Antibacterial activity of *Aegle marmelos* correa leaves extract

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Many herbal remedies individually or in combination have been recommended in various medical treatises for the cure of different diseases. The therapeutic value of *Aegle marmelos* Correa (Rutaceae) commonly known as ‘Bael’ has been recognized in different system of traditional medication for the treatment of different diseases and ailments of human beings. The phytochemical and antibacterial studies of the leaf extracts of *A. marmelos* have been investigated. The antibacterial activity was investigated against multi resistant strains of *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* by disc diffusion method. The results showed that the antibacterial efficacy of petroleum ether extract of leaf was significant and nearer to the standard antibiotic Streptomycin tested. Further the activity was more pronounced in gram-negative strains and moderate in case of gram-positive strains studied. The study results suggest that this plant is promising in the development of phytomedicine for bacterial diseases.

Key words : Antibacterial activity, Bioactive components, Multi resistant strains, *Aegle marmelos*, Disk diffusion method.