

Sterols from a Vietnamese Wood-Rotting *Phellinus* sp.

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Phytochemical examination of the methanolic extract from fruit bodies of an unidentified Vietnamese *Phellinus* species led to the isolation of four compounds, one of which is a new steroid, 25-hydroxy-ergosta-7,24(28)-dien-3 β -ol, named phellinol, together with senexonol, trametenolic acid B and ergosta-4,6,8(14),22-tetraen-3-one. Their structures were determined by 2D NMR, MS, IR and UV spectroscopy. In addition, the absolute configuration of senexonol was established by X-ray crystallographic analysis of its *p*-bromobenzoate derivative as 22(*R*)-hydroxy-4(*S*),14(*S*)-dimethyl-cholesta-8,24-dien-3-one. All compounds moderately suppressed the lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced production of nitric oxide (NO) in RAW 264.7 cells.

Key words: *Phellinus*, Sterol, Phellinol, Nitric Oxide