Analytical aspects of Marinobufagenin and its applications in the diagnostic of preeclampsia

C. Lenaerts¹, B. Blankert¹

¹ Laboratory of Pharmaceutical Analysis, Faculty of medicine and pharmacy, Research Institute for Health Sciences and Technology, University of Mons, Place du Parc 20, 7000 Mons, Belgium.

Marinobufagenin (MBG), a bufadienolide cardiac inotrope, enjoys a growing interest in the early diagnostic of volume expansion-mediated hypertensive states such as preeclampsia (PE).

This endogenous mammalian vasoconstrictive compound inhibits the α₁ isoform of Na⁺,K⁺-ATPase, resulting in hypertension and natriuresis. The enhanced production of MBG in preeclamptic patients has been described, and demonstrated the need for a sensitive analytical method of MBG plasma levels.

Nowadays, the MBG standard compound is not commercially available. It forced us to develop a successful extraction method of MBG from the crystallized toad Bufo Marinus venom.