

Further Sesquiterpene Lactones from *Viguiera robusta* and the Potential Anti-Inflammatory Activity of a Heliangolide: Inhibition of Human Neutrophil Elastase Release

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In addition to known heliangolides, a new eudesmanolide was isolated from the leaf rinse extract of *Viguiera robusta* (Asteraceae). Structural elucidation was based on spectral analysis. It is the first report on eudesmanolides in members of the subgenus *Calanticaria* of *Viguiera*. In this work, the main isolated compound, the furanoheliangolide budlein A, besides its previously reported *in vitro* and *in vivo* anti-inflammatory activities, inhibited human neutrophil elastase release. The inhibition was at the concentration of $(16.83 \pm 1.96) \mu\text{M}$ for formylated bacterial tripeptide (fMLP) stimulation and $(11.84 \pm 1.62) \mu\text{M}$ for platelet aggregation factor (PAF) stimulation, being slightly less active than the reference drug parthenolide. The results are important to demonstrate the potential anti-inflammatory activities of sesquiterpene lactones and corroborate the previous studies using other targets.

Key words: Asteraceae, Sesquiterpene Lactones, Human Neutrophil Elastase