Chapter 2
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Lectins have been known to bind to glycoproteins expressed on the surface of cells and induce different physiological responses. Rhizoctonia bataticola lectin (RBL) recognizes glycoproteins that form a part of various cell surface receptors expressed on normal and transformed cells. The study was undertaken to explore the biological properties of RBL in normal human peripheral blood cells and transformed leukemic cell lines. The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To determine the binding and mitogenic activity of RBL on human peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC).

2. To elucidate the signaling cascade and cytokine profiles in PBMC stimulated with RBL.

3. To study the responses of RBL in human leukemia cell lines.