

3rd International Conference and Exhibition on **Biowaivers, Biologics & Biosimilars**

October 27-29, 2014 Hyderabad International Convention Centre, Hyderabad, India

Biosurfactants: Applications in pharmacy and medicines

Shilpa Sunil Mujumdar

Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce, India

Biosurfactants or bioemulsifiers are the surface active compounds released by microorganisms and have both hydrophilic and hydrophobic moieties. Biosurfactant production depends upon physicochemical factors and it is directly proportional to growth of the organism. They are non-toxic, biodegradable and environment friendly. They reduce surface tension and interfacial tension by the same mechanisms like chemical surfactants. These biosurfactants have tremendous applications in various fields such as in oil recovery, cosmetics, agriculture, food, pharmacy and medicine. Biosurfactants have antimicrobial as well as anticancer activity. They are also used as anti-adhesive agents as they have the ability to disrupt the biofilm. It also showed antiviral activity.