration of rivastigmine. In PAT, administration of rivastigmine also improved the latencies that were substantially lowered by scopolamine. This is an expected effect from a drug with anticholinesterase activity. Rivastigmine has been shown in number of studies that could improve the cognition deficit in different types of memory (immediate, long term and short term memory) and decreased the acetyl cholinesterase activity in the cerebral cortex,

hippocampus, and striatum (Yanev et al., 2015; Gawel et al., 2016; Gothwal et al., 2019; Ray et al., 2020).

Single administration of BS, ZO and GB extracts for one week, dose-dependently improved short-term memory (STM) and long-term memory (LTM) deficit in both paradigms. In ORT, the effect of different doses of combined extracts (except the combination of ZO/BS/GB at 100/45/50 mg/kg) was no more effective than either alone injections which indicated a lack of synergistic or even additive effects. On the other hand, in the PAT model, the combination of extracts represented more valuable effects in ameliorating the latency time. In addition, combinations of BS, GB and ZO extracts at lower doses represented a more considerable decrease in numbers of crossings which specified the synergistic effect. When the total time that rodents spent in the dark chamber was studied, rivastigmine significantly reversed the scopolamine effects and the co-administration of the extracts enhanced memory more excellently than each agent alone.

The results that have been obtained from the individual administrations of extracts matched with previous reports. Memory enhancement by BS, ZO and GB extracts has been proved that related to several factors. BS extract affected memory function through several mechanisms such as cholinergic pathway, reducing free radical, decrease cerebral oxidative stress and decline glutamate uptake (Rajabian et al., 2016). ZO extract has been shown to alter the expression of precursor genes in proteins that induce various oxidative reactions. Furthermore, the extract of this plant represented antioxidant and anti-hypoxic activities and also could prevent cerebral ischemic because of its ability to cross the blood-brain barrier (Okesola et al., 2019). Additionally, GB extract could reduce ischemic neurotoxicity and prevent glutamate-induced toxic irritability. The extract of this plant has been evidenced properties such as disrupting beta-amyloid production and prevention of amyloid-induced neurotoxicity which are more specifically related to memory dysfunction (Ribeiro et al., 2016).

Despite the wide range of actions by BS, ZO and GB extracts, the co-administration of these three substances revealed little difference from individual injections in the ORT model. In contrast, more effective improvement in memory function was observed in PAT model after combinational therapy. The reason for observing such differences in these two models could be due to several factors. Firstly, this might be due to the different types of memory that are assessed in these two behavioral experiments. A suggested categorization of memory divides it based on various criteria such as its duration (STM vs. LTM), content (explicit vs. implicit) and motive (appetitive/reward vs. aversive) (Barros et al., 2003).

Results from PAT latency time expressed that STM and LTM were enhanced equally. STM is not the early phase of LTM because they process independently through

parallel paths. The kind of memory that is assessed in ORT is different in motive and content from PAT; PAT evaluates the implicit memory while ORT assesses explicit one (Neto et al., 2008). In PAT, rodents learn to avoid an aversive stimulus (electric foot-shock) by inhibiting a response so this performance is related to aversive memory. Secondly, different parts of the brain might be involved in these two tests. ORT is believed to related to Para hippocampal regions (perirhinal, entorhinal and inferior temporal cortices), whereas, in PAT amygdala and insular cortex are thought to play an important role (Winters et al., 2008). Finally, according to some studies one-trial object recognition test sometimes may not be able to assess novelty. This discrimination could be construed in two ways; animals could explore each object equally because they have been recognized as the novel or as familiar. That model also could not assess the measure of the memory when the animal faced the object and so it is hard to evaluate the strength of the memory (Antunes and Biala, 2012).

Conclusion

Combination therapies could in some cases increase the probability of obtaining a new compound with better efficacy, decreased toxicity and reduced drug resistance. Both single and multi-plant extract injections in this study were effective in improving memory impairment in mice. However, the combination of BS, ZO and GB extracts implied more reliable improve of memory rather than individual extract administration in PAT model. In ORT model, nevertheless, single-drug treatments were as effective as combinational ones. Due to the facts that were discussed, it could be easily understand that the synergistic actions that are typically expected to occur by drug combinations may not arise in every case and test paradigm.

CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

The author has not declared any conflict of interests.

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