

SHORT COMMUNICATION

IN VITRO EVALUATION OF IMMUNOSTIMULANT ACTIVITY OF ISOLATED EMBELIN FROM *EMBELIA RIBES*

ABSTRACT

Traditional medicinal plants have long been used in people's healthcare regimens to treat a wide range of ailments. The ancient medicinal plant *Embelia ribes* Burm. (*E. ribes*) has potential for a wide range of pharmacological activities that are linked to embelin, a natural dihydroxy benzoquinone. *E. ribes* is reported to have immunomodulatory activity, considering which was the foundation to sketch an immunomodulatory study of the isolated embelin from it. Analytical assessment confirmed the isolated embelin by FTIR, UV-Visible spectrophotometry and DSC when compared with the standard. Embelin showed immunostimulant activity in the concentration range of $160 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ to $240 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$. The *in vitro* study on human PMN cells, observations of phagocytosis of *Candida albicans*, and NBT reduction assay explain that embelin has an affinity towards PMN cells.