

Antileukemic properties of spermacoce species

Abstract

Antileukemic activity of the extracts and isolated compound from *Spermacoce articularis*, *Spermacoce exilis* and *Spermacoce latifolia* were carried out. All extracts of *Spermacoce articularis* as well as dichloromethane and ethyl acetate extracts of *Spermacoce exilis* showed strong activity against HL-60 cancer cell with IC₅₀ value ranging from 0.4 to 7.2 µg/mL, whereas hexane extract of *Spermacoce latifolia* gave moderate activity with IC₅₀ value of 13 ± 0.19 µg/mL. Ursolic acid as the major isolated constituent of these plants was found to have strong activity with IC₅₀ of 1.3 ± 0.03 µg/mL against the same cancer cell.

Keyword: *Spermacoce articularis*; *Spermacoce exilis*; *Spermacoce latifolia*; Ursolic acid; Antileukemic.