Reviewer's report

Title: Anti-Methicillin-resistance Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) compounds from Bauhinia kockiana Korth. and their mechanism of antibacterial activity

Version: 0 Date: 02 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Surajit Debnath

Reviewer's report:
The work analyses a new plant for its bioactivity and it is a good effort. When published works are less for a plant it is also a challenging task. The authors may address these issue for better impact of the work:

(a) The authors have described well about the plant. However, since the plant is relatively new the authors must add specific details of the already published reports. The sentences "This plant is used as ethnomedicine for treating various diseases. In Sarawak, Eastern Malaysia, the roots of B. kockiana is used by Kelabit ethnic group for treating gonorrhoea, nervous debility, insomnia as well as fatigue [16, 17]. The bark and root infusions are used to treat toothache [14" and the sentences "it has been reported that this plant exhibited anticancer activity [13], possesses strong antioxidant properties and consists of very high total phenolic content [14, 15]": are somewhat rudimentary in terms of scientific literature. The authors may describe how the earlier studies focuses on the plants bio activity.

(b) The Fractionation and isolation of bioactive compounds section if supported by a schematic diagram it will be easy to understand. Photographs of elution of various fractions may be provided since these are newly studied. Data generated by Spectral methods may be given in the graphical form as peaks.

(c) a particular interest is to visualize the inhibition zones in the diffusion assay. Best pictures of the inhibition zone produced by various fraction will make the paper more appealing.
(d) A simple step by using various concentration of fractions increasingly in the zone assay will indicate the dose dependent behavior of the studied fractions when accompanied by a simple regression analysis. This will add on to the statistics described in the paper.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

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