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### **Phyto-therapeutic investigation of selected Lebanese medicinal plants**

Various plants species are used in traditional folk medicine for their anti-diabetic, anti-cancer, anti-oxidant effects and for certain gastric disorders. Examples of plants are *Papaver* species which are well known for their diverse activities. Another example is *Rosemarinus* species that have been used in folk medicine for many purposes as diuretic, mild astringent, bitter tonic, digestive, emmenagogue and in cosmetics. Previous reports pointed out that, the activities of most of the examined plants are due to their contents of alkaloids, volatile oils and phenolic compounds obtained from their different extracts. Accordingly, this work comprises phytochemical and pharmacological study on some selected Lebanese medicinal plants to investigate their constituents and explore their biological activities. The chemical structures of the isolated compounds, from the selected investigated plants belonging to different species, were determined by application of different spectroscopic techniques. Furthermore, the volatile oil constituents of the selected Lebanese plants were investigated. The biological activities of plants' extracts revealed promising results. This work represents a collection of the research activities performed at the department aiming to add more natural drug candidates, with potential biological activities, which could serve the pharmaceutical industry.

### **Biography**

Maha Aboul-Ela is a graduate of Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Alexandria, Egypt. She has completed her PhD at Department of Pharmacognosy, Faculty of Pharmacy University of Alexandria in collaboration with Institute for Organic Chemistry, Technical University of Berlin, Germany. Her specialty is phytochemistry and phytotherapy. She had received Postdoctoral Fellowship at School of Pharmacy, University of London, UK. Currently, she is the Head of Pharmaceutical Sciences Department, Faculty of Pharmacy, Beirut Arab University, Lebanon. She has more than 60 publications in national and international journals. She is a peer Reviewer and Editor in many international journals. She is a Member of American Society of Pharmacognosy. She has more than 25 years of experience in the field of education and research in pharmacognosy, phytochemistry and phytotherapy. She was awarded as a distinguishable peer Reviewer from Ministry of Higher Education in Egypt.

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