



Volatile Constituents and Bioactivities of *Mimusops elengi* Flowers

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SUMMARY. The volatile constituents of the flowers of *Mimusops elengi* were isolated by hydrodistillation and identified by capillary GC and GC-MS. The most abundant components were 2-phenylethanol (29.8 %), (*E*)-2-hexenal (11.8 %) and benzyl alcohol (10.4 %). The flower volatiles were tested for antibacterial activity using the micro-dilution antibacterial assay, and anti-inflammatory activity using the cyclooxygenase inhibitory screening assay. The flower oil showed antibacterial activity against Gram-negative bacteria (78-156 µg/mL) and selective COX-1 inhibition was observed for the flower oil. This present report is the first describing the anti-inflammatory potential of *M. elengi* flowers. The results of this study support the traditional uses of the plant as crude antibacterial and anti-inflammatory agent.

KEY WORDS: antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, *Mimusops elengi*, Sapotaceae, volatile oil.

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