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### Medical importance of bee products

Apitherapy had been well documented in traditional medicine for treating systemic immune diseases, allergic diseases, viral diseases and organic-specific inflammatory diseases since more than one thousand years. Apitherapy or the medical uses of honeybee products are range from royal jelly to bee venom. It was used by the ancient Egyptians as a homeopathic remedy for arthritis. The history of apitherapy extends back to ancient Egypt, China and Greece. Apitherapy (the term comes from the Latin *apis*, which means “bee”), or bee therapy, is the use of honeybee venom for therapeutic purposes. Bee venom, bee pollen, raw honey, royal jelly, wax, propolis, and bee bread are products from bees that are generally considered to have medicinal effects. These products are effective against a wide range of ailments, from arthritis and chronic pain to multiple sclerosis and cancer, although few scientific studies have proved their benefits. Medical importance of honeybee products has been take the interest of medical and biologist scientists.

### Biography

Ahmed Hegazi is currently a Professor of Microbiology and Immunology in the National Research Center, Egypt. He received his Master's degree in 1979 and his PhD in 1981. His research work has been focused lately on bee products and their therapeutic effects. He organized and contributed to national and international research projects since 1977 and up till now; he has been the Principal Investigator on multiple research projects within the National Research Center. He has published 207 scientific papers and articles in national and international journals. He is also the President of the Egyptian Environmental Society for Uses and Production of Bee Products, Secretary of the Egyptian Society of Apitherapy, Secretary General of the African Federation of Apiculture Associations and a Member of the International Apitherapy Commission (APIMONDIA). He also received many awards.

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