



Nanoparticles of magnesium oxide with an anthelmintic activity produced by a green principle

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Abstract

Nanoscience is a burgeoning transdisciplinary field of research leading to revolution in wide field of science. Interplay of phytochemicals and nanomaterials presents an exciting horizon for synthesizing novel nanomaterials. Herein we addressed green principle mediated synthesis of magnesium oxide nanoparticle (MgO) and their anthelmintic functionality. Newly found MgO nanoparticles was characterized and their in-vitro studies. Transmission electron microscopy analysis confirmed the rod shape of MgO nanoparticles with an average particle size 89.8nm. It was recorded that the MgO nanoparticles exhibited significant vermifugal potential and demonstrated paralysis as well as the death of the worm in a time comparable to standard drugs with least concentration.

Introduction

Nanotechnology, as a burgeoning transdisciplinary field of research in array of fields, has the potential to enable advancements in applications¹. Currently, due to their unusual exceptional physicochemical functional high surface-to-volume ratio, and exclusive nanosize structural features, metal oxide nanomaterials, and hybrid nanomaterials are being increasingly applied as an alternative to conventional agents in life science applications.

Currently, researchers have demonstrated novel products that are nanosized to breakthrough towards exclusive and tunable features of the applied materials. An important issue of nanotechnology is related to the design of

experimental protocols for the synthesis of nanoparticles (NPs) with different physicochemical features. Recently, researchers have attempted to find biogenic routes for the synthesis of nanoparticles that will act as alternatives to physical or chemical protocols. Biological synthesis of nanoparticles are considered safe and environmental benign, cost-effective and ensure the complete expulsion of toxic chemicals. About from that, the synthesis of nanoparticles using biological resources particles in green chemistry is biocompatible, since functional biomolecules which actively reduce metal ions. Magnesium oxide nanoparticles are significant materials find application as catalysts, electronic and photonic devices. MgO particles are inorganic materials with wide band gaps. It

has, high melting point, low heat capacity and is highly functional. Accordingly, it has been utilized for insulation applications in wide areas^{2,3}.

Magnesium oxide nanoparticles are reported to have potent antibacterial activity with the leverage of being non-toxic. MgONPs have been identified as safe materials by the United States Food and Drug authorities. Recent research has led to distinct developments with wide potential in life science⁴. It has been demonstrated that, MgONPs can relieve heartburn, initiate post-activation of bone repair scaffolds and act as hyperthermia material in cancer treatment⁵.

An important area of nanotechnology is related to the design of protocol for the synthesis of nanomaterials of different physico chemical features⁶. Currently, biological techniques for the synthesis of nanoparticles are reported as safe and environmental benign, they are also cost-effective and ensure the complete withdrawal of toxic chemicals⁷.

Magnesium oxide nanoparticles are highly ionic nanoparticulate metal oxides with extraordinarily high surface areas and exceptional crystal morphologies⁸. Interfresh MgO nanoparticles unique optical, electronic, magnetic, thermal, mechanical, and chemical properties led to find its applications in wide area of research⁹.

Typical synthesis of MgO nanoparticles reported on chemical precipitation¹⁰ and thermal evaporation¹¹. These synthesis methods are sophisticated, constrained by the expense of equipment, utilization of high temperature, pressure, for synthesis of metal oxides. It has also been reported that MgO NPs synthesized by that convent technique often yield a

relatively small surface area and due to that it show low reaction activity¹².

Recently, green chemistry on nanoscience attracted appreciable spouting research in many distinctive fields of nanomedicine, which is committed to the creation, advancement and utility of nanomaterials for life science. The ultimate aim of this new field is to design and develop multifunctional materials of a nanoscale range that are gearing the medical fields^{13,14} by making improvements to existing materials^{15,16,17}. The tiny particles with the atom by atom arrangement consisting large surface to volume ratio competent to invasive with functional groups and reacting led to accomplishment of unique applications¹⁸.

On the basis in the present investigation an attempt was made to synthesis magnesium oxide nanoparticles using phytochemistry approach and their application on anthelmintic has been demonstrated. In India soil-transmitted helminths infected nearly 25% of total global cases with 220.6 million children in need of prevention therapeutics¹⁹. Soil-transmitted helminth infections continue to plague large parts of the world with India a significant contributor to the burden of disease²⁰. Resistance of anthelmintic drugs aggravate the disease incidence serious attempts are being undertaken by the researchers to explore alternate therapeutics²¹.

Experimental details:

The present investigation is addressed the synthesis of magnesium oxide nanoparticles. Green principle mediated synthesis of magnesium oxide nanoparticles using precursor Magnesium nitrate and *Manilkara zapota* leaf extract

has been used as a reducing agent to synthesize magnesium oxide nanoparticles. *Manilkarazapota* L. belongs to the family Sapotaceae, Sapodilla is the common name of *Manilkarazapota* which is distributed all over the world. Ethnopharmacological properties of *Manilkarazapota* has been well documented. Its anti-diarrheal, diuretic, and laxative has been demonstrated ²².

Healthy leaves of *Manilkarazapota* were collected from Thiruvalluvar University botanical garden, Serkkadu, Vellore, Tamil Nadu. The leaves were washed with tap water, one or two times, again wash with distilled water, and shade dried under room temperature for 10 days. Dried leaves were powdered by using a mechanical grinder. 5 g of *Manilkarazapota* leaves fine powder in a 500ml beaker consist 200 ml of distilled water and boiled for one hour at 100°C. Freshly prepared *Manilkarazapota* leaf extract was used for the synthesis of MgONPs. In the experiment, 5 ml of freshly prepared *Manilkarazapota* leaf extract and 20ml of distilled water were added to a 250ml beaker and 5 grams of Magnesium Nitrate was added to the solution and heated at 80°C with continuous stirring for 4 hours. Biogenesis of Magnesium oxide nanoparticles has been monitored by the color change of the solution. The yellow solution changed into yellowish brown in 4 hours of reaction.

Characterization of Magnesium Oxide Nanoparticles:

Aliquots of reaction solutions were monitored by UV-2300 TECH COMP double-beam spectrophotometer in defined compartments, each for comparison and test solution fitted with quartz cuvettes of 1 cm path length. Synthesized Magnesium

oxide NPs were centrifuged at 8000 rpm for 10 min for FTIR measurements. To obtain the pellet, the deposited residue was dried and grinded with KBr and analyzed by Thermo Nicolet Quator in the diffuse reflectance mode operating at a resolution of 4 cm⁻¹. X-ray diffraction patterns of greenly synthesized Magnesium oxide NPs were obtained using a Siefert X-ray diffractometer operating at a voltage of 40 kV and a tube current of 30 mA with Cu-K α radiation. Newly synthesized Magnesium oxide nanoparticles were prepared for TEM analysis by putting a drop of nanoparticle solution on carbon-coated copper grids and allowing water to evaporate. TEM observations were conducted on JEOL 3010 running on a 120Kv acceleration voltage. Scanning Electron Microscopy was subjected to analysis of the structural characteristics of newly formed Magnesium oxide nanoparticles. To confirm the percentage of the elemental composition of Magnesium oxide nanoparticles, EDAX analysis was undertaken with the same instrument.

Anthelmintic activity;

The Indian earthworms, *Pheretimaposthums* were collected from moist soil of the botanical garden in Thiruvalluvar University, Serkkadu, Vellore. The earthworms were brought to the laboratory within the half-hour along with moist soil. The earthworms were washed with saline water for removing the fecal matter. In-vitro study of anthelmintic activity was made using the suitable adult *Pheretimaposthumus* earthworms based on its physiological and anatomical resemblance with intestinal roundworms parasites of human beings. The investigation was carried out by revealing

the worms to various dosages of magnesium oxide nanoparticles. The in-vitro studies were made according to the established protocol^{23,24} 20ml of the solution containing four different dosages, each of aqueous *Manilkarazapota* leaf extract and Magnesium oxide nanoparticles (10,20,30, and 50mg/ml in distilled water) were prepared and ten worms were placed in it. Time for paralysis was recorded when no motility of any sort was observed except when the worms were shaken vigorously. The time for the death of worms was recorded after ascertaining that the worms neither moved when shaken vigorously nor when dipped in warm water and thus worm lost their motility followed by fading away of their body color. The mean paralysis time and mean lethal time of each concentration were recorded.

Results and Discussion

Currently, metal oxide nanoparticles gaining momentous due to its physicochemical features which find application in diverse areas like catalysts²⁵ sensors²⁶ and medical application. Generation of nanostructured metal and metal oxide by biological resources have been intensively investigated to replace the conventional techniques²⁷⁻³¹. Magnesium oxide is an environmental benign, cost-effective and industrial concerned nanoparticle due its unique features particularly its unique refractive index,^{32,33}. The unique surface chemical activity of magnesium oxide nanoparticles and their environmental friendliness have attracted researchers and explored its application as a catalyst, activities of anticancer and antimicrobial³⁴⁻³⁷.

Present report demonstrates sapodilla leaf extract synthesized magnesium oxide nanoparticles in four hours reaction. The change in the intensity color of the leaf extract was recorded as initial point of the formation of the MgONPs. The newly synthesized Magnesium oxide nanoparticles in aqueous suspension was analysed using UV-vis spectra in the range of 200-800nm (Fig. 1). The sample disclosed surface plasma resonance at 300 nm. The observed increasing shift of the UV-spectra of MgONPs may be due to the aggregation of the nano assemblage magnesium oxide. Appearance of denotes single peak that the prepared nanoparticles is iso-morphological³⁸. The color change is due to the phytochemical-reduction by the leaf extract of *Manilkarazapota* with of the magnesium nitrate and it is clean for the biological synthesis of magnesium oxide nanoparticles.

The functional groups of the various metabolites present in the *Manilkarazapota* leaf extract are responsible for the stabilizing, bioreduction, and capping of newly synthesized magnesium oxide nanoparticles were identified between 4000 and 500 cm^{-1} . Figure 2 shows the comparative FTIR spectra of synthesized magnesium oxide nanoparticles from the aqueous *Manilkarazapota* leaves extract. The spectra band show 3431 cm^{-1} , 2921 cm^{-1} , 2842 cm^{-1} , 1598 cm^{-1} , 1431 cm^{-1} , 1374 cm^{-1} , 1061 cm^{-1} , 809 cm^{-1} , 752 cm^{-1} , 601 cm^{-1} and the peak were shifted to 3422 cm^{-1} , 2850 cm^{-1} , 1646 cm^{-1} , 1381 cm^{-1} , 1110 cm^{-1} , 616 cm^{-1} respectively. The broad band observed at 3422 cm^{-1} was assigned to O-H stretching vibration hydroxyls overlapped with N-H stretching

vibration of amines found in the polysaccharide. The small double peaks at 2922 cm^{-1} and 2850 cm^{-1} are considered for C-H stretching vibration in the alkene group in the phytochemicals. The median peak observed at 1641 cm^{-1} signified to the N-H bending mode of primary amine. The peak at 1381 cm^{-1} corresponds to the C-H bending of the aldehyde group. The vital peak at 1110 cm^{-1} stretching of C-O bond resulting carboxylic acid. The absorption peaks in the region between $487\text{--}677\text{ cm}^{-1}$ are attributed to Mg-O compounds and the spectrum and the absorption bond 616 cm^{-1} .

High-Resolution Transmission Electron Microscopy (HR-TEM) has contributed to a further understanding of the structure and size of the newly formed magnesium oxide nanoparticles. A representative HR-TEM image of magnesium oxide nanoparticles is shown (Fig.5). The Magnesium Oxide Nanoparticles are rod and spherical shape, suggesting that the biomolecules of plant extract was capping. The SEM image of the *Manilkara zapota* synthesized magnesium oxide nanoparticles (Fig.4) showed that the magnesium oxide nanoparticles were spherical and the aggregation may be due to the interactions and Vander Waals forces between the magnesium oxide nanoparticles³⁹. It is clear that the surface morphology of Magnesium oxide nanoparticles which are well dispersed. The EADX record shows the predominant peaks were in magnesium (Mg), oxygen (O), and nitrogen (N), and the signal for oxygen confirms the fact that Magnesium oxide Nanoparticles have been synthesized (Fig.6).

Magnesium oxide nanoparticles has been synthesized utilizing neem leaves⁴⁰ citrus lemon extract⁴¹, *Punica granatum*

peels⁴² *Parthenium*⁴³ *Brassica oleracea* and their utilizations on agriculture have been reported^{44,45}. Abundance of phytochemical resources of plants considered potential to generate biogenic nanomaterials. The reductant and stabilizing molecules of plants provides fascinating applications in medical field as antimicrobial⁴⁶, diagnostics⁴⁷, biological labelling⁴⁸. Green chemistry approach not only provides application on medical field it facilitates to overcome the limitations with respect to microbial synthesis. Microbial synthesis found to be time consuming tedious process of cell culture, extraction of biomolecules etc^{49,50}. Plant biodiversity provides phytochemicals like flavones, aldehydes, amides, terpenoids, ketone are reported to have the property of reduction and stabilization of nanomaterials present in the report depicts alkanes and aromatic amines of the sapodilla leaf extract are responsible for the formation and stabilization magnesium oxide nanoparticles newly formed.

The particle size was also ascertained using particle size analyser and the results are presented (fig .7) and the particles in the size range of 30 to 90nm. The average particle size was 89.8nm.

Anthelmintic Activity Analysis:

Results of the anthelmintic activity depict that the biogenic magnesium oxide nanoparticles were found that the time taken for paralysis of *Pheretima posthumus* was 6 min – 21 min and time taken for death was 5min – 70 min for different concentrations (10, 20, 30, and 50 mg) of nano magnesium oxide particles. It was recorded that the Magnesium oxide nanoparticles demonstrates significant vermifugal activity and the paralysis as well as the death of the worms in a time

comparable to standard drugs used. Worm without treatment were alive throughout the experimental condition. The highest dosage of magnesium oxide nanoparticle solution (50 mg/ml) produced a paralytic effect much earlier and the time to death was shorter. Based on the above results, the activity of greenly synthesized magnesium oxide nanoparticles utilizing the leaf extracts of *Manilkarazapota* is greater when compared to the commercially available standard drug. The extracts of *Manilkarazapota* and magnesium oxide nanoparticles produced from it showed significant anthelmintic potential in a dose-dependent mannertable (1).

Histopathological studies

Histopathological studies were made using the experimental worms. The worms were cut in to pieces of 1 cm (fig. 8) which were place in neutral buffered formaldehyde. The tissues were subjected for process using automatic tissues processor sections were stained(fig.9) were stained by using an auto slide stainer HMS-70mm to examine the histopathological changes.Histopathological examination of the body of earthworms exposed to 5 µg/cm²) revealed a loss of architecture. Neighboring cells in circular and longitudinal muscles are found to be discontinuousand it may be due to necrosis depending upon the effect of themagnesium oxide nanoparticles.

Gastrointestinal parasitic are pathogens of worldwide significance. Globally two billion people in developing countries, are estimated to be infected with soil-transmitted helminths, whilst helminth transmitted diseases are also a serious problem in livestock production globally

causing significant economic losses and threatening food security^{51,52,53}. These helminths cause malnutrition, malabsorption, iron-deficiency anemia and obstruction of the small intestine which leads to impairment in physical growth and cognitive and intellectual potential of children^{54,55}. Besides this, helminthiasis is a common animal disease in developing countries, leading to a reduction in the production of milk⁵⁶.

Currently limited number of synthetic anthelmintic therapeutic are use in practice due to the threat of resistance development among parasites ^{57,58}.the cost of the drugs for farmers in developing countries and lack of efficacy of existing drugs ⁵⁹. Hence its highly imperative to develop novel drugs which are urgently need. It has been observed that the survival of the parasite is potently inhibited by the newly synthesized magnesium oxide nanoparticles. Indeed, it has been observed that at 50mg/ml concentration completely a nested the adult survival.

Current investigation disclose that the stabilizing molecule of the newly formed magnesium oxide nanoparticles is derived the leaf extract of sapota,*Manilkarazapota*.Medicinal properties of sapota are due to chemical composition such as polyphenols, ascorbic acid, glycoside sapotinine etc. Further, it has reported that it is an excellent nutrient useful in the diseases like inflammation, pain, diarrhoea etc.

Albendazole is known to cause paralysis of worms so that they are expelled intothe faces of men and animals. Experimental biogenic magnesium oxide nanoparticles not only demonstrated this activity but also caused the early death of worms at all dosages compared to the

drug. It is evident that magnesium oxide nanoparticles has depicts promising in vitro anthelmintic activity. Parasitic helminths affect animals and man, causing great hardship and stunted growth. Most diseases caused by helminths are of a chronic, debilitating nature; they probably cause more morbidity and greater economic and social deprivation among humans and animals than any single group of parasites. The newly synthesized magnesium oxide nanoparticles may interfere with the parasites carbohydrate metabolism, inhibit their respiratory

enzymes, block their neuromuscular action.

Conclusion

Environmental friendly, cost effective principle mediated synthesis of MgO nanoparticles has been accomplished. Biogenic MgO nanoparticles have been found to have potential anthelmintic activity with least concentration. Interestingly it has been achieved neither by dopping not by capping of any other molecules.

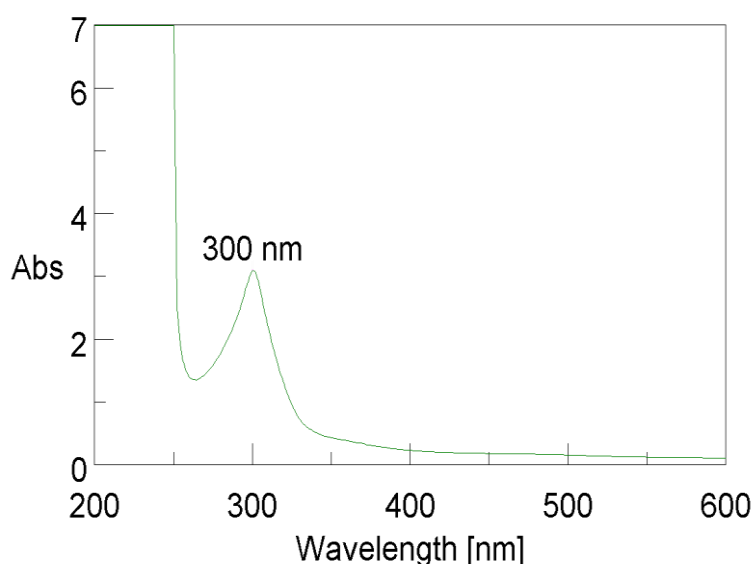


Figure no 1- UV- Vis spectrum shows Magnesium oxide nanoparticles' formation

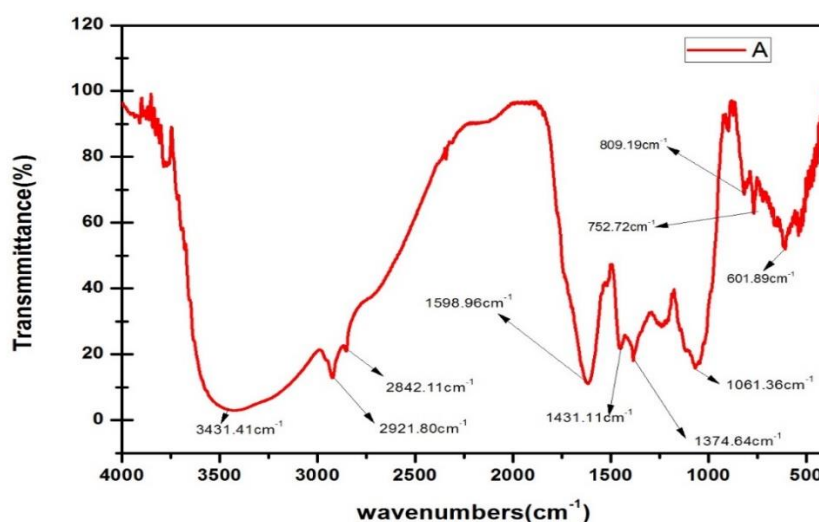
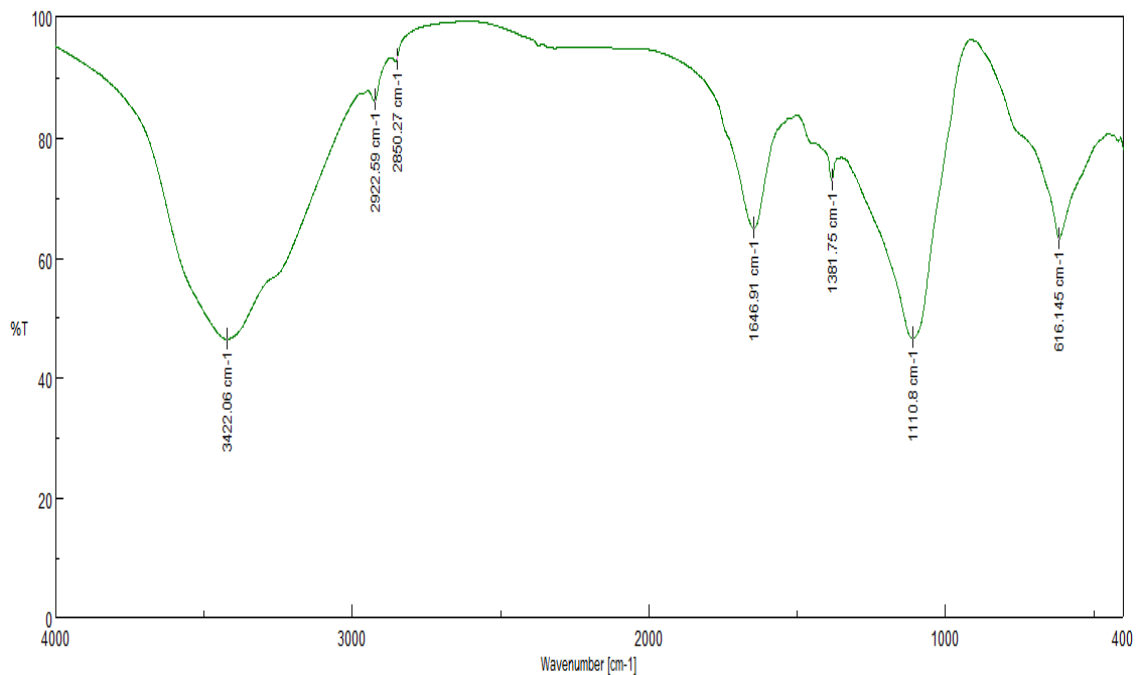
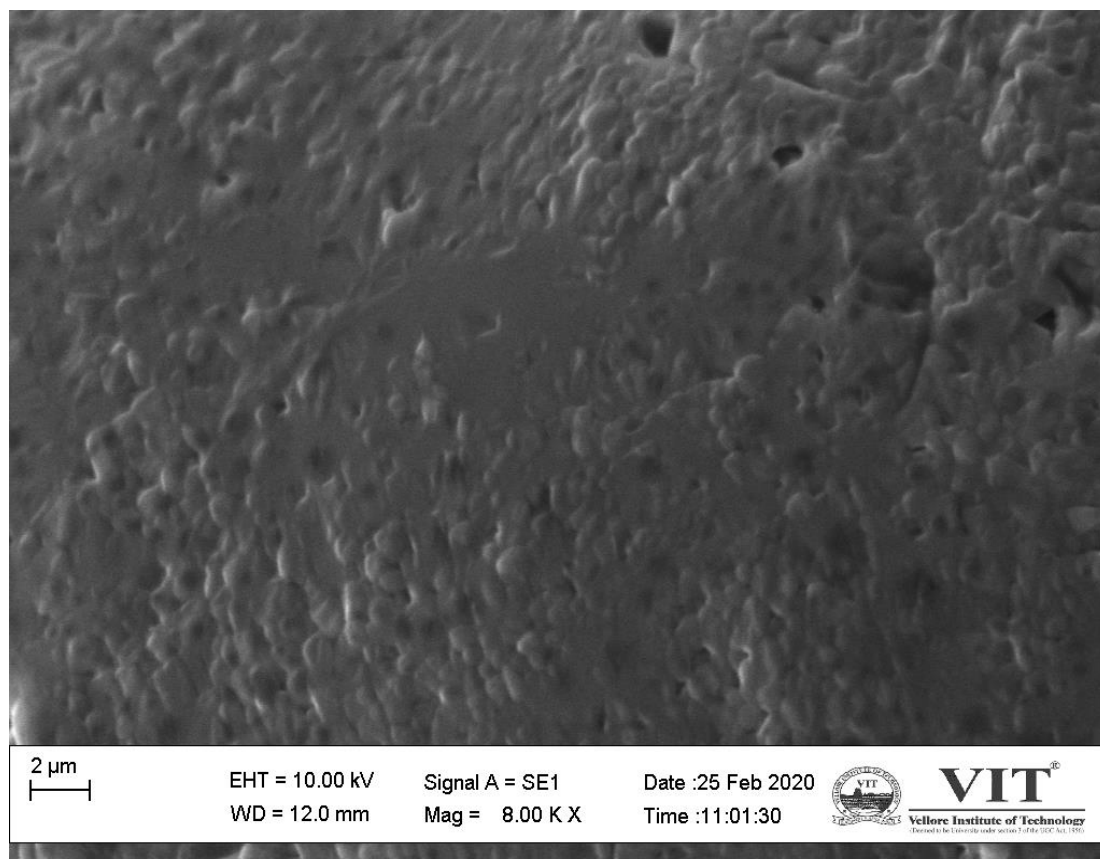


Figure 2 shows FTIR *Manilkarazapota* plant leaves extract



The figure no 3 shows FTIR newly synthesized Magnesium oxide nanoparticles



Figureno 4 shows Scanning Electron Microscope for Magnesium oxide Nanoparticles;

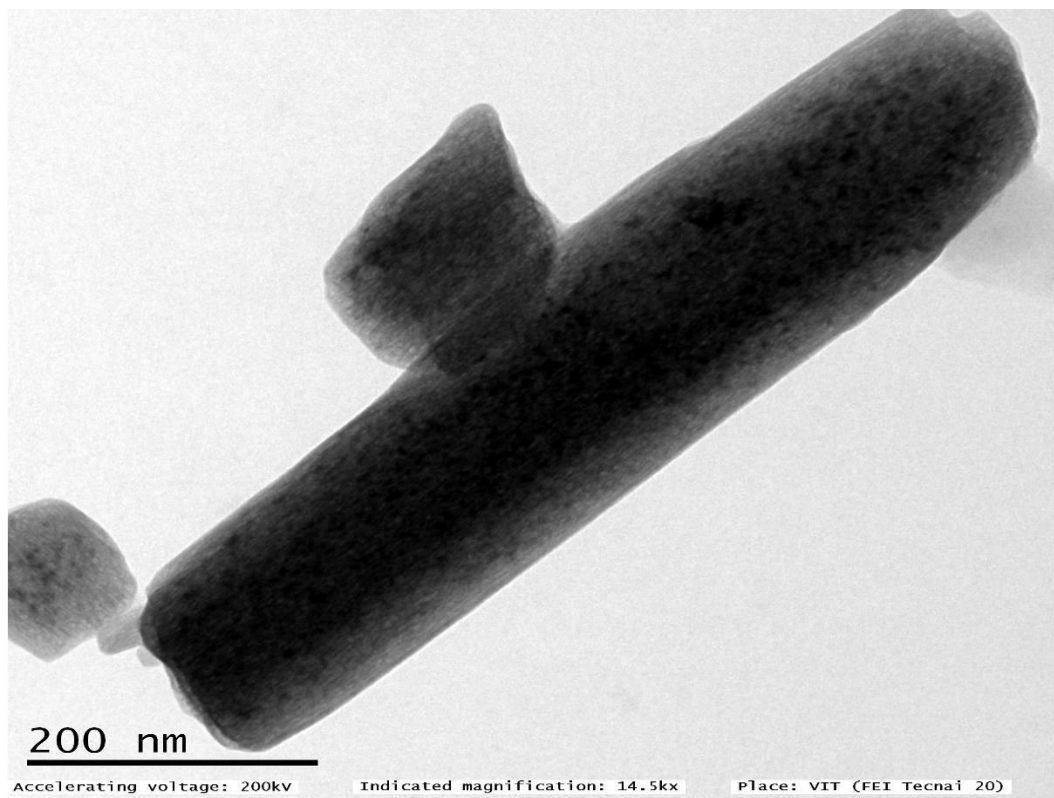


Figure no 5 shows Transmission Electron Microscope for Magnesium oxide nanoparticles.

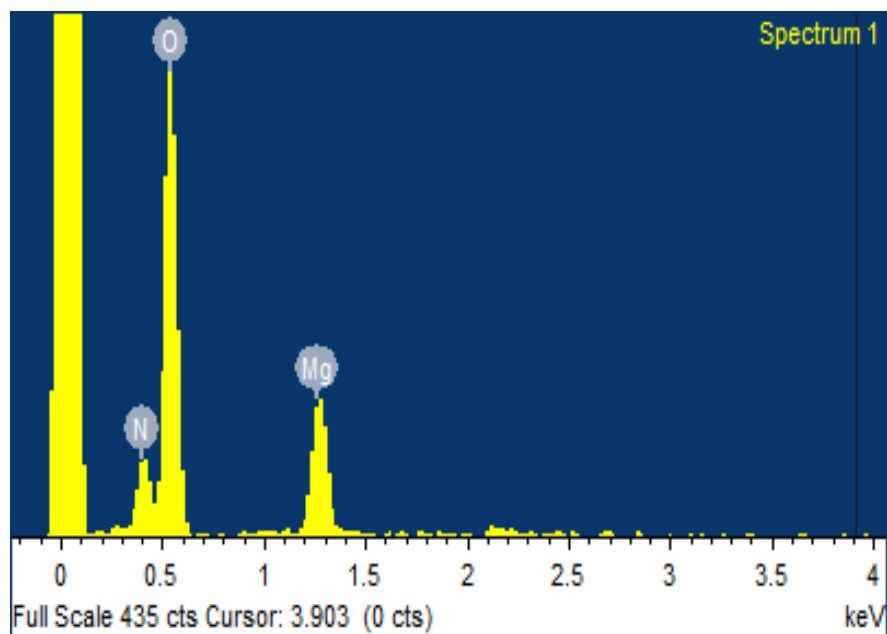


Figure no 6 shows EDAX for Magnesium oxide nanoparticles

Figure no 7 shows particle size analyzer of Magnesium oxide nanoparticles:

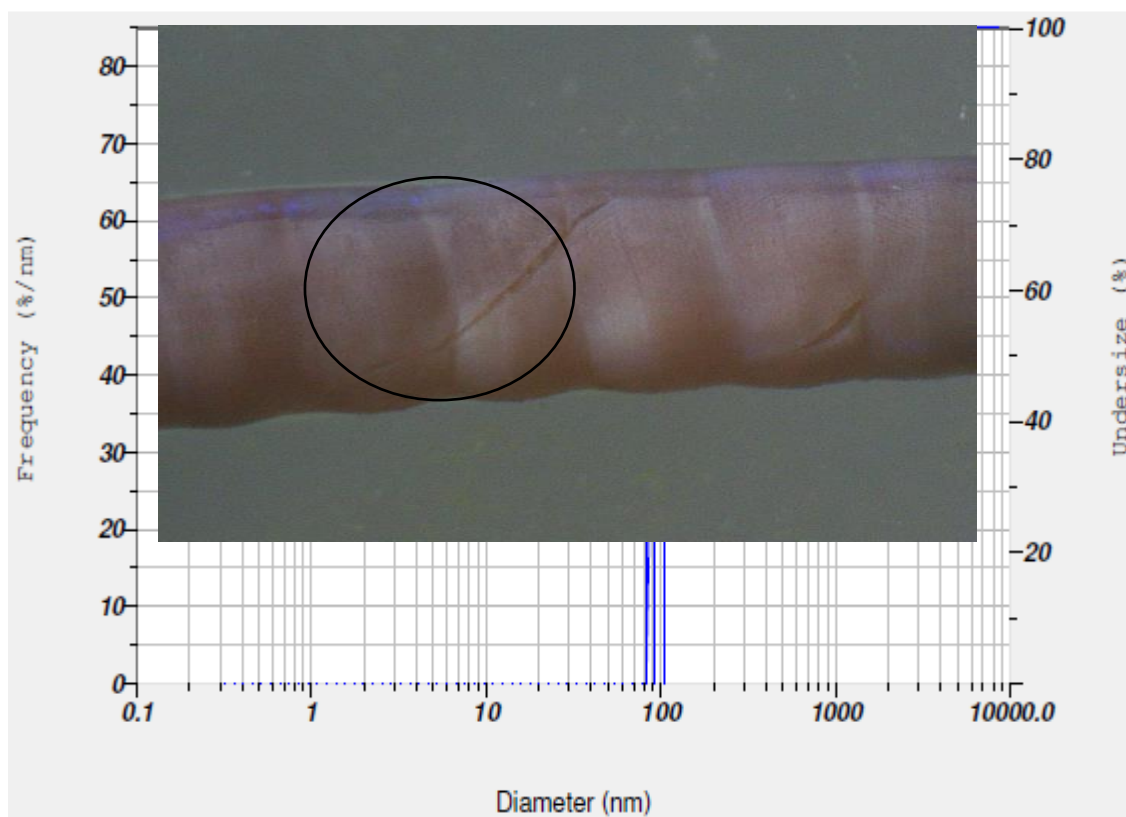


Figure no 8 shows surface lesions and peeling of the skin due to MgONPs exposure.



Figure no 9 shows a Histopathological analysis of MgONPs treated subject showing discontinuous longitudinal muscles and necrosis.

Drug used	Concentration mg/ml	<i>Pheretima posthumous</i>		
		Paralysis Time(min)	Death (min)	Time

Standard	20	47.4±1.01	250.4±1.01
	10	63.8±1.16	296.2±1.6
Manilkarazapota leaves extract	20	52.4±1.01	282.8±2.31
	30	46±1.41	255.2±1.72
	50	40.6±1.01	233.4±1.01
Magnesium oxide nanoparticles	10	21.4±1.2	124.2±0.74
	20	19.6±1.35	88.6±1.49
	30	13.2±1.32	57.8±1.16
	50	10.4±1.01	48.2±1.3

Table 1 shows the comparative anthelmintic potential of *Manilkarazapota*

Leaves extract and newly synthesized magnesium oxide nanoparticles in *Pheretima posthumous*

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