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Chinese and botanical medicines: Myth or treasure?

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Although there is an enormous history of use of Chinese medicines (TCM) a better understanding of these preparations and formulae within the scientific and international community is needed. There is an urgent need to improve and promote this scientific inquiry in order to secure global acceptance. The aim of this paper is to present an improved quality roadmap for investigating TCM preparations and b) present several successful outcomes (case studies) on select botanicals and natural products to provide scientific data that substantiate the health claims. One example is the inhibition of ENOX2 (tNOX), a new molecular target to examine anticancer activity of green tea catechins. When the tNOX of cells is inhibited, the cells fail to enlarge after division, cease to divide and after a few days undergo apoptosis. In the area of bone healing there is new evidence on the natural chemicals from *Sambucus williamsii* and their benefits as a TCM drug. Other examples of well-known botanical medicines, (eg., cordyceps, red yeast rice, reishii), which are described in Chinese folklore will be presented.

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Identification of active compounds by qualitative analysis and antibacterial activity of medicinal plant Pelargonium graveolens

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Medicinal plants are main source for phytochemicals that offer traditional medicinal for the treatment of various ailments and one of the medicinal plants is *Pelargonium graveolens* which was known for "Geranium essential oil" and well established in the medicinal background and our studies carried out and grown in Hyderabad. The preliminary screening of aerial parts shows best results the presence of phytochemical like alkaloids, flavonoids, glycosides, phenol, sterol and lignin in the polar solvents methanolic and ethyl acetate extracts. However both chloroform and water extract revealed the absence of alkaloids and sterols, flavonoids, phenol, sterol and lignin respectively. The best resulted polar extracts from preliminary screening test were subjected to antimicrobial studies on Gram positive ethyl acetate extract were showing the zone of inhibition (*S. aurea* 7 mm and *B. subitilus* 9 mm) and methanolic extract (*S. aurea* 8 mm and 10 mm *B. subitilus*) Whereas, Gram negative strains were tested by plant extracts, ethyl acetate extract showing the positive inhibition on (*K. pneumonia* 8 mm and *E. coli* 5 mm). Methanolic extract was active suppression on Gram negative bacterial (*E. coli* 9 mm and *K. pneumonia* 10 mm), investigation in comparison with the standard antibiotic ampicillin. The current research work showing the best organic solvent for extraction of active non-volatile compounds and its anti-microbial activity which is required in the medicinal plant research for drug development.

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