



LJMU Research Online

Khan, KM, Sarker, SD, Khan, GA, Saleem, H, Khan, SA and Mannan, A

Phytochemical profiling and evaluation of modified resazurin microtiter plate assay of the roots of *Trillium govanianum*

<http://researchonline.ljmu.ac.uk/id/eprint/10230/>

Article

Citation (please note it is advisable to refer to the publisher's version if you intend to cite from this work)

Khan, KM, Sarker, SD, Khan, GA, Saleem, H, Khan, SA and Mannan, A (2019) Phytochemical profiling and evaluation of modified resazurin microtiter plate assay of the roots of *Trillium govanianum*. *Natural Product Research*. ISSN 1478-6419

LJMU has developed **LJMU Research Online** for users to access the research output of the University more effectively. Copyright © and Moral Rights for the papers on this site are retained by the individual authors and/or other copyright owners. Users may download and/or print one copy of any article(s) in LJMU Research Online to facilitate their private study or for non-commercial research. You may not engage in further distribution of the material or use it for any profit-making activities or any commercial gain.

The version presented here may differ from the published version or from the version of the record. Please see the repository URL above for details on accessing the published version and note that access may require a subscription.

For more information please contact researchonline@ljmu.ac.uk

<http://researchonline.ljmu.ac.uk/>

Phytochemical profiling and evaluation of modified resazurin microtiter plate assay of the roots of *Trillium govanianum*

*Kashif Maqbool Khan^{a,b,c**}, Satyajit D. Sarker^a, Ghazanfar Ali Khan^d, Hammad Saleem^c, Shujaat Ali Khan^b and Abdul Mannan^{b*}*

^aFaculty of Science, School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences, Medicinal Chemistry and Natural Products Research Group, Liverpool John Moores University, England, UK

^bDepartment of Pharmacy, COMSATS University Islamabad, Abbottabad Campus, Pakistan

^cInstitute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan

^dDivision of Medical Devices and Medicated Cosmetics, Drug Regulatory Authority, Islamabad, Pakistan

* Correspondence to: E-mail: amannan@cuiatd.edu.pk (Abdul Mannan) Tel: +92- 3335197036

** Co Correspondence to: E-mail: kashif.maqbool@uvas.edu.pk (Kashif Maqbool Khan) Tel: +92-3334384432, Fax No. +92-042-99211461

Acknowledgements

This work is a part of the PhD project (KMK) funded by the [Higher Education Commission of Pakistan] under Grant [PIN: IRSIP 28PS18].

Phytochemical profiling and evaluation of modified resazurin microtiter plate assay of the roots of *Trillium govianianum*

ABSTRACT

Trillium govianianum Wall. ex D. Don (Melanthiaceae alt. Trilliaceae), is native to the Himalayas. The present study, for the first time, was undertaken to explore the antimicrobial potential, to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values of the methanol extract of the roots of *Trillium govianianum* and its solid phase extraction (SPE) fractions by using resazurin microtiter assay (REMA) against Gram positive and Gram negative bacterial registered strains and to carry out phytochemical analysis. The remarkable amount of gallic acid equivalent phenolic and quercetin equivalent flavonoid content was manifested by MeOH extract (20.27±3.03 mg GAE/ g DW and 9.25± 0.50 mg QE/ g DW respectively). The GC/MS analysis revealed the presence saturated and unsaturated components. Considerable level of antibacterial potential against Gram-positive bacteria (MIC: 2.5-0.009 mg/mL) than against Gram-negative bacteria (MIC: 2.5-0.165 mg/mL) were observed. The use of microtiter plates has the advantage of lower cost, fast and quantitative results.

Keywords: *Trillium govianianum*; Melanthiaceae; GC/MS; SPE; REMA; MIC.

1. Introduction

Trillium govianianum Wall. ex D. Don (Melanthiaceae alt. Trilliaceae), commonly known as “nagchhatry” in India and “teen patra” or “matar zela” in Pakistan, distributed from Pakistan to Bhutan about 2500-3800 m altitude is indigenous to Himalayas ranges. The reported studies on different species of the genus *Trillium* have revealed that this genus is ample in steroidal saponins, e.g., steroidal saponins were found in *T. erectum* L. (Hayes et al., 2009), *T. kamtschaticum* Pall. (Wei et al., 2012) and *T. tschonoskii* Maxim. (Wang et al., 2013). Traditionally *Trillium govianianum* have been reported to used as immuno-regulation, to cure sepsis, inflammation, wound healing, dysentery, menstrual, antiaging agent skin boils and verious sexual disorders (Pant and Samant, 2010) . The powder of this plant has also been used to treat anthelmintic and were found to have antitumor property (Khan et al., 2016).

Determination of phenolic and flavonoids contents in plants has vital importance, as its linked with the antioxidant phenomenon of plants. GCMS is a powerful technique in analytical

chemistry to determine molecular mass and structure with high accuracy and sensitivity. It is faster and provides better results than other conventional methods in this field such as chromatographic techniques. Resazurin dye based on colorimetric method, which determined the cellular metabolic reaction with reduced cell toxicity. Due to the bacterial resistance against certain antibiotic groups, there is need to develop consolidated drug testing methods against resistant bacteria to achieve a target of novel scaffolds in the field of medicine (Rates, 2001). Therefore, the present study was undertaken to explore the antimicrobial potential, to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values of the MeOH extract of the roots of *Trillium govanianum* and its SPE fractions by using resazurin microtiter assay (REMA) against Gram positive and negative bacterial registered strains and to carry out GCMS analysis.

2. Results and Discussion

2.1. Resazurin microtiter assay (REMA)

The MeOH extract of the roots of *Trillium govanianum* and its SPE fractions (TGMF1, TGMF2, TGMF3 & TGMF4) exhibited varying antibacterial activity by using Resazurin microtiter plate assay as shown in (Table 1). The MIC (mg/mL) values of the MeOH extract and its SPE fractions are shown in Table 1S. The results from (Table 1S) indicated that the MeOH extract (TGM) and four SPE fractions showed higher antibacterial activity against Gram-positive bacteria (MIC: 2.5-0.039 mg/mL) than against Gram-negative bacteria (MIC: 2.5-0.165 mg/mL). The SPE fraction TGMF1, which had the most polar components of the parent MeOH extract, showed most significant antibacterial activity against *M. luteus* (MIC: 0.156 mg/mL), and considerable antibacterial activity against *S. aureus*, *B. subtilis*, *E. coli* and *K. oxytoca* (MIC: 2.5, 2.5, 1.25 and 2.5 mg/mL respectively). The SPE fraction TGMF2 showed most prominent antibacterial activity against *B. subtilis* and *M. luteus* (MIC: 0.615 and 1.25 mg/mL respectively), and showed mild activity against *S. aureus*, *E. coli* and *K. oxytoca* (MIC: 2.5, 2.5 and 2.5 mg/mL respectively). The SPE fraction TGMF3 showed most significant antibacterial activity against *B. subtilis*, *M. luteus*, *S. aureus* and (MIC: 0.0195, 0.039 and 0.31 mg/mL respectively). The SPE fraction TGMF4 which contained the least polar components of the parent MeOH extract, exhibited notable antibacterial activity against *S. aureus*, *B. subtilis* and *M. luteus* (MIC: 0.615, 0.039 and 0.156 mg/mL) and showed no activity against *E. coli* and *K. oxytoca* (MIC: ≥ 10) activity against *E. coli* and *K. oxytoca* (MIC: 1.25 and 0.615 mg/mL respectively). Figure 6S shows result after 24 hours incubation. Literature reported that phenolic compounds and saturated and unsaturated

components are more sensitive to Gram positive than Gram negative bacteria (Gulluce et al., 2007), which is extended and confirmed in present studies. As reported earlier regarding the Resazurin microtiter plate assay (REMA), we concluded this method to be very effective, fast and reproducible (Khan et al., 2018).

2.2 Total phenolic contents in *Trillium govanianum*

The total phenolic content of MeOH extract and SPE fractions in terms of gallic acid equivalent per gram dry weight are presented in Figure S1. The MeOH extract showed highest content of gallic acid equivalent phenols (20.27 ± 3.03 mg GAE/ g DW), followed by the SPE fractions TGMF1, TGMF2, TGMF4 and TGMF3 (19.07 ± 2.53 , 16.70 ± 0.56 , 15.768 ± 1.44 , and 13.35 ± 3.43 mg GAE/ g DW, respectively).

2.3 Total flavonoid contents in *Trillium govanianum*

The total flavonoid content of MeOH extract and SPE in terms of quercetin equivalent per gram dry weight exhibited different levels of significant flavonoid contents. The total flavonoid content of MeOH extract of roots of *T. govanianum* and its SPE are presented in Figure S3. The TGM (MeOH extract) showed highest flavonoid content (9.250 ± 0.50 mg QE/ g DW), followed by the SPE fractions TGMF1, TGMF2, TGMF4 and TGMF3 (8.882 ± 0.79 , 7.038 ± 1.23 , 6.684 ± 1.23 , and 6.407 ± 1.14 GAE/ g DW respectively). A positive correlation was found to be present between the phenolic and flavonoid contents (correlation coefficient; $R^2 = 0.9992$ and 0.9877 respectively, Figure S2 & S4) suggesting that the antioxidant potential of phenols might be caused by the presence of flavonoids.

2.4 GC/MS identification of components of *Trillium govanianum*

The GC/MS analysis of *n*-hexane fraction of MeOH extract of the roots of *T. govanianum* revealed the presence of six components (Table S2). The major constituents were *n*-Hexadecanoic acid methyl ester (t_R : 6.67), *n*-Hexadecanoic acid (t_R : 7.01), 9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (*Z,Z*) (t_R : 7.48) and Octadecanoic acid (t_R : 7.53). The above mentioned identified components were reported biological active against bacterial strains. The GC/MS analysis of *n*-hexane revealed the presence of saturated and unsaturated components and reported biologically active (ur Rahman et al., 2015).

3. Experimental

See supplementary materials

4. Conclusion

The findings of current study support the notion that the use of different fractions on the basis of different solvent systems truly retrieves a complete phytochemical and biological profiling of plants. The presence of saturated and unsaturated components by GC/MS analysis was in agreement with that of other *Trillium* species and reported are biologically active. From phytochemical analysis, it is reasonable to assume that the antibacterial activity of the MeOH extract and its SPE fractions of the roots of *Trillium govanianum* might be, at least partly, owing to the presence of phenolic compounds and could be potential source of antimicrobial compounds. To our best knowledge, this is the first report showing significant phytochemical and antibacterial potential of *Trillium govanianum* indigenous to Pakistan.

Disclosure statement

The authors have declared that there is no conflict of interest.

References

- Gulluce M, Sahin F, Sokmen M, Ozer H, Daferera D, Sokmen A, Polissiou M, Adiguzel A, Ozkan H. 2007. Antimicrobial and antioxidant properties of the essential oils and methanol extract from *Mentha longifolia* L. ssp. longifolia. Food Chem. 103: 1449-1456.
- Hayes PY, Lehmann R, Penman K, Kitching W, De Voss JJ. 2009. Steroidal saponins from the roots of *Trillium erectum* (Beth root). Phytochemistry. 70: 105-113.
- Khan KM, Nahar L, Al-Groshi A, Zavoianu AG, Evans A, Dempster NM, Wansi JD, Ismail F, Mannan A, Sarker SD. 2016. Cytotoxicity of the Roots of *Trillium govanianum* Against Breast (MCF7), Liver (HepG2), Lung (A549) and Urinary Bladder (EJ138) Carcinoma Cells. Phytother Res. 30: 1716-1720
- Khan KM, Nahar L, Mannan A, Arfan M, Khan GA, Hobbs G, Sarker SD. 2018. Evaluation of resazurin microtiter plate assay and HPLC-photodiode array analysis of the roots of *Asparagus adscendens*. Nat Prod Res. 32: 346-349.
- Pant S, Samant S. 2010. Ethnobotanical observations in the Mornaula reserve forest of Komoun, West Himalaya, India. Ethnobotanical Leaflets. 2010: 8.
- Rates SMK. 2001. Plants as source of drugs. Toxicon. 39: 603-613.
- Sivropoulou A, Kokkini S, Lanaras T, Arsenakis M. 1995. Antimicrobial activity of mint essential oils. J Agric Food Chem. 43: 2384-2388.
- ur Rahman S, Ismail M, Shah MR, Iriti M, Shahid M. 2015. GC/MS analysis, free radical scavenging, anticancer and β -glucuronidase inhibitory activities of *Trillium govanianum* rhizome. Bangladesh Journal of Pharmacology. 10: 577-583.
- Wang H, Zhai Z, Li N, Jin H, Chen J, Yuan S, Wang L, Zhang J, Li Y, Yun J. 2013. Steroidal saponin of *Trillium tschonoskii*. Reverses multidrug resistance of hepatocellular carcinoma. Phytomedicine. 20: 985-991.
- Wei J-C, Man S-L, Gao W-Y, Chai X, Zhao W-S, Wang Y, Jing S-S. 2012. Steroidal saponins from the rhizomes of *Trillium tschonoskii* Maxim. Biochem Syst Ecol. 44: 112-116.