Prof. John Smith

Editor-in-Chief

*Journal of Applied Microbiology*

Dear Editor-in-Chief:

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled “Overcoming Drug Resistance: Bactericidal Activity of Medicinal Plants,” which we request you to consider for publication as *Original Article* in *Journal of Applied Microbiology*.

Drug-resistant bacteria are one of the main reasons for the lack of success in treating infectious diseases. Medicinal plants are therefore considered new resources for producing agents that could act as alternatives to antibiotics, thereby overcoming this challenge and treating drug-resistant bacteria. In our study, we have successfully identified 4 essential oils that have bactericidal activity against gram-negative bacteria. We evaluated the activities of 28 plant extracts and oils as well as some antibiotics against gram-negative bacteria such as *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, *Yersinia enterocolitica* O9, *Proteus* spp., and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* using the disc diffusion method. Of all the evaluated plants, essential oils of *Origanum syriacum* L., *Thymus syriacus* Boiss., *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* L., and *Syzygium aromaticum* L. showed the highest bactericidal activity against the said bacteria.

Because of their safety and low cost as well as their impact on a large number of microbes, medicinal plants will be a great alternative to antibiotics in the future, and our study provides the preliminary data required for performing future in vivo studies to implement the same.

This manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not under consideration by another journal. We have approved the manuscript and agree with submission to *Nature Nanotechnology*. There are no conflicts of interest to declare.

We believe that the findings of this study are relevant to the scope of your journal and will be of interest to its readership. The manuscript has been carefully reviewed by an experienced editor whose first language is English and who specializes in editing papers written by scientists whose native language is not English.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lee

Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Korea University,

Seoul 136-713, Korea

Phone No: +824623678923

Fax No: +82437819331

Email Address: joshua@sciadvance.com