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Ethiopian folk medicine for treatment of anti-rabies: A review

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Background: Rabies is a serious disease caused by a virus mainly zoonotic which affects warm-blooded animals. The dog is the species most responsible for human exposure, with 98% of human case and vaccination due to the bite rabid or suspected rabid dogs.

Objective: To identify, document, asses the route of administration and preparation methods of medicinal plants used for anti-rabies.

Method: Ethnobotanical data review was conducted on the published article for medicinal plants for treatment of rabies in Ethiopia from Google scholar, pub med, thesis dissertations, and unpublished thesis reports. Data analysis was conducted using excel. Rabies, antirabies, medicinal plants, Ethiopia were the search terms used.

Results: 37 Plant species which belong to 17 families were found to be used in the treatment of anti-rabies in Ethiopia from the data review. Euphorbiaceae, Phytolaccaceae, Fabaceae, and Cucurbitaceae were the most commonly used families respectively, whereas *Phytolacca dodecandra* L and *Ricinus communis* L were the most used plant species. The habit forms of the plant species were shrubs 37.83% and herbs 13.5% while the most commonly used parts of the plant were 56.75% roots and 21.6% leaf are used. The route of administration and preparation of those medicinal plants were crushed dried root and mixed with water and given with tef kita.

Conclusion: *Phytolacca dodecandra* L and *Ricinus communis* L were the most used traditional folk medicine for rabies treatments. Oral preparation is the most common administration of medicinal plants. It is recommended to perform phytochemical screening for most reported plants.

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