

# Anticancer and Antioxidant Tannins from *Pimenta dioica* Leaves

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Two galloylglucosides, 6-hydroxy-eugenol 4-*O*-(6'-*O*-galloyl)- $\beta$ -D-<sup>4</sup>C<sub>1</sub>-glucopyranoside (**4**) and 3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-propane-1,2-diol-2-*O*-(2',6'-di-*O*-galloyl)- $\beta$ -D-<sup>4</sup>C<sub>1</sub>-glucopyranoside (**7**), and two C-glycosidic tannins, vascalaginone (**10**) and grandininol (**14**), together with fourteen known metabolites, gallic acid (**1**), methyl gallate (**2**), nilocitin (**3**), 1-*O*-galloyl-4,6-(*S*)-hexahydroxydiphenoyl-( $\alpha/\beta$ )-D-glucopyranose (**5**), 4,6-(*S*)-hexahydroxydiphenoyl-( $\alpha/\beta$ )-D-glucopyranose (**6**), 3,4,6-valoneoyl-( $\alpha/\beta$ )-D-glucopyranose (**8**), pedunculagin (**9**), casuariin (**11**), castalagin (**12**), vascalagin (**13**), casuarinin (**15**), grandinin (**16**), methylflavogallonate (**17**) and ellagic acid (**18**), were identified from the leaves of *Pimenta dioica* (Merr.) L. (Myrtaceae) on the basis of their chemical and physicochemical analysis (UV, HRESI-MS, 1D and 2D NMR). It was found that **9** is the most cytotoxic compound against solid tumour cancer cells, the most potent scavenger against the artificial radical DPPH and physiological radicals including ROO<sup>•</sup>, OH<sup>•</sup>, and O<sub>2</sub><sup>•</sup>, and strongly inhibited the NO generation and induced the proliferation of T-lymphocytes and macrophages. On the other hand, **3** was the strongest NO inhibitor and **16** the highest stimulator for the proliferation of T-lymphocytes, while **10** was the most active inducer of macrophage proliferation.

**Key words:** *Pimenta dioica*, Galloylglucosides, Antioxidant and Anticancer