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Methyl ester of hexadecanoic acid isolated from *Annona muricata L.* aqueous leaf extract and its antibacterial activity

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A*nnona muricata L.* (Soursop) of Annonaceae is a medicinal plant whose aqueous leaf extracts was tested and from which methyl ester of hexadecanoic acid was isolated. The antibacterial activity was tested by agar diffusion method against *Escherichia coli*, *Enterobacter aerogenes*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Streptococcus pneumonia*. The minimum inhibitory (MIC) and minimal bacterial concentration (MBC) values varied for four bacterial genuses tested. The leaf extract tested for anti bacterial activity proved effective against *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae* and *E. aerogenes*. This bioactive compound will find a place in the formulation of herbal medicine to treat bacterial mediated infections like gastroenteritis and respiratory infections.

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