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Herbal medicine vital role in women's health: A perspective review

R Ramasubramania Raja

Narayana Pharmacy College, India

This is a perspective review of medicinal plants useful traditionally for women's healthcare in India and countries like India. Medicinal plants have a significant role in women's healthcare in many rural areas, plants with therapeutic efficacious observations have historically been used as a starting point in the development of new drugs, and modern pharmaceuticals have been derived from them. A review about the therapeutic effectiveness, safety and best use of herbals in day to day practice to get rid of many diseases, added value, make use of herbals in this context. Kitchen remedies are the easy access for women for their cost effective health care. Many of the dietary health practices by women reflect their health consciousness. Herbal remedies include medicinal herbs and Ayurveda herbal remedies for common disorders among women urinary tract infection, pubertal changes, post menopausal syndrome, hot flashes, menopause, poly cystic ovarian syndrome, bacterial vaginosis, yeast infections, fertility, for inducing labor, for pregnancy, for increasing breast milk production, for abortion and other female disorders and to improve their health and wellness. The cost and availability of herbals & its utilization resources transferred from one generation and other keeps the information alive and useful to all. Since women playing a multirole & facing variety of the problems special health care is needed. Medical care becoming costly and much painful and the affordability will be question for the poor. So there is a great demand among the women with the usage of medicinal plants both in rural & urban sectors too. They are nourishing, comforting, and time-tested for thousands of years by millions of women

rsmr_raj@yahoo.co.in

Drug discovery efforts mirror the proverbial hyper cycle: What's next?

Rathnam Chaguturu

SRI International, USA

The process of drug discovery has benefited in the past decade by the advent and rise of high-throughput screening (HTS), an early and vital step of screening small molecule libraries primarily through biochemical and cell-based assays. While the discovery of new therapeutic drug targets in the post-human-genome-sequencing era is at an all time high, the introduction of new molecular entities against therapeutic targets is at an all-time low. HTS gained popularity and prominence as a means to that end. Central to every HTS endeavor is the compound collection. Industry-style probe discovery has now gained unparalleled momentum in academia with the availability of vendor-supplied chemical libraries and ready access to institutional HTS laboratories. These library collections are designed and selected for drug-like properties and structural diversity, which is critical to identifying unique hits to screening targets. Millions of compounds are now commercially available. Both academia and Pharma are engaged in screening large compound libraries, corporate databases, virtual compound collections and suppliers' databases for lead drug candidates. Although the 11 million-plus compounds that comprise the vendor-supplied chemical libraries are designed with a biogenic bias, almost eighty percent of the core ring scaffolds present among the natural products are surprisingly absent in the commercially available molecules, and by extension, the screening libraries. While statistically defined chemical space is similar for natural products and marketed drugs, the combinatorially-derived chemical libraries do not share similar space. Compared to the natural products, the combinatorially-derived chemical libraries are almost devoid of chiral centers, low on oxygen atoms and rich in nitrogen-the key features that dictate target selectivity, specificity, and in-vivo metabolism. The wealth of chemical diversity that has evolved with biological diversity is under represented in the commercial chemical library offerings, but needs to be harnessed in earnest to ease the current drug discovery bottleneck. Since the chemical diversity of these libraries is not always relevant to biological function, an earnest plea is being made to the chemical library vendors to advance the chemical methodology and library development technology platform to increase the natural product-like attributes to play their part in improving the success of our lead finding efforts.

mchaguturu@gmail.com