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Regulatory frame work and quality control of medicinal plants

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In the last decade, there has been a global upsurge in the use of traditional medicine and complementary and alternative medicine in both developed and developing countries. This is one of the main reasons for reinforcing the surveillance of the safety, efficacy and quality control of traditional medicine, complementary and alternative medicines. This work describes important aspects about the art state of the regulatory status of herbal medicines. Besides that, data related with the countries involved in the World Health Organization (WHO) program for traditional medicine will be showed. Another important aspect is the importance of clinical trials in order to guarantee the safety, quality and efficacy of natural health product. The main mistakes in clinical trials of natural products are explained. The market and the main challenges are analysed in the investigation of the phytomedicines as well as the tendencies in the growth of this attractive sector. The WHO strategy for the development of herbal medicinal product is also showed. The regulatory framework of traditional medicine in Cuba will be presented as well as the implementation of WHO strategy. In conclusion, drug regulatory authorities should ensure the quality, safety and efficacy of traditional medicines.

Biography

Remirez Figueredo Diadelis received her BA degree (1995, Biochemistry) from Faculty of Biology, Havana University, Cuba, and both her MSc (1995, Biomedicine) and PhD (1999 Pharmaceutical Sciences) degrees from National Center for Scientific Research in Havana, and most of the results were done in the Department of Toxicology at the Free University in Amsterdam. Her Postdoctoral training in Molecular Toxicology and pharmacology was completed at the Faculty of Pharmacy in Toronto, Canada. She has been Referee of scientific journals related with natural products. Other previous academic appointments include Lecturer in different international meetings. She has been the recipient of National Award of Pharmacology twice from the Cuban Pharmacology Society. She worked as Expert for the evaluation of preclinical platform in South Africa (CSIR). She is currently the Vice President of Cuban Pharmacology Society. She is the WHO focal point for traditional medicine in Cuba. At present, she works in the Cuba Regulatory Agency, she is one of the Reviewers for Authorization of Clinical Trials, and the evaluation of safety and efficacy of drugs (synthetic and natural products) for registering. She is the Project Leader for Pharmacogenetic guideline. Her research is described in over 30 published research reports.

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