Preface
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Homeopathy is a holistic method of treatment that uses ultra-low doses of highly diluted natural substances originating from plants, minerals or animals and is based on the principle of "like cures like". Despite being occasionally challenged for its scientific validity and mechanism of action, homeopathy continues to enjoy the confidence of millions of patients around the world who opt for this mode of treatment. There has been a spurt of research activities in homeopathy in recent years, at clinical, physical, chemical, biological and medical levels with acceptable scientific norms and approach. Contrary to skeptic views, research in homeopathy using modern tools, mostly tends to support its efficacy and advocates new ideas towards understanding its mechanism of action.

An alternative medical approach to human diseases such as cancer is becoming increasingly popular, but report on their success rates has been highly variable. Homeopathy in some advanced countries is often applied to less critical human diseases but there has been sporadic application of homeopathy to the treatment of cancer. Animal studies on the use of homeopathy to treat the experimental cases are still not many, as the evidence provided to date is not yet firmly established. Therefore, there is ample scope for conducting scientifically designed experimental studies on animals particularly on mammalian model to verify or confirm potentials of homeopathic remedies for use as supportive therapy in cancer treatment. Therefore an effort is made here to carry out some meaningful experiments, the results of which have been presented in the present thesis.