

HERBAL REMEDIES FOR HIV-INFECTIONS

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Summary

The treatment for AIDS is the difficult task. Investigations and research are still in progress to get the effective anti HIV agents. As a result Zidovudine, Lamivudine, Ritonavir, Amprenavir and others are the drugs for HIV treatment. But they have high toxicity and patient cannot tolerate the adverse effects. Our review highlights the herbal drugs, which are effective for treatment of HIV. The present review gives the target of action, compounds and plants. It is necessary to explore the herbal drugs for anti HIV on present situation for future prospects.

Key words: Herbal drugs, HIV, Treatment of AIDS.

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Introduction

Historically, the occurrence of AIDS-like illnesses in population has closely followed the appearance of HIV. The first cases of AIDS in homosexual men in San Francisco were detected in 1981 and retrospective examination of frozen blood samples from a cohort of gay men showed the presence of HIV antibodies as early as 1978 but not before then. Over the past decade, the global epidemic of HIV infection has become a major focus of preventive, therapeutic and community health care in all parts of the world. The importance of the problem cannot be overstated when we consider the situation in developing country like ours where that major route of transmission is heterosexual. Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) remains a public health problem of major significance in most part of world and South – East Asia is no exception. In this Region, the incidence of acute STD is believed to be high in many countries, although the precise magnitude of the problem is still not clear. However, it is well known that failure to diagnose and treat STD at an early stage result in serious complications and sequelae, including infertility, fetal wastage, ectopic pregnancy, cancer and death. STD also account for massive expenditure, both in terms of the cost of providing care and in terms of the economic burden due to work – days lost as a result of the associated morbidity.

In addition, antimicrobial resistance of several sexually transmitted pathogens is increasing, rendering some low-cost treatment regimen ineffective. New agents (e.g. third generation cephalosporin and fluroquinolones) capable of treating infections caused by resistant strain are available but are expensive. However, their initial high cost must be weighed against the cost of inadequate therapy, which may lead to complications and relapses resulting in the emergence and further spread of antimicrobial resistance.

In the light of above problems and complications, our efforts in making the review on "Herbal remedies with anti HIV- activity" will weightage the scope, potency and clinical significance in preventing transmission of dreadful disease AIDS.

Our review summarizes the current status of knowledge of relatively undefined herbal products. It is encouraging to grow, cultivate and collect such rare herbal drugs which can solve many complications of this disease.

Table no 1: Herbal drugs with anti HIV activity.

Target	Compound	Class	Plant	References
Reverse Transcriptase	A	Protein	<i>Cactys(Opuntia streptacantha)</i>	1
	Amentoflavone, scutellarein	Flavonoid, flavones	-----	19,36,42,43,49,54,55,48,54
	Betulinic acid, platonic acid	Terpenids	<i>Syzygium claviflorum</i>	13
	Caffeic acid	Tannin	<i>Hyssop officinalis</i>	28
	Catechin	Polyphenol	-	37
	Coriandrin	Coumarin	<i>Coriander(coriandrum sativum)</i>	22
	Cornusin, others	Condensed	(<i>Cornus</i>)	26

		and hydrosed tannin	<i>officinalis and other)</i>	
	Costalolide, <i>inophyllum</i> P.,calanolide B.,	Coumarin	<i>Calophyllum cerasiferum</i>	50
	Ellagitanin	Tannin	-----	40
	Faicalein, querctein, myricetin, baicalin	Flavonoids	<i>Quercus rubra, others</i>	43,49,53
	Glycyrrhizin	Flavonoids	<i>Licorce (Glycrrhiza rhiza)</i>	24,56
	Hydroxymaprounic acid., hydroxybenzoate	Terpenoids	<i>Maprounea africana</i>	47
	Methyl nordihydroguaiaretic acid,	Lignan	<i>Many tress</i>	14
	Michellamine B	Alkaloid	<i>Ancistrocladus korupensis</i>	35
	Nigranoic acid	Terpenoids	<i>Schisandra sphaerandra</i>	51
	Protobberberine	Alkaloids	-	54
	Psychotriines	Alkaloids	<i>Ipecac(cephaelis ipecacuanha)</i>	54
	Salasprenic Acid	flavonoids	<i>Trypterygium wilfordii</i>	5
	Suksdorfin	Coumarins	<i>Lomatium suksdorffii</i>	29
	Swertifrancheside	Flavonoid	<i>Swertia franchetiana</i>	46
	Thuja polysaccharide	Lignin- polysaccharides complexes	<i>Thuja occidentails Japanese white pine (pinus parviflora)</i>	41,29
	7- methoxydesoxymor ellin, 2-isoprenyl forbesione	Xanthone	<i>Garcinia hanburyi (Gutifereae)</i>	59
	Trinorcycloaitane triterpenoid, Lancefodilactone	Triterpenoid	<i>Schisandra lancifolia</i>	60
	1,3,7-trihydroxy-6-	Xanthone	<i>Cratoxylum</i>	61

	methoxy,4,5-diisoprenyl xanthone		<i>arboresens</i> (<i>Gutifereae</i>)	
	Tripfordinea A-C	Sesquiterpen e pyridine alkaloid	<i>Tripterygium wilfordii</i> (<i>Celastraceae</i>)	62
		Tannin	<i>Acacia nitotica</i> (<i>Mimocaceae</i>)	63
	3-epi-papyriogenin C, papyriagenin A	Triterpenes	<i>Tetrapanax papyriferus</i> (<i>Araliaceae</i>)	64
	18-hydroxy aylthonic acid	tetranorcledo anes	<i>Dicranopteris dichotoma</i>	65
			<i>Callophllum inophyllum</i> (<i>Asclepidaceae</i>)	66
	Rubriflorins A-C	Nortripenoid s	<i>Schisandra rubriflora</i> (<i>Schisandraceae</i>)	67
Protease	Carnosolic acid	Terpenoids	<i>Rosemary</i> (<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>)	45
		Terpenoids. Flavonoids, flavones.	<i>Geum japonicum</i>	57
Adsorption	Mannose-specific lectins	Lectins	<i>Snowdrop</i> (<i>Galanthus</i>), <i>doffodil</i> (<i>Narcissus</i>), <i>amaryllis</i> (<i>Amaryllis</i>), <i>Gererdia</i> .	38
	Schumannificine 1 ,	Alkaloid	<i>Schumanniophytion mangificicum</i>	18
	Prunellin	Polysaccharide	<i>Prunella</i>	18
Viral fusion	Mannose and N-acetyl-glucosamine specific lectins	Lectins	<i>Cymbidium hybrid</i> , <i>Epiactic helleborine</i> , <i>Listeria ovata</i> , <i>Urtica dioica</i>	3
Syncytium formation	MAR-10	Polysaccharide	<i>Hyssop officinalis</i>	15
	Michellamine B	Alkaloid	<i>Ancistrocladus korupensis</i>	35
	Propolis	Mixture	<i>Various trees</i>	2, 9

Interference with cellular factors	Comptothecin	Alkaloid	-----	44
	Chrysin	Flavone	<i>Chrysanthemum morifolium</i>	8
	Hypericin	Anthrquinone	<i>St. John's (Hypericum)</i>	6, 22
	29000-mol-wt. Protein	protein	<i>Pokeweed (phytolacca)</i>	6
	Suberosol	C- 31, Lanostane Triterpine	<i>Polyalthia suberosa</i>	23
	Tripterifordin	Kauranoid diterpene	<i>Tripterygium wilfordii</i>	27
	Trichosanthin, momorcharins	Ribosome inactivating	<i>Cucurbitaceae family</i>	34
	Quercetin	Flavonoid	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	11
HIV replication in T cell inhibitor	Arzanol		<i>Helichrysum italicum spp microphyllum</i>	68
Unknown	-----	Sulphated polysaccharide	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	52
	-----	Sulfonated Polysachharide	<i>Viola yedonensis</i>	39
	Jacali	Lectin	-----	7,10
	Zingibroside R-1	Terpenoids	<i>Panac zingiberensis Wu et Feng</i>	16
	Thiarubrines	Terpenoids	<i>Asteraceae</i>	21
	Chrysin	Flavonoid	<i>Chrysanthemum morifolium</i>	19
	O-Demethylbuchenavianine	Flavonoid-alkaloid	<i>Buchenavia capitata</i>	25

Conclusions

Effective therapies for AIDS, HIV infection is being sought far and wide, in the Laboratories and in the natural worked. Glycyrrhiza, which constitutes Glycyrrhizin (Source of licorice) found to be very effective in vivo HIV studies. Infection in mice has been studied, which extended the life of retrovirus from 14 to 17 weeks (56).

A crude extract of the Cactus (*Opuntia streptacantha*) had marked antiviral effects in vitro and toxicity studies performed in mice, horses and human found the extract to be safe (1). Flavones, biflavonoids, terpenoids, polyphenol, tannins, alkaloids, lectins and others are found to be very useful in the treatment of HIV infection. In this review compounds are arranged alphabetically and this review explains the specific action of the compounds on the target. AIDS-the dreadful disease has to be controlled by a wide variety of plant extract, mixtures and single plant compounds, which are available with different pharmacopoeial standards. Scientist, medicinal chemists, and others from different field are keen in investigating plant for their effective anti-HIV activities. More of these herbal drugs and chemical constituents should be subjected to animal and human studies to determine their effectiveness in whole organism system, including toxicity studies as well. Herbal drugs should be incorporated and be used along with chemotherapeutic agents.

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