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Medicines Made by Natural Products

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Abstract

Throughout human history, humans have used various materials from nature to cure their illnesses and improve their health. The substances were obtained from sources of flora, fauna and minerals found in the immediate vicinity of people, but also in remote areas. Nature has been the source of medicinal agents for thousands of years, and an impressive number of modern medicines have been isolated from natural sources, many of them based on their use in traditional medicine.

Keywords: Digitoxin; Reserpine; Tubocurarine

Description

Traditional plant based medical systems continue to play an essential role in healthcare. Residents of the world depend primarily on traditional medicine for their primary health care, although medicinal plants are the main component of traditional medicine. Medical folklore has proven to be an invaluable guide to drug control today over the years. Many important modern drugs such as digitoxin, reserpine, tubocurarine, ephedrine, ergometrine, atropine, vinblastine, and aspirin were discovered following the directions of popular use [1]. In recent years we have drawn attention to the lack of information on the relative importance of a medicinal plant (or other useful plants) within a culture and the need for an intercultural comparison of the uses of plants. These studies have important implications for natural product research, as these ethnobotanical studies reveal the species that should be investigated phytochemically and that, in our opinion, are most likely to contain bioactive compounds. Indigenous peoples use a variety of plants for therapeutic purposes to maintain their health [2]. There is great prospect for the discovery of new drugs based on traditional plant applications.

Plants can also be used as food and it is difficult to draw a line between these two groups; Food can be medicine and vice versa Loss of language and traditional knowledge due to acculturation and destruction of plant habitats is a major problem, especially among smaller and threatened tribes and indigenous groups. There are serious threats to the survival of these people and their cultures and the ecosystems that feed them and provide new plant products for human well-being from Western and traditional medicine everywhere [3]. The loss of indigenous knowledge has an impact on modern medicine. As indigenous cultures become increasingly fragmented and threatened by modern development pressures in developing countries, popular knowledge may be lost forever. Like the current extinction of plant and animal species, practitioners of ethno medicine appear to be at greater risk of extinction than even forests and other biomass [4,5]. Knowledge about the use of plants is disappearing faster than they. In this race against the destruction of ecosystems, researchers from many disciplines must join forces to promote the preservation of global diversity and, at the same time, accelerate ethno medical studies in relation to biomedical and chemical terms to develop new natural substances and drugs that humans need [6-8]. It is up to us to study the practices of indigenous peoples before they are lost, either through human indifference or through our relentless ability to transform and destroy the vegetation around us. We hope this publication will inspire those interested in ethnobotany, ethnopharmacology, and human well-being to take a careful and serious look at the data awaiting our review.

Conclusion

Some wild plant resources are threatened by habitat loss and selective overexploitation of species. Furthermore, indigenous knowledge about the use of wild plant resources is rapidly disappearing from traditional communities. In the context of the protection and sustainable and equitable use of wild plant resources, quantitative ethnobotany can contribute to the scientific basis for management decisions. In order to increase the indicative value of ethnobotanical studies, attempts have been made in recent years to improve the traditional compilation style approach by incorporating appropriate quantitative research methods in the collection, processing and interpretation of ethnobotanical data. These quantitative approaches aim to quantitatively describe the variables and analyze the patterns observed in the study, in addition to statistically testing the hypotheses.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there was no conflict of interests.

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