

Control animals received the same volume of 0.15 sterile NaCl. Bovine serum albumin in 0.1 N NaOH was used as standard. Biochemical analyses Liver tissue was homogenized in a teflon/glass homogenizer (Remi, Bombay, India) using cold 1.15% KCl solution at 4°C. A portion of liver was fixed for histopathology, and the remaining tissue stored at -70°C until assayed. The final concentration of the homogenate was adjusted to 100 mg tissue/ml. The livers were rapidly removed, rinsed in cold saline and weighed in the wet state. The morphological and behavioral changes were also monitored after administration of DMN. The total protein present in the liver homogenate was determined by the method of Lowry et al. (1951). Body weight was measured only after removal of the ascitic fluid. The control and the 7th day group comprised 12 rats each, while the 14th and 21st day group consisted of nine and seven rats respectively. All rats were anaesthetized with diethyl ether before sacrifice. Ascitic fluid was collected before sacrifice. Animals were injected without anaesthesia. Treated animals were sacrificed on days 7, 14 and 21 from the beginning of exposure. 2.3.