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Isolation and characterization of phytoconstituents and evaluation of anticancer potential of the medicinal plant *Wrightia tinctoria* (Roxb.) R. Br. from South India

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Wrightia tinctoria R. Br. belongs to family *Apocynaceae* commonly called as “Jaundice curative tree” in South India. In Siddha system of medicine, it is used for psoriasis and other skin diseases. In the present study various secondary metabolites from the leaf and bark of *Wrightia tinctoria* (Pala Indigo) were isolated by column chromatography and characterized by spectral analysis (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, IR, Mass Spectrum). The antibacterial and antifungal activities of the plant extracts against various pathogenic bacteria such as *Bacillus cereus*, *Enterobacter faecalis*, *Salmonella paratyphi*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Serratia marcescens* and antifungal activity against two fungi namely *Aspergillus niger* and *Penicillium chrysogenum* were evaluated by agar well diffusion method. The anticancer potential of *Wrightia tinctoria* was studied both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Anti-tumor properties of *Wrightia tinctoria* could be linked with the presence of antioxidants and cytotoxic activity. These outcomes indicate the possible potential use of *Wrightia tinctoria* as anti-tumor agent.

Biography

Beena Jose has completed her PhD in Chemistry from the University of Calicut in 2005. She has published 36 papers in various reputed national and international journals and authored one book. Her area of specialization is Natural Products Chemistry. Currently, she is working as an Assistant Professor in Chemistry, Vimala College, Thrissur, Kerala, India. She has presented papers in India and abroad. As a part of International Fellowship Program, she has been selected as an International Visiting Research Scholar at the Jesuit School of Theology (JST) of Santa Clara University, USA for the year 2014-15. She is the recipient of University Grants Commission's (UGC) Major and Minor research projects. Her area of interests are phytochemical analysis and structural elucidation of the compounds isolated from plants.

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