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Therapeutic potential of phytochemicals against hepatitis C virus: Personalized medicine approach

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Hepatitis C virus infection is a liver associated health problem leads to hepatocellular carcinoma. So far, it has affected more than 170 million individual worldwide and 10 million people in Pakistan are living with Hepatitis C virus. Previously, HCV regimen was administration of peglated interferon (PEG-IFN) and ribavirin has limited efficacy, severe adverse effects and high cost. Recent advances in HCV management include the discovery of direct acting antiviral agents and personalized medicine based on viral genotypes or host proteins that promise to revolutionize HCV management. HCV genotype identification is most important for prediction of treatment response and to determine the duration of antiviral therapy. The disease preventive and health promoting approach based on herbal medicine are very successful in Asia and Africa. The present study was designed to search for phytochemicals from traditional medicinal plants against Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). Therefore, an *in vitro* bioassay was developed for HCV into Huh-7 cell line. Viral titer was analyzed through Quantitative Real Time PCR and potential phytochemicals were screened against HCV-NS3 protease and their synergistic effect was analyzed with interferon. These approaches are specific to HCV genotype 1a and 3a and likely to have more efficacy and less side effects.

Biography

Tariq Javed is presently working as an Associate Professor and Director Research at the Lahore Pharmacy College (LMDC), University of Health Sciences Lahore, Pakistan. He was the Assistant Professor (IPFP HEC) of Pharmaceutical Chemistry at Department of Pharmacy, Bahauddin Zakaria University, Pakistan. He has also worked as a Production Pharmacist In-Charge, Tablet and Syrup Section, Jawa Pharmaceutical (Pvt.) Limited, Lahore. He has obtained his Master's degree in therapeutic potential of medicinal plants against hepatitis C virus.

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