

## abstract

Bioassay-guided fractionation and chemical investigation of *Colvillea racemosa* stems led to identification of two new  $\alpha,\beta$ -dihydroxydihydrochalcones, colveol A (1) and colveol B (2) along with fifteen known compounds. The structures were elucidated via interpretation of spectroscopic data. The absolute configurations of the dihydrochalcones 1 and 2 were assigned by a combination of chemical modification and electronic circular dichroism data. The isolated compounds were evaluated for their inhibition activity toward recombinant human monoamine oxidases (rhMAO-A and -B). Compound 1 demonstrated preferential inhibition against hMAO-A isoenzyme (IC<sub>50</sub> 0.62  $\mu$ M, SIA/B 0.02) while S-naringenin (13) and isoliquiritigenin (15) demonstrated preferential hMAO-B inhibition (IC<sub>50</sub> 0.27 and 0.51  $\mu$ M, SIA/B 31.77 and 44.69, respectively). Fisetin (11) showed inhibition against hMAO-A with IC<sub>50</sub> value of 4.62  $\mu$ M and no inhibitory activity toward hMAO-B up to 100  $\mu$ M. Molecular docking studies for the most active compounds were conducted to demonstrate the putative binding modes. It suggested that 1 interacts with Gln215, Ala111, Phe352, and Phe208 amino acid residues which have a role in the orientation and stabilization of the inhibitor binding to hMAO-A, while S-naringenin (13) occupies both entrance and substrate cavities and interacts with Tyr326, a critical residue in inhibitor recognition in hMAO-B.