## Accepted Manuscript

Title: Efficacy of a freeze-dried aqueous extract of *Nepeta menthoides* Boiss. and Buhse in the treatment of anxiety in patients with depression: A double-blind, randomized, controlled trial

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PII:	S2210-8033(17)30056-8
DOI:	http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hermed.2017.08.003
Reference:	HERMED 192

To appear in:

Received date:	15-11-2015
Revised date:	21-1-2017
Accepted date:	16-8-2017

Please cite this article as: Firoozabadi, Ali, Kolouri, Sepideh, Zarshenas, Mohammad M., Salehi, Alireza, Mosavat, Seyed Hamdollah, Dastgheib, Seyed Ali, Efficacy of a freeze-dried aqueous extract of Nepeta menthoides Boiss.and Buhse in the treatment of anxiety in patients with depression: A double-blind, randomized, controlled trial.Journal of Herbal Medicine http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hermed.2017.08.003

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

## Efficacy of *Nepeta menthoides* Boiss. & Buhse freeze- dried aqueous extract on the anxiety of patients with depression: A double-blind randomized controlled clinical trial

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Efficacy of a freeze-dried aqueous extract of *Nepeta menthoides* Boiss.&Buhse in the treatment of anxiety in patients with depression: A double-blind, randomized, controlled trial

## ABSTRACT

Objective: To assess the efficacy and safety of a freeze dried, aqueous extract of Nepeta menthoides

Boiss. & Buhse (*N. menthoides*) in reducing anxiety in patients suffering from depression.

Method: A two-armed, double-blind, randomized, controlled trial was conducted with 70 patients

suffering from anxiety and depression. Participants were randomly assigned to two groups, receiving

capsules of either N. menthoides or sertraline for four weeks. The Beck anxiety inventory (BAI) score

together with side effects of the intervention were evaluated at baseline and then every two weeks up

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