Acknowledgements

Words are always poor approximation of what one intends to say. This is a great opportunity in my part to express my gratitude and sincere respect to my research guide, Dr. Sunita M. Jain, Assistant professor, Department of Pharmacology, L. M. College of Pharmacy, Ahmedabad, for her valuable guidance on this exhaustive treatise, which has helped me to make me journey from the trepidation to a joyful exercise of mind. Her constant surveillance, immense encouragement, vital feedback, and moral support have made this thesis a success. This thesis would have not been possible without her support and cooperation. Her broad research experience, scientific and technical keenness, and fruitful directions and dedications made me to complete my research work successfully.

I am grateful to Dr. M.C. Gohel, Principal, L. M. College of Pharmacy, Ahmedabad, for providing research facilities and allowing me to undertake these studies in the department, without his encouragement and moral support, it would be impossible for me to fulfill the requirement of this thesis. I owe my deepest gratitude to Dr. D.D. Santani, Professor, Department of Pharmacology, L. M. College of Pharmacy, Ahmedabad, for providing facilities and moral support. His critical comments and valuable guidance made my work enjoyable. I would like to sincerely thank Dr. R.K. Goyal, Professor, Department of Pharmacology, L. M. College of Pharmacy, Ahmedabad, for his precious suggestions in my research work. It is an honor for me to thank Dr. R.V. Bhatt, Assistant professor, Department of Pharmacology, L M College of Pharmacy, Ahmedabad, for his precious help in my research work. I am thankful to Dr. G.C. Jadeja, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Botany, B. A. College of Agriculture, Anand, for his help in authentication of plant material. I am especially thankful to GUJCOST, Gandhinagar for their financial assistance.

I would like to show my gratitude to Dr. Anita Mehta, Dr. Parloop bhatt, Dr. Mamata, and Dr. Chhbaria, for their support and guidance throughout my research work.

This thesis is the result of some persons who were always there when I really needed their help. I am indebted to many of my colleagues, especially, Pathik, Hiren, Dhaval, Bhusan, and Priyal to support me throughout the research work. It gives me immense pleasure to thank all of them. I thank department staff Chetanaben, Krishnabhai, and Shivabhai for their help. I also thank library staff members Sanjaybhai, Bharatbhai, Ashwinbhai and Joshikaka for their support in literature survey.

It would not be possible for me to forget my son and my beloved wife, whose dedication, love, support, and sacrifice comes true in the form of this thesis. My wife constantly encouraged and supported me at every stage of this research work. It is very difficult for me to express my feelings for my parents, sisters, brother, and parent in-laws. I would like to give special thanks to my father-in-law for their valuable support, encouragement, and sympathy.

June, 2010. Yogendrasinh B. Solanki