

9<sup>th</sup> WORLD BIOMARKERS CONGRESS20<sup>th</sup> International Conference on

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## PHARMACEUTICAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

December 07-09, 2017 | Madrid, Spain

**Acetylcholinesterase inhibiting activity of compounds isolated from *bauhinia rufescens***Aminu Muhammad<sup>1</sup> and Hasnah Mohd Sirat<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Bayero University Kano, Nigeria<sup>2</sup>Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia

This study has tested the *in vitro* anti-acetylcholinesterase activity of compounds isolated from the stem bark of *Bauhinia rufescens* by employing TLC bioautographic and Ellman's spectrophotometric methods. Among the compounds oxepin (IC<sub>50</sub>, 516.63 μM), seqouyitol (IC<sub>50</sub>, 463.77 μM) and α-amyrin acetate (IC<sub>50</sub>, 832.80 μM) which exhibited a significant acetylcholinesterase inhibitory activity in comparison with a positive control, the galantamine hydrobromide (IC<sub>50</sub>, 2.92 μM). The phytochemicals isolated from the stem bark of *B. rufescens* had demonstrated a potent anti-cholinesterase inhibition.

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