ORIGINAL ARTICLE





Amides, Isoquinoline Alkaloids and Dipeptides from the Aerial Parts of *Piper mullesua*

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Abstract

One undescribed amide, pipermullesine A, two undescribed isoquinoline alkaloids, pipermullesines B and C, and six undescribed dipeptides, pipermullamides A–F, along with 28 known compounds, were isolated from the aerial parts of *Piper mullesua*. The structures of the undescribed compounds were elucidated based on the analysis of 1D and 2D NMR and MS data. Furthermore, the structures of pipermullesines A–C were confirmed by single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis. All isolates were evaluated for inhibitory activity against platelet aggregation induced by thrombin (IIa) or platelet-activating factor (PAF). (-)-Mangochinine, pellitorine, and (2E,4E)-N-isobutyl-2,4-dodecadienamide showed weak inhibitory activity against rabbit platelet aggregation induced by PAF, with IC₅₀ values of 470.3 μ g/mL, 614.9 μ g/mL, and 579.7 μ g/mL, respectively.

Graphical Abstract



Meng-Yuan Xia and Jun Yang have contributed equally to this work.

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Keywords Piper mullesua · Piperaceae · Antiplatelet · Amides · Isoquinoline alkaloids

1 Introduction

Traditional Chinese medicines with the functions of promoting blood circulation ("Huoxue" in Chinese) and/or removing blood stasis ("Huayu" in Chinese) are claimed to be useful in antiplatelet therapies and the treatment of thrombotic diseases [1]. For example, antiplatelet compounds have been found in a Huoxue herb *Selaginella moellendorffii* Hieron. (Selaginellaceae) [2, 3].

The genus Piper (Piperaceae) is a medicinally important group of plants consisting of approximately 2000 species worldwide. There are approximately 60 species distributed in the tropical areas of the People's Republic of China, of which approximately 30 species have been used as traditional Chinese medicines [4]. Some *Piper* species are used for promoting blood circulation, while Piper mullesua Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don and P. yunnanense Tseng are used for removing blood stasis [5]. As a folk medicine in China with the Chinese name of Duan-Jv (短蒟), the whole plants of P. mullesua are also used to treat bleeding, bone fractures, injuries from falls, rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatic arthralgia, acroanesthesia, asthma, colds, stomach aches, abdominal pain, toothaches, swelling and pain of furuncles, dysmenorrhea, menoxenia, empyrosis, and snake and insect bites [5, 6].

Alcoholic extracts of *P. mullesua* showed the activity against rabbit platelet aggregation induced by 7.2 nM of the platelet-activating factor (PAF) with an IC₅₀ value of 64.43 µg/mL [7]. Amides including retrofractamide A, chingchengenamide A [6], N-isobutyl-16-phenylhexadeca-2E,4E-dienamide, and N-isobutyldeca-2E,4E-dienamide [8], lignans including (-)-nectandrin A, nectandrin B, galgravin [6], asarinin, fargesin, and sesamin with antifeedant activity [8, 9], a phenylpropanoid myristicin with insecticidal activity [9, 10], and several arylalkenyl carboxylic acid esters [10, 11] have been isolated from the plants. However, the active constituents of *P. mullesua* responsible for the antiplatelet aggregation remain unclear. In continuing efforts to search for antiplatelet compounds from *Piper* plants [12, 13], we herein present the results of the analysis of compounds from the aerial parts of P. mullesua and the bioactivity of these compounds.

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2 Results and Discussion

2.1 Structure Elucidation

Nine undescribed compounds (1–9, Fig. 1) and 28 known ones (10–37) were isolated from the methanolic extracts of *P. mullesua* by silica gel, D101 resin and Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography and semipreparative HPLC.

Pipermullesine A (1) had the molecular formula $C_{15}H_{15}NO_4$ based on ^{13}C NMR (Table 1) and HREIMS data. Its IR spectrum showed absorption peaks for a tertiary amide at 1643 cm $^{-1}$ and a phenyl ring at 1595, 1513, and 1461 cm $^{-1}$. The ^{1}H NMR data (Table 1) indicated a 1,2,4-trisubstituted phenyl ring [δ_H 7.12 (1H, dd, J=8.3, 1.8 Hz), 7.01 (1H, d, J=1.8 Hz), and 6.86 (1H, d, J=8.3 Hz)], an E double bond [δ_H 7.67 (1H, d, J=15.3, 1.8 Hz) and 6.49 (1H, d, J=15.3 Hz)], a 1,4-oxazine ring [δ_H 6.61 (1H, dd, J=5.1, 1.9 Hz), 6.10 (1H, dd J=5.1, 1.9 Hz), 5.84 (1H, d, J=5.1 Hz), and 5.70 (1H, d, J=5.1 Hz)] [14], and two methoxy groups [δ_H 3.92 (3H, s) and 3.91 (3H, s)]. The above NMR characteristic signals implied that compound 1 might be a cinnamamide derivative.

According to the ${}^{1}\text{H}-{}^{1}\text{H}$ COSY and HMBC correlations of compound **1** (Fig. 2), (*E*)-3,4-dimethoxycinnamoyl and 1,4-oxazine groups were confirmed. Although the correlations from H-1" and H-4" to C-1 were not observed in the HMBC spectrum, the structure of **1** was finally determined as (*E*)-3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-(4*H*-1,4-oxazin-4-yl) prop-2-en-1-one by a single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis (Fig. 3).

The molecular formula of pipermullesine B (2), $C_{16}H_{22}N_2O_3$, was determined by ^{13}C NMR data (Table 2) and an HREIMS ion at m/z 290.1620 [M]⁺ (calcd for $C_{16}H_{22}N_2O_3$, 290.1630) and required 7 indices of hydrogen deficiency. The 1H NMR data (Table 2) indicated a tetrasubstituted phenyl ring [δ_H 7.15 (1H, s) and 6.52 (1H, s)], one methoxy group [δ_H 3.85 (3H, s)], and one acetyl group [δ_H 1.91 (3H, s)]. The ^{13}C NMR data (Table 2) exhibited 15 signals. However, according to its HREIMS data, compound 2 should have 16 carbon atoms. The disappeared signal for C-9 (δ_C 33.0) was detected by the HMBC correlation (Fig. 2) from H₂-11 to C-9.

¹H−¹H COSY correlations (Fig. 2) exhibited two partial structures comprising C-2 to C-3 and C-10 to C-12. On the basis of the HMBC correlations from H₂-3 to C-1 and C-4a, H₂-4 to C-5 and C-8a, H-5 to C-7 and C-8a, H-8 to C-1, C-4a, and C-6, and 7-OMe to C-7, a 6-hydroxy-7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline fragment with a substituent group at C-1 was confirmed. The group at C-1 was deduced as 4-acetamidobutyl by the HMBC correlations

Fig. 1 Structures of undescribed compounds (1–9) from Piper mullesua

Table 1 $\,^{1}\mathrm{H}$ (500 MHz) and $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR (125 MHz) NMR Data of 1 in CDCl $_{3}$

No.	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (<i>J</i> in Hz)	$\delta_{\rm C}$, type
1		158.3, C
2	6.49, d (15.3)	112.0, CH
3	7.67, d (15.3)	144.4, CH
1'		128.0, C
2'	7.01, d (1.8)	110.0, CH
3'		149.3, C
4'		151.1, C
5'	6.86, d (8.3)	111.2, CH
6'	7.12, dd (8.3, 1.8)	122.4, CH
1"	6.61, dd (5.1, 1.9)	108.7, CH
2"	5.84, d (5.1)	132.7, CH
3"	5.70, d (5.1)	130.5, CH
4"	6.10, dd (5.1, 1.9)	109.4, CH
3'-OMe	3.92, s	56.1, CH ₃
4'-OMe	3.91, s	56.1, CH ₃

from H_2 -10 to C-1, H_2 -11 to C-9 and C-1', and H_3 -2' to C-1'. Thus, the structure of **2** was determined as 1-(4-ac-etamidobutyl)-6-hydroxy-7-methoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline and given the common name pipermullesine B.

The crystals for pipermullesine B trifluoroacetate (2a) were obtained from methanol. The NMR data of 2a (Table 2) and the result of its single-crystal X-ray

diffraction analysis (Fig. 3) further supported the structure elucidation of 2.

Pipermullesine C (3) yielded a molecular formula of $C_{22}H_{30}N_4O_4$ with 10 degrees of unsaturation, as deduced by ^{13}C NMR (Table 3) and the HREIMS data. A comparison of the NMR data (Tables 2, 3) of 3 with those of 2 indicated that there were signals for one additional 4-acetamidobutyl group [δ_C 173.2 (C), 40.1 (CH₂), 29.7 (CH₂), 28.9 (CH₂), 25.2 (CH₂), and 22.6 (CH₃)] and one more imine (δ_C 168.8) in 3.

On the basis of 2D NMR correlations (Fig. 2), a 1-(4-acetamidobutyl)-6-hydroxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline moiety was determined. One more ring is needed to meet the unsaturation, and the ring was deduced as an oxazole ring attached to C-7 and C-8 by comparison of the NMR data with those of benzoxazoles in the literature [15, 16]. The additional 4-acetamidobutyl group was located at C-1" of the oxazole ring by the HMBC correlation from H-3" to C-1". Thus, the structure of 3 (pipermullesine C) was determined.

Fortunately, the crystals for pipermullesine C trifluoroacetate (3a) were also obtained from methanol. The NMR data of 3a (Table 3) and the result of its single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis (Fig. 3) confirmed the chemical structure of 3.

The molecular formula of pipermullamide A (4), $C_{18}H_{28}N_2O_3$, was determined by ^{13}C NMR data (Table 4) and an HREIMS ion at 320.2102 [M]⁺ (calcd for



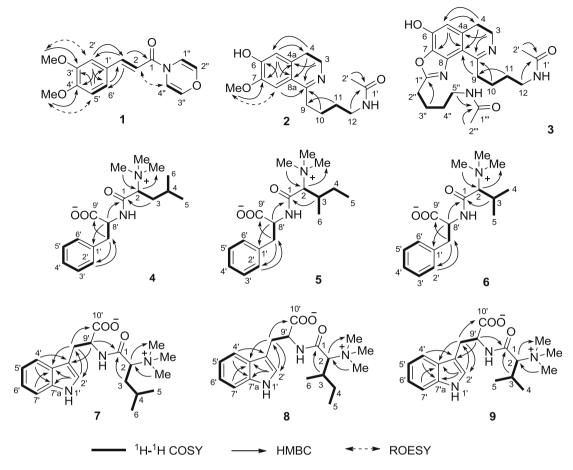


Fig. 2 Key 2D NMR correlations of compounds 1-9

 $C_{18}H_{28}N_2O_3$, 320.2100), indicating 6 degrees of unsaturation. The 1H NMR data (Table 2) indicated one monosubstituted phenyl ring [δ_H 7.31 (2H, d, J=7.4 Hz), 7.25 (2H, dd, J=7.4, 7.4 Hz), and 7.17 (1H, dd, J=7.4, 7.4 Hz)], three N-methyl groups [δ_H 2.85 (9H, s)], and two methyl groups [δ_H 0.98 (3H, d, J=5.9 Hz) and 0.95 (3H, d, J=6.3 Hz)]. By comparing the NMR data of **4** with those of phenylalanine and leucine trimethylbetaine [17, 18], compound **4** might comprise the two fragments, which was confirmed through its 1H - 1H COSY and HMBC correlations (Fig. 2). The amino of phenylalanine was acylated by the carboxyl group of leucine trimethylbetaine according to the HMBC correlation from H-8′ to C-1.

Natural amino acids generally have an L configuration. Compound **10** from the plant is also a derivative of L-phenylalanine. Accordingly, compound **4** (pipermullamide A) was elucidated as L-(*N*,*N*,*N*-trimethyl)leucyl-L-phenylalanine.

The molecular formulae of pipermullamides B to F (**5–9**) were determined as $C_{18}H_{28}N_2O_3$, $C_{17}H_{26}N_2O_3$, $C_{20}H_{29}N_3O_3$, $C_{20}H_{29}N_3O_3$, and $C_{19}H_{27}N_3O_3$, respectively, by ¹³C NMR data (Tables 4, 5) and HRMS analysis. According to ¹H–¹H COSY and HMBC correlations

(Fig. 2), compounds **5–9** were determined as L-(N,N,N-trimethyl) isoleucyl-L-phenylalanine (pipermullamide B, **5**), L-(N,N,N-trimethyl) valyl-L-phenylalanine (pipermullamide C, **6**), L-(N,N,N-trimethyl) leucyl-L-tryptophan (pipermullamide D, **7**), L-(N,N,N-trimethyl) isoleucyl-L-tryptophan (pipermullamide E, **8**), and L-(N,N,N-trimethyl) valyl-L-tryptophan (pipermullamide F, **9**), respectively.

The known compounds (+)-phenylalanine betaine (10) [19], (-)-mangochinine (11) [20], xylopinidine (12) [21], (-)-oblongine (13) [22], pellitorine (14) [23], (2E,4E)-Nisobutyl-2,4-dodecadienamide (15) [24], retrofractamide A (16) [23], guineensine (17) [23], brachystamide B (18) [25], retrofractamide C (19) [26], sarmentine (20) [27], 3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)propanoylpyrrole (21) [28], Ntrans-feruloyltyramine (22) [29], (-)-machilusin (23) [30], galgravin (24) [31], (-)-nectandrin A (25) [32], methyl 3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)propanoate (26) [33], piperic acid (27) [34], methyl piperate (28) [34], methyl (2E,4E)-7-(1,3benzodioxol-5-yl)hepta-2,4-dienoate (29) [35], (-)-blumenol B (30) [36], (-)-T-muurolol (31) [37], trans-phytol (32) [38], α-tocopherolquinone (33) [39], γ-tocopherol (34) [40], stigmast-4-ene-3,6-dione (35) [41], (22E)-stigmasta-4,22-diene-3,6-dione (**36**) [42], and (22*E*)-stigmasta-4,6,8



Fig. 3 X-ray crystallographic structures of 1, 2a, and 3a

(14),22-tetraen-3-one (37) [43] were determined by comparing the NMR data of 10–37 and the optical rotation values of 10–13, 23–25, 30, and 31 with those reported in the literature.

2.2 In Vitro Platelet Aggregation Assay

All isolates (1–37) were evaluated for inhibitory activity against platelet aggregation induced by thrombin (IIa) or PAF. As shown in Tables 6 and 7, compounds 2, 3, 5, 14, 27, 33, and 34 possessed weak inhibitory effects on the aggregation of rabbit platelets induced by thrombin (IIa) (1 U/mL) with inhibition rates from 11.5 to 22.2% at a concentration of 300 µg/mL. Compounds 11, 14, 15, 20, and 25 showed weak inhibitory activity against the rabbit platelet aggregation induced by PAF (0.4 µg/mL) with inhibition rates from 16.8% to 36.4% at a concentration of 300 µg/mL, while (-)-mangochinine (11), pellitorine (14), and (2E,4E)-N-isobutyl-2,4-dodecadienamide (15) have IC_{50} values of 470.3 μg/mL, 614.9 μg/mL, and 579.7 μg/mL, respectively. The antiplatelet activity of (-)-mangochinine and (2E,4E)-Nisobutyl-2,4-dodecadienamide was reported for the first time. The other tested compounds were inactive.

More than fifty antiplatelet compounds, mainly including alkaloids and amides, lignans and neolignans, and

phenylpropanoids, have been isolated from the *Piper* genus [44]. Pellitorine is a very interesting compound with various biological activities, such as an inhibitory effect on platelet aggregation induced by arachidonic acid (IC₅₀= 53.0 μ g/mL) [45], antituberculosis activity (MIC=25 μ g/mL) [46], antifungal activity against *Cryptococcus neoformans* (IC₅₀=7.7 μ g/mL) [47], and α -glucosidase-I enzyme inhibitory activity (IC₅₀=34.39 μ g/mL) [48]. Although its in vitro activity against platelet aggregation is weak, the amide shows strong in vivo anticoagulant activities at a dose of 4.5 μ g/mouse or 9.0 μ g/mouse [49]. It is worthwhile to conduct further in vivo antithrombotic studies of pellitorine along with (-)-mangochinine and (2*E*,4*E*)-*N*-isobutyl-2,4-dodecadienamide.

3 Experimental Section

3.1 General Experimental Procedures

The instruments and materials for isolation and identification of compounds from the herb were presented in Supplementary Material.



Table 2 ¹H and ¹³C NMR Data of 2 and 2a in CD₃OD

$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm a}$	δ _C , type ^b	2 (71 77.)	
	C: V1	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm c}$	$\delta_{\rm C}$, type ^d
	174.4, C		179.1, C
3.63, t (7.7)	42.4, CH ₂	3.77, t (7.9)	42.3, CH ₂
2.87, t (7.7)	27.1, CH ₂	3.01, t (7.9)	26.0, CH ₂
	137.6, C		136.4, C
6.52, s	118.2, CH	6.85, s	116.7, CH
	167.6, C		158.3, C
	151.1, C		149.2, C
7.15, s	112.2, CH	7.42, s	114.1, CH
	112.3, C		116.9, C
Disappeared	$33.0^{\rm e}$	Disappeared	33.1 ^e
1.72, m	26.9, CH ₂	1.73, m	26.3, CH ₂
1.60, m	29.9, CH ₂	1.61, m	29.9, CH ₂
3.20, t (6.9)	40.0, CH ₂	3.20, t (6.9)	39.6, CH ₂
	173.3, C		173.4, C
1.91, s	22.6, CH ₃	1.90, s	22.5, CH ₃
3.85, s	56.4, CH ₃	3.95, s	57.0, CH ₃
	2.87, t (7.7) 5.52, s 7.15, s Disappeared 1.72, m 1.60, m 3.20, t (6.9)	3.63, t (7.7) 42.4, CH ₂ 2.87, t (7.7) 27.1, CH ₂ 137.6, C 15.52, s 118.2, CH 167.6, C 151.1, C 7.15, s 112.2, CH 112.3, C Disappeared 33.0° 1.72, m 26.9, CH ₂ 1.60, m 29.9, CH ₂ 1.60, m 29.9, CH ₂ 1.73.3, C 1.91, s 22.6, CH ₃	3.63, t (7.7) 42.4, CH ₂ 3.77, t (7.9) 2.87, t (7.7) 27.1, CH ₂ 3.01, t (7.9) 137.6, C 3.52, s 118.2, CH 6.85, s 167.6, C 151.1, C 7.15, s 112.2, CH 7.42, s 112.3, C Disappeared 33.0° Disappeared 1.72, m 26.9, CH ₂ 1.73, m 1.60, m 29.9, CH ₂ 1.61, m 3.20, t (6.9) 40.0, CH ₂ 3.20, t (6.9) 173.3, C 1.91, s 22.6, CH ₃ 1.90, s

^aMeasured at 600 MHz

3.2 Plant Material

The aerial parts of *Piper mullesua* Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don (Piperaceae) were collected from Mengyuan Village (E101°22′01″, N21°45′22″), Guanlei Town, Mengla County, Xishuangbanna of Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China, in July 2014, and identified by one of the authors (C.-L.L.). A voucher specimen (No. 201401) was deposited at the Key Laboratory of Economic Plants and Biotechnology, Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

3.3 Extraction and Isolation

The air-dried, powdered *P. mullesua* plant (1.8 kg) was exhaustively extracted with MeOH (4×10 L) at room temperature. The MeOH extracts (92.5 g) were suspended in H₂O and further partitioned with petroleum ether and CHCl₃. The petroleum ether-soluble part (31.2 g) and CHCl₃-soluble part (4.8 g) were combined (36.0 g, part B) according to the testing results of thin-layer chromatography. The water phase was partitioned by D101 resin column chromatography to obtain the water-eluted part (discarded) and 95% EtOH-eluted part (7.2 g, part A).

Table 3 ¹H and ¹³C NMR Data of 3 and 3a in CD₃OD

No.	3		3a		
	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm a}$	δ _C , type ^b	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm c}$	$\delta_{\rm C}$, type ^d	
1		173.0, C		177.8, C	
3	3.62, t (7.5)	41.9, CH ₂	3.80 dd 7.6 7.6	42.1, CH ₂	
4	2.95, m	28.4, CH ₂	3.13 dd 7.6 7.6	27.1, CH ₂	
4a		141.1, C		140.4, C	
5	6.30, s	117.8, CH	6.78, s	113.5, CH	
6		167.5, C		153.8 ^e	
7		144.1, C		140.8, C	
8		145.9, C		146.4, C	
8a		101.8, C		107.9, C	
9	3.31, overlapped	34.7, CH ₂	3.48 dd 7.6 7.6	35.6, CH ₂	
10	1.73, m	27.3, CH ₂	1.75, m	26.6, CH ₂	
11	1.63, m	30.2, CH ₂	1.65, m	30.1, CH ₂	
12	3.21, m	40.0, CH ₂	3.20 dd 7.1 7.1	39.9, CH ₂	
1'		173.2, C		173.3, C	
2'	1.90, s	22.6, CH ₃	1.92, s	22.6, CH ₃	
1"		168.8, C		171.3, C	
2"	2.98, m	28.9, CH ₂	3.06 dd 7.4 7.4	28.9, CH ₂	
3"	1.90, overlapped	25.2, CH ₂	1.94, m	24.9, CH ₂	
4"	1.63, m	29.7, CH ₂	1.65, m	29.8, CH ₂	
5"	3.21, m	40.1, CH ₂	3.23 dd 7.1 7.1	39.9, CH ₂	
1‴		173.2, C		173.3, C	
2"'	1.93, s	22.6, CH ₃	1.89, s	22.6, CH ₃	

^aMeasured at 500 MHz

Part A was subjected to column chromatography (silica gel; CHCl₃/MeOH, $10:1 \rightarrow 0:1$, v/v) to yield three fractions (A1–A3). Fraction A1 was separated on an RP-18 silica gel column eluted with MeOH/H₂O ($10\% \rightarrow 100\%$). The 40% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semi-preparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, 2 mL/min) to obtain 3 (6.5 mg, MeOH/H₂O, 80:20, t_R = 12.150 min) and 11 (6.9 mg, MeCN/H₂O, 15:85, t_R = 5.190 min).

Fraction A2 was separated on an RP-18 silica gel column eluted with MeOH/H₂O ($10\% \rightarrow 100\%$) to yield two main subfractions. The 5% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) to yield two main subfractions (A2-1-1 and A2-1-2). Subfraction A2-1-1 was performed on preparative TLC (CHCl₃/MeOH, 3:1) to obtain **2** (4.3 mg). Subfraction A2-1-2 was recrystallized from MeOH to obtain **10** (23.5 mg).



^bMeasured at 150 MHz

^cMeasured at 800 MHz

^dMeasured at 200 MHz

^eDetected by HMBC

^bMeasured at 125 MHz

^cMeasured at 600 MHz

^dMeasured at 150 MHz

^eDetected by HMBC

Table 4 ¹H and ¹³C NMR Data of 4–6 in CD₃OD

No.	4		5		6	
	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm a}$	$\delta_{\rm C}$, type ^b	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm a}$	$\delta_{\rm C}$, type ^b	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm c}$	δ _C , type ^d
1		166.2, C		164.9, C		165.0, C
2	3.82, dd (12.4, 2.1)	75.1, CH	3.78, br s	79.1, CH	3.68, d (2.5)	80.6, CH
3	1.96, m	36.2, CH ₂	2.11, m	34.1, CH	2.42, m	27.8, CH
	1.57, m					
4	1.56, m	25.9, CH	1.61, m	30.6, CH ₂	1.03, d (6.7)	20.2, CH ₃
			1.51, m			
5	0.95, d (6.3)	24.2, CH ₃	1.01, dd (7.3, 7.3)	12.2, CH ₃	1.23, d (7.0)	23.6, CH ₃
6	0.98, d (5.9)	21.5, CH ₃	1.01, d (6.7)	17.6, CH ₃		
1′		140.0, C		139.9, C		139.9, C
2',6'	7.31, d (7.4)	130.6, CH	7.29, d (7.4)	130.8, CH	7.29, d (7.4)	130.7, CH
3',5'	7.25, dd (7.4, 7.4)	129.4, CH	7.23, dd (7.4, 7.4)	129.2, CH	7.24, dd (7.4, 7.4)	129.2, CH
4′	7.17, dd (7.4, 7.4)	127.6, CH	7.15, dd (7.4, 7.4)	127.4, CH	7.15, dd (7.4, 7.4)	127.4, CH
7′	3.41, dd (14.1, 4.4)	39.8, CH ₂	3.36, dd (13.9, 4.4)	40.2, CH ₂	3.38, dd (13.9, 4.3)	40.1, CH ₂
	2.91, dd (14.1, 10.7)		2.86, dd (13.9, 10.2)		2.85, dd (13.9, 10.3)	
8′	4.71, dd (10.7, 4.4)	57.6, CH	4.68, dd (10.2, 4.4)	57.2, CH	4.70, dd (10.3, 4.3)	57.1, CH
9′		177.2, C		177.2, C		177.2, C
NMe	2.85, s	52.4, CH ₃	2.98, s	52.8, CH ₃	2.96, s	52.9, CH ₃

^aMeasured at 600 MHz

The 30% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC [Welch Ultimate AQ-C₁₈ column, 5.0 μ m, ϕ 4.6 × 300 mm, MeCN/H₂O (containing 0.05% TFA), 20:80, 1 mL/min] to obtain **13** (2.0 mg, t_R =5.796 min).

Fraction A3 was separated on an RP-18 silica gel column eluted with MeOH/H₂O ($10\% \rightarrow 100\%$) to yield two main subfractions. The 15% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 20:80, 2 mL/min) to obtain **7** (4.5 mg, t_R =14.369 min), **6** (8.0 mg, t_R =15.398 min), **9** (24.0 mg, t_R =17.255 min), **8** (38.4 mg, t_R =22.038 min), **5** (27.3 mg, t_R =23.055 min), and **4** (8.5 mg, t_R =38.045 min). The 35% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC [Welch Ultimate AQ-C₁₈ column, 5.0 μ m, ϕ 4.6 × 300 mm, MeCN/H₂O (containing 0.05% TFA), 20:80, 1 mL/min] to obtain **12** (3.6 mg, t_R =9.300 min).

Part B was subjected to column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/acetone, $20:1 \rightarrow 0:1$, v/v) to yield five fractions (B1–B5). Fraction B1 was separated on an RP-18 silica gel column eluted with MeOH/H₂O ($10\% \rightarrow 100\%$)

to yield four main subfractions. The 70% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/acetone, 40:1, v/v) to obtain **28** (3.3 mg) and **29** (4.9 mg). The 85% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and preparative TLC (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 20:1, v/v) to obtain **32** (13.5 mg). The 90% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) to obtain **31** (2.3 mg) recrystallized from MeOH. The 95% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 100:0, 2 mL/min) to obtain **34** (6.0 mg, t_R =19.574 min) and **37** (1.5 mg, t_R =26.868 min).

Fraction B2 was separated on an RP-18 silica gel column eluted with MeOH/H₂O ($10\% \rightarrow 100\%$) to yield two main subfractions. The 80% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, 2 mL/min) to obtain **14** (86.7 mg, MeOH/H₂O, 80:20, t_R =16.778 min), **26** (6.4 mg, MeOH/H₂O, 75:25, t_R =8.558 min), **21** (16.0 mg, MeOH/H₂O, 80:20, t_R =9.164 min), and **23** (18.9 mg, MeOH/H₂O,



^bMeasured at 150 MHz

^cMeasured at 400 MHz

^dMeasured at 100 MHz

Table 5 ¹H and ¹³C NMR Data of 7–9 in CD₃OD

No.	7		8		9	
	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm a}$	δ _C , type ^b	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm a}$	δ _C , type ^c	$\delta_{\rm H} (J \text{ in Hz})^{\rm d}$	δ _C , type ^c
1		166.0, C		164.8, C		164.9, C
2	3.71, dd (11.8, 1.8)	75.1, CH	3.59, br s	79.3, CH	3.59, d (2.8)	80.6, CH
3	1.93, m	36.1, CH ₂	2.08, m	34.1, CH	2.36, m	27.8, CH
	1.54, m					
4	1.54, m	25.9, CH	1.58, m	30.6, CH ₂	1.01, d (6.7)	20.2, CH ₃
			1.51, m			
5	0.93, d (6.0)	24.1, CH ₃	0.99, overlapped	12.1, CH ₃	1.20, d (7.0)	23.5, CH ₃
6	0.95, d (5.8)	21.6, CH ₃	0.99, overlapped	17.4, CH ₃		
2'	7.15, s	124.5, CH	7.13, s	124.5, CH	7.14, s	124.5, CH
3'		112.4, C		112.4, C		112.4, C
3'a		129.1, C		129.4, C		129.3, C
4'	7.66, br d (7.9)	119.8, CH	7.66, br d (7.9)	119.8, CH	7.67, br d (7.8)	119.8, CH
5'	7.01, ddd (7.9, 7.0, 0.8)	119.7, CH	7.00, ddd (7.9, 6.9, 0.7)	119.6, CH	7.00, ddd (7.8, 7.5, 1.0)	119.6, CH
6'	7.07, ddd (8.1, 7.0, 0.8)	122.4, CH	7.06, ddd (8.1, 6.9, 0.7)	122.2, CH	7.06, ddd (8.0, 7.5, 1.0)	122.3, CH
7′	7.30, br d (8.1)	112.2, CH	7.28, br d (8.1)	112.1, CH	7.28, br d (8.0)	112.1, CH
7′a		137.8, C		137.8, C		137.8, C
8'	3.51, dd (15.0, 4.6)	29.3, CH ₂	3.48, dd (14.9, 4.4)	29.6, CH ₂	3.49, dd (14.8, 4.3)	29.6, CH ₂
	3.15, dd (15.0, 9.9)		3.11, dd (14.9, 9.5)		3.10, dd (14.8, 9.8)	
9′	4.80, dd (9.9, 4.6)	57.2, CH	4.75, dd (9.5, 4.4)	56.9, CH	4.77, dd (9.8, 4.3)	56.9, CH
10'		177.8, C		177.9, C		177.9, C
NMe	2.69, s	52.3, CH ₃	2.84, s	52.5, CH ₃	2.80, s	52.7, CH ₃

^aMeasured at 800 MHz

Table 6 The inhibitory effect of all compounds on aggregation of rabbit platelet induced by Thrombin (IIa) (1 U/mL)^a

Compound	Concentration (µg/mL)	Inhibition (%) ^b
2	300	19.0±9.6
3	300	17.0 ± 3.2
5	300	11.5 ± 7.9
14	300	22.2 ± 12.1
27	300	21.9 ± 11.3
33	300	14.8 ± 8.5
34	300	12.8 ± 9.4
$Bivalirudin^{c} \\$	50	98.8 ± 1.0

^aThe inhibition of other tested compounds (1, 4, 6–13, 15–26, 28–32, and 35–37) was less than 10% at the concentration of 300 μ g/mL

80:20, t_R =19.593 min). The 90% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, MeCN/H₂O, 99:1, 2 mL/min) to

obtain **36** (3.4 mg, t_R =37.378 min), **35** (4.0 mg, t_R =42.351 min), and **33** (5.0 mg, t_R =45.179 min).

Fraction B3 was separated on an RP-18 silica gel column eluted with MeOH/H₂O ($10\% \rightarrow 100\%$) to yield two main subfractions. The 60% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) to obtain **17** (32.6 mg) and **24** (105.7 mg) recrystallized from MeOH. The 70% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 85:15, 2 mL/min) to obtain **15** (10.3 mg, t_R =19.983 min).

Fraction B4 was separated on an RP-18 silica gel column eluted with MeOH/H₂O ($10\% \rightarrow 100\%$) to yield four main subfractions. The 60% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) to obtain 1 (169.9 mg) recrystallized from MeOH. The 70% MeOH-eluted portion was isolated by column chromatography (Sephadex LH-20, MeOH; silica gel, petroleum ether/acetone, 30:1, v/v) and further purified by semipreparative HPLC (Agilent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column,



^bMeasured at 100 MHz

^cMeasured at 125 MHz

dMeasured at 500 MHz

 $^{^{\}rm b}$ Mean \pm SD, n=3

^cPositive control

Table 7 The inhibitory effect of all compounds on rabbit platelet aggregation induced by PAF $(0.4~\mu g/mL)^a$

Compound	Concentration (µg/mL)	Inhibition (%) ^b
11°	900	84.9±7.0
	600	66.8 ± 3.9
	300	36.4 ± 3.1
	150	21.9 ± 6.6
	75	10.7 ± 8.5
14°	800	68.1 ± 12.6
	600	51.2 ± 12.7
	300	20.4 ± 7.1
	150	10.9 ± 0.6
	75	6.0 ± 2.6
15°	900	73.3 ± 14.6
	600	50.4 ± 6.7
	300	33.6 ± 5.1
	150	23.9 ± 9.6
	75	18.3 ± 7.4
20	300	16.8 ± 6.7
25	300	17.0 ± 7.6
Ginkgolide B ^d	25	90.2 ± 10.4
	12.5	56.9 ± 11.2
	6.25	33.9 ± 9.3
	3.125	19.5 ± 9.6
	1.5625	9.0 ± 5.2

^aThe inhibition of other tested compounds (1–10, 12, 13, 16–19, 21–24, and 26–37) was less than 10% at the concentration of 300 μg/mL b mean±SD. n=3

 9.4×250 mm, 2 mL/min) to yield **20** (8.5 mg, MeOH/H₂O, 80:20, $t_{\rm R}$ =19.115 min), **25** (3.0 mg, MeOH, 75:25, $t_{\rm R}$ =15.549 min), and **18** (16.0 mg; MeOH/H₂O, 80:20, $t_{\rm R}$ =15.356 min). The 80% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) obtain **19** (2.0 mg) recrystallized from MeOH. The 90% MeOH/H₂O-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 95:5, 2 mL/min) to obtain **16** (14.7 mg, $t_{\rm R}$ =14.172 min).

Fraction B5 was separated on an RP-18 silica gel column eluted with MeOH/H₂O ($10\% \rightarrow 100\%$) to yield four main subfractions. The 10% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by column chromatography (Sephadex LH-20, MeOH; preparative TLC, CHCl₃/MeOH, 5:1, v/v) and semipreparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 40:60, 2 mL/min) to obtain **30**

(18.2 mg, $t_{\rm R}$ =18.052 min). The 20% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) to obtain **27** (52.3 mg) recrystallized from MeOH. The 30% MeOH-eluted portion was purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (MeOH) and semipreparative HPLC (Aligent Zorbax SB-C₁₈ column, 10×250 mm, MeOH/H₂O, 50:50, 2 mL/min) to obtain **22** (18.0 mg, $t_{\rm R}$ =6.746 min).

3.4 Spectroscopic Data of Compounds

3.4.1 Pipermullesine A (1)

Pale yellow needles (CHCl₃); mp 90–93 °C; UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (logɛ) 334 (4.22), 243 (4.11), 224 (3.94) nm; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 1643, 1595, 1513, 1461, 1439, 1415, 1376, 1345, 1315, 1287, 1269, 1228, 1160, 1141, 1047, 1023, 907, 803 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 1; ESIMS m/z 296 [M+Na]⁺, 569 [2 M+Na]⁺; HREIMS m/z 273.0997 [M]⁺ (calcd for $C_{15}H_{15}NO_4$, 273.1001).

Crystal data for pipermullesine A (1): $C_{15}H_{15}NO_4 \cdot H_2O$, M=291.30, monoclinic, a=4.9028(8) Å, b=21.159(3) Å, c=13.455(2) Å, $\alpha=90.00^\circ$, $\beta=92.120(2)^\circ$, $\gamma=90.00^\circ$, V=1394.9(4) Å³, T=100(2) K, space group P21/n, Z=4, $\mu(MoK\alpha)=0.105$ mm⁻¹, 14679 reflections measured, and 3883 independent reflections ($R_{int}=0.0331$). The final R_I value was 0.0434 ($I>2\sigma(I)$). The final $wR(F^2)$ value was 0.1212 ($I>2\sigma(I)$). The final R_I value was 0.0575 (all data). The final $wR(F^2)$ value was 0.1322 (all data). The goodness of fit on F^2 was 1.030. The crystallographic data for the structure of 1 have been deposited in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (deposition number CCDC 1529565). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge from the CCDC via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk.

3.4.2 Pipermullesine B (2)

Pale yellow powder; UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 402 (3.62), 310 (3.07), 268 (3.43) nm; IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3424, 1622, 1511, 1466, 1441, 1368, 1354, 1235, 1208, 1180, 1039 cm $^{-1}$; 1 H and 13 C NMR data, see Table 2; ESIMS m/z 291 [M+H] $^{+}$, 313 [M+Na] $^{+}$; HREIMS m/z 290.1620 [M] $^{+}$ (calcd for $C_{16}H_{22}N_2O_3$, 290.1630).

3.4.3 Pipermullesine C (3)

Pale yellow powder; UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (logɛ) 400 (3.62), 310 (3.10), 268 (3.42) nm; IR (KBr) ν_{max} : 3376, 1721, 1630, 1607, 1590, 1562, 1511, 1462, 1438, 1384, 1337, 1271, 1237, 1211, 1101, 1076, 1037 cm⁻¹; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 3; ESIMS m/z 415 [M+H]⁺, 437 [M+Na]⁺; HREIMS m/z 414.2223 [M]⁺ (calcd for $C_{22}H_{30}N_4O_4$, 414.2223).



 $[^]c$ The IC $_{50}$ values of 11, 14, and 15 was 470.3 \pm 51.6 µg/mL, 614.9 \pm 113.5 µg/mL, and 579.7 \pm 139.1 µg/mL, respectively

^dPositive control (IC₅₀=12.2 \pm 2.8 µg/mL)

3.4.4 Pipermullamide A (4)

White solid; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ – 16.2 (c 0.08, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (logε) 204 (3.35) nm; ECD Δε (c 0.08, MeOH) +1.35 (217); IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3429, 1713, 1626, 1460, 1415, 1384, 1299, 1274, 1126, 1079, 1046 cm⁻¹; 1 H and 13 C NMR data, see Table 4; ESIMS m/z 321 [M+H]⁺, 343 [M+Na]⁺; HREIMS m/z 320.2102 [M]⁺ (calcd for $C_{18}H_{28}N_2O_3$, 320.2100).

3.4.5 Pipermullamide B (5)

White solid; $[\alpha]_D^{19} - 7.6$ (c 0.18, MeOH); UV (MeOH) $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (loge) 203 (4.00) nm; ECD $\Delta\epsilon$ (c 0.012, MeOH) +1.48 (214); IR (KBr) $\nu_{\rm max}$ 3442, 1666, 1609, 1494, 1456, 1385, 1312, 1256, 1226, 1091, 1031 cm⁻¹; 1 H and 13 C NMR data, see Table 4; ESIMS m/z 321 [M+H]⁺, 343 [M+Na]⁺; HREIMS m/z 320.2102 [M]⁺ (calcd for $C_{18}H_{28}N_2O_3$, 320.2100).

3.4.6 Pipermullamide C (6)

White solid; $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 33.1$ (*c* 0.09, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (loge) 206 (4.07) nm; ECD $\Delta\epsilon$ (*c* 0.014, MeOH) + 2.50 (214); IR (KBr) v_{max} 3426, 1673, 1608, 1494, 1456, 1383, 1315, 1257, 1225, 1096, 1032 cm⁻¹; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 4; ESIMS m/z 329 [M+Na]⁺; HRESIMS m/z 307.2017 [M+H]⁺ (calcd for $C_{17}H_{27}N_2O_3$, 307.2022).

3.4.7 Pipermullamide D (7)

White solid; $[\alpha]_D^{21} - 13.7$ (c 0.08, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (loge) 281 (3.47), 222 (4.28), 206 (4.16) nm; ECD $\Delta\epsilon$ (c 0.037, MeOH) +1.40 (233), -1.15 (222), -0.94 (214); IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3426, 1674, 1611, 1488, 1459, 1384, 1259, 1228, 1127, 1101 cm⁻¹; 1 H and 13 C NMR data, see Table 5; ESIMS m/z 360 [M+H]⁺, 382 [M+Na]⁺; HRESIMS m/z 360.2288 [M+H]⁺ (calcd for $C_{20}H_{30}N_3O_3$, 360.2287).

3.4.8 Pipermullamide E (8)

White solid; $[\alpha]_D^{21} - 32.2$ (c 0.06, MeOH); UV (MeOH) $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (log ϵ) 398 (1.74), 282 (3.09), 220 (3.90), 205 (3.89) nm; ECD $\Delta\epsilon$ (c 0.028, MeOH) +1.21 (233), +1.87 (225), -0.51 (220), -3.34 (200); IR (KBr) $\nu_{\rm max}$ 3428, 1681, 1619, 1452, 1422, 1384, 1209, 1139, 1046 cm⁻¹; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 5; ESIMS m/z 360 [M+H]⁺, 382 [M+Na]⁺; HRESIMS m/z 360.2293 [M+H]⁺ (calcd for $C_{20}H_{30}N_3O_3$, 360.2287).



White solid; $[\alpha]_D^{20}-12.2$ (c 0.21, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 281 (3.53), 221 (4.31), 206 (4.15) nm; ECD $\Delta\epsilon$ (c 0.013, MeOH) +1.30 (228), -1.80 (212), -4.48 (200); IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3415, 3266, 1672, 1603, 1491, 1459, 1384, 1255, 1229, 1098, 961, 747 cm $^{-1}$; 1 H and 13 C NMR data, see Table 5; ESIMS m/z 346 [M+H] $^+$, 368 [M+Na] $^+$; HRESIMS m/z 346.2128 [M+H] $^+$ (calcd for $C_{19}H_{28}N_3O_3$, 346.2131).

3.5 Preparation of Pipermullesine B Trifluoroacetate (2a)

Compound **2** (1.6 mg, 0.00551 mmol) was performed on semipreparative HPLC [Welch Ultimate AQ-C₁₈ column, 5.0 μ m, ϕ 4.6 × 300 mm, MeCN/H₂O (containing 0.05% TFA), 20:80, 1.0 mL/min] to obtain **2a** (2.0 mg, t_R = 6.344 min; 0.00516 mmol, 94% yield): pale yellow needles (MeOH); mp 142–145 °C; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 2.

Crystal data for pipermullesine B trifluoroacetate (**2a**): $C_{16}H_{23}N_2O_3\cdot C_2F_3O_2$, M=404.38, a=7.6163(3) Å, b=8.8383(3) Å, c=14.8434(5) Å, $\alpha=82.5370(10)^\circ$, $\beta=89.4170(10)^\circ$, $\gamma=74.5720(10)^\circ$, V=954.71(6) Å³, T=100(2) K, space group P-1, Z=2, $\mu(CuK\alpha)=1.046$ mm⁻¹, 13115 reflections measured, 3381 independent reflections ($R_{int}=0.0623$). The final R_I value was 0.1027 ($I>2\sigma(I)$). The final $wR(F^2)$ value was 0.2945 ($I>2\sigma(I)$). The final R_I value was 0.1048 (all data). The final $wR(F^2)$ value was 0.2990 (all data). The goodness of fit on F^2 was 1.412. The crystallographic data for the structure of **2a** have been deposited in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (deposition number CCDC 1529558). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge from the CCDC via www.ccdc. cam.ac.uk.

3.6 Preparation of Pipermullesine C Trifluoroacetate (3a)

Compound **3** (4.0 mg, 0.00965 mmol) was performed on semipreparative HPLC [Welch Ultimate AQ-C₁₈ column, 5.0 μ m, ϕ 4.6 × 300 mm, MeCN/H₂O (containing 0.05% TFA), 20:80, 1.0 mL/min] to obtain **3a** (4.5 mg, t_R = 7.460 min; 0.00880 mmol, 91% yield): pale yellow needles (MeOH); mp 157–159 °C; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 3.

Crystal data for pipermullesine C trifluoroacetate (**3a**): $C_{22}H_{31}N_4O_4\cdot C_2F_3O_2$, M=528.53, a=8.5097(10) Å, b=12.3631(15) Å, c=12.8583(15) Å, $\alpha=68.354(2)^\circ$, $\beta=78.084(2)^\circ$, $\gamma=80.814(2)^\circ$, V=1225.1(3) Å³, T=100(2) K, space group P-1, Z=2, $\mu(\text{MoK}\alpha)=0.118$ mm⁻¹, 13522



reflections measured, 6727 independent reflections (R_{im} = 0.0383). The final R_I values were 0.0528 (I>2 $\sigma(I)$). The final $wR(F^2)$ value was 0.1229 (I>2 $\sigma(I)$). The final R_I value was 0.0879 (all data). The final $wR(F^2)$ value was 0.1414 (all data). The goodness of fit on F^2 was 1.020. The crystallographic data for the structure of $\bf 3a$ have been deposited in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (deposition number CCDC 1589949). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge from the CCDC via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk.

3.7 In vitro Platelet Aggregation Assay

The inhibitory effects of compounds against rabbit platelet aggregation induced by PAF or Thrombin (IIa) were evaluated according to the published methods [50–53]. The details were presented in Supplementary Material.

4 Conclusion

Thirty-seven compounds were isolated from the folk Chinese medicine *Piper mullesua* with the "Huayu" function associated with the antiplatelet therapies. The antiplatelet compounds, especially (-)-mangochinine, pellitorine, and (2*E*,4*E*)-*N*-isobutyl-2,4-dodecadienamide, might be scientific evidence to support the traditional use of the plant as folk medicine. In order to make better use of the folk medicine to serve for human health, further research needs to be conducted on bioguided isolation of compounds from the plant, based on both in vitro and in vivo bioassay testing.

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Compliance with Ethical Standards

Conflict of interest Authors declare that there is no conflict of interest associated with this work.

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