Reviewer's report

**Title:** Antimicrobial activities of the methanol extract, fractions and compounds from Ficus polita (Moraceae)

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 6 December 2010

**Reviewer:** Branislav Rankovic

**Reviewer's report:**

The manuscript is appropriate for the journal, it meets all the criteria set out in the questionnaire and should be considered as an research article.

The topic is interesting and highly relevant. The methods adopted are correct for studies of this type. I do not know how pure the extracts are as yet and so the immediate relevance to the clinical situation is not clear. Toxicity of some of these compounds could be a factor. This point does not, however, detract from the demonstrable anti-microbial activity. The possibilities of producing a clinically-acceptable disinfectant for topical use have not eluded the authors.

In my opinion this paper merits publication in the BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine as a research article with minor corrections listed below.

Page 3: Section – Background
Incorrectly written Ficus polita Vahl. Should be replaced with Ficus polita Vahl.

Page 5-6: Section - Antimicrobial assays
Need to write code of ATCC cultures next to each species of bacteria tested.

Page 10: Section –References
Reference 5, incorrectly written Dorstenia barteri, should be in italic, or Dorstenia barteri;
Reference 22, incorrectly written Polygonum multiflorum, should be in italic, or Polygonum multiflorum;
Reference 35, incorrectly written Rosmarinus officinalis, should be in italic, or Rosmarinus officinalis.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests