Abstract

The aim of this research was to develop an optimized method for the extraction of Thymol from Thymus Vulgaris. Throughout the history of human society, the use of medicinal herbs has been an extremely important factor. Plants with medicinal properties are a rich source of potential novel medications, and a significant proportion of today's pharmaceuticals are derived, directly or indirectly, from plant sources. Thymus Vulgaris is common thyme and have number of different medicinal values. The primary monoterpene phenol present in thyme essential oil is called thymol, and it has the chemical formula 2-isopropyl-5-methylphenol. This substance has been shown to possess a variety of biological activities, including anti inflammatory, anti bacterial, and antioxidant qualities. In this research extraction of Thymus Vulgaris is carried in different solvents by using solvent mixtures at different ratios. Three solvents i.e., methanol, acetonitrile and n-hexane with distilled water were used having 100%, 75%, 50% and 25%. Two traditional and one modern method was adopted, maceration, infusion and Soxhlet extraction, respectively. Estimation of extracted amount was done by high-performance liquid chromatography with uv/vis detector. Optimum extraction was achieved through comparing the results of HPLC analysis. It was found that 75% methanol solvent system has highest amount of thymol.