

Biological Profile of Plumbagin

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Plumbago zeylanica and *Plumbago rosea* (Fam : *Plumbaginaceae*) used in traditional system of medicine in India has been subjected to chemical examination by earlier workers (Fieser 1936, Sidhu and Sankaran 1971,).

Plumbagin (5 hydroxy-2-methyl-1:4-naphthoquinone) is crystalline substance present in *Plumbago rosea* and *Plumbago zeylanica* of the family *Plumbaginaceae*. Plumbagin showed regression of experimental tumour. Antimitotic, antifungal and antibacterial activities of plumbagin were reported by earlier

investigators. Subacute toxicity studies of plumbagin were conducted in wistar rats for two weeks and six weeks at 4 mg/kg. body weight orally. It showed no histopathological changes in any vital organs. There was no toxic effect in any vital organs. The biochemical picture of the drug also showed no adverse effect on any vital organ.

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