The effect of acute or chronic doses of nutmeg extract on
behavioural locomotor activity in mice

This behavioural study assesses the effect of mild nutmeg extract on spontaneous locomotor activity in mice. The nutmeg extract was injected intraperitoneally (i.p.) into two animal groups; the first one injected once (acute dose), the second, injected once daily for 14 consecutive days (chronic dose). Results indicated a slight statistically significant effect on body weight of nutmeg treated mice. None of the two modes of i.p. injection had any significant effect on the parameters tested. At these doses, nutmeg aqueous extract exhibited potential hepatotoxic, nephrotoxic and cardiotoxic effects. These results may be interpreted to suggest a CNS depressant effect of nutmeg that may contribute to its potential toxic interaction with certain substances of abuse and may explain, in part, its addictive potential.