

# Supplementary Materials

**Table S1.** Chemical characterization of phytosterols in HCF1 by HPLC-MS/MS.

Peak no.	Retention Time (min)	[M+H] <sup>+</sup>	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup>	[M+K] <sup>+</sup>	MS/MS	Identification	Quantitative Estimation (% Area)
1	29.77	401	423	439	383 [M+H-H <sub>2</sub> O] <sup>+</sup> ; 161	CAMP	13.9
2	32.94	415	-	-	397 [M+H-H <sub>2</sub> O] <sup>+</sup> ; 161	BSS	2.7
3	33.97	417	439	455	399 [M+H-H <sub>2</sub> O] <sup>+</sup> ; 163	SS	11.6

The quantitative estimation of CAMP, BSS and SS were expressed in percent area with respect to the total chemical content of HCF1.

**Figure S1.** TIC chromatography of Herba Cistanches Fraction One (HCF1), a semi-purified fraction of Cistanches Herba by HPLC-MS/MS. The TIC chromatography of HCF1 was obtained as described in Materials and methods. Data were expressed as relative abundance of particular chemical constituents (1: campesterol (CAMP); 2: BSS and 3: sitostanol (SS)).

