

THE HOMOEOPATHIC HERITAGE

Bringing Classical and Contemporary Homoeopathy Together

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The HOMOEOPATHIC HERITAGE Turns

50 years

Practical Utility of Indigenous Homeopathic Drugs- Rauwolfia, Bael, Neem and Tulsi

- A Clinical Trial To Assess The Role Of Maintaining Cause In Chronic Gastritis- A Comparative Study
- An Experimental Non-Randomized Study of Rauwolfia Serpentina Mother Tincture on Essential Hypertension



BJAIN

Dear Readers,

According to the WHO Global Report on Traditional and Complementary Medicine (2019), various systems of traditional medicine being used around the world include acupuncture, herbal medicines, indigenous traditional medicine, homeopathy, traditional Chinese medicine, naturopathy, chiropractic, osteopathy, ayurvedic and Unani medicine. And one hundred and seventy WHO Member States have reported on the use of traditional medicine by their populations”.



This issue of the Homoeopathic Heritage titled ‘Practical Utility of Indigenous Homoeopathic Drugs- Rauwolfia, Bael, Neem and Tulsi’ aims to throw light upon the use and clinical applicability of the four medicinal plants sourced from India where they enjoy a godly sanctity probably due to the very therapeutic nature they possess.

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Even though the system of traditional Indian medicine is believed by the majority to be incapable of dealing with emergency situations, acute conditions and the complex ones, its medicines have contributed significantly to the modern medical science. And this statement has been validated time and again by the WHO which in one of its reports stated -

“Around 40% of pharmaceutical products today draw from nature and traditional knowledge, including landmark drugs: aspirin, artemisinin, and childhood cancer treatments. A closer look at these drugs reveals that the scientists behind them built off traditional knowledge to achieve their breakthrough discoveries.

The Madagascar periwinkle, which is now the source of childhood cancer drugs vinblastine and vincristine has an exceptionally long history of being used as a medicinal plant and finds mention in Mesopotamian folklore, the Ayurveda system of traditional Indian medicine as well as tradi-

tional Chinese medicine. Medicinal plants like hawthorn and foxglove have been used to treat cardiovascular disease and hypertension”.

Medicines of Indian origin such as bael, neem, tulsi and rauwolfia serpentina also found their place in the German system of Homeopathy owing to their active principles.

An overview of Rauwolfia serpentina (Lobay D. Rauwolfia in the Treatment of Hypertension. Integr Med (Encinitas). 2015 Jun;14(3):40-6. PMID: 26770146; PMCID: PMC4566472) revealed-

“*Rauwolfia* contains many different phytochemicals, including alcohols, sugars and glycosides, fatty acids, flavonoids, phytosterols, oleoresins, steroids, tannins, and alkaloids. The most important alkaloids found in the plant are indole alkaloids, with more than 50 of those alkaloids having been isolated in the plant.⁹ Indole alkaloids are a group of nitrogenous compounds that are derived from the amino acid tryptophan.

The identified indole and indole alkaloids include ajmalidine, ajmaline, ajmalinine, ajmalicine, ari-cine, canescine, coryanthine, deserpidine, isoaj-maline, isoserine, isoserpine, lankanescine, neo-ajmaline, papaverine, raubasine, raucaffricine, rauhimbine, rauwolfinine, recanescine, rescin-namine, reserpiline, reserpine, reserpinine, sarp-agine, serpentine, serpentinine, thebaine, yohim-bine, and yohimbine.

Two isoforms of vesicular transport proteins are called *VMAT1* and *VMAT2*. *VMAT1* is mainly found in the neuroendocrine cells of the peripheral nervous system, particularly in the chromaffin granules in the adrenal medulla, sympathetic neurons, and platelets. *VMAT2* is mainly found in the brain, sympathetic nervous system, mast cells, and cells containing histamine in the gut and pancreas. Reserpine has an affinity for *VMAT2* that is 3 times greater than its affinity for *VMAT1*. It has a strong affinity and binds almost irreversibly to specific receptors on *VMAT*, particularly *VMAT2*.

A research paper (DOI:<https://doi.org/10.22271/phyto.2024.v13.i2c.14885>) reported- “The active components identified in *O. sanctum*, eugenol (1-hydroxy-2-methoxy-4-allylbenzene), have been shown to be substantially responsible for the therapeutic potentials. Eugenol, methyl eugenol, and caryophyllene are among the chemicals found in *Ocimum sanctum* leaves that are water-soluble phenolic compounds and may have immunostimulatory properties. Saponins have hypotensive, antihyperlipidemic, and cardio-depressive effects’.

In another study published in 2016 (doi: 10.1155/2016/7382506), it was found- “The most important active constituent is azadirachtin and the others are nimbolinin, nimbin, nimbidin, nimbidol, sodium nimbinat, gedunin, salannin, and quercetin. Leaves contain ingredients such as nimbin, nimbanene, 6-desacetylnimbinene, nimbandiol, nimbolide, ascorbic acid, n-hexacosanol and amino acid, 7-desacetyl-7-benzoylazadiradi-one, 7-desacetyl-7-benzoylgedunin, 17-hydroxy-azadiradione, and nimbiol [15–17]. Quercetin and β -sitosterol, polyphenolic flavonoids, were purified from neem fresh leaves and were known to have antibacterial and antifungal properties [6] and seeds hold valuable constituents including gedunin and azadirachtin. Neem (*Azadirachta indica*) plant parts shows antimicrobial role through inhibitory effect on microbial growth/potentiality of cell wall breakdown. Azadirachtin, a complex tetranortriterpenoid limonoid present in seeds, is the key constituent responsible for both antifere-

dant and toxic effects in insects. Results suggest that the ethanol extract of neem leaves showed in vitro antibacterial activity against both *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA with greatest zones of inhibition noted at 100% concentration.

1. Neem plays the role as free radical scavenging properties due to its rich source of antioxidants. Azadirachtin and nimbolide showed concentration-dependent antiradical scavenging activity and reductive potential in the following order: nimbolide > azadirachtin > ascorbate.
2. Neem shows effective role in the management of cancer through the regulation of cell signaling pathways. Neem modulates the activity of various tumour suppressor genes (e.g., p53, pTEN), angiogenesis (VEGF), transcription factors (e.g., NF- κ B), and apoptosis (e.g., bcl2, bax).
3. Neem also plays a role as anti-inflammatory via regulation of proinflammatory enzyme activities including cyclooxygenase (COX), and lipoxygenase (LOX) enzyme.

On similar lines, research on *Aegle marmelos* was conducted and the following images enlist its active ingredients. (<https://doi.org/10.1155/2020/8814018>)

Quick Word on Issue Content

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This issue brings for its readers, stalwarts’ Expedition on Dr M. L. Dhawale, penned by Dr Subhas Singh, Director, NIH, Kolkata alongside editorial from the Editors’ Desk titled ‘Homeopathy on the crossroads of traditional and integrative medicine’ by Dr Amit Sahani, HOD, Repertory, RBTS Homoeopathic Medical College, Bihar. Besides opinion pieces the issue features research articles by various young homeopaths and goes on to present Earnest Colloquy with Dr Jitesh Sharma, Author, *My Journey through Homoeopathic Materia Medica- Clinical Insights from Failed and*

Successful Prescriptions. Additionally, the readers shall get acquainted with Healing Women with Homeopathy by Dr Kavita Chandak through its review penned by Dr Yogesh D Niturkar, Chief Associate Editor, The Homoeopathic Heritage, Essence of Materia Medica By George Vithoulkas reviewed by Dr Athira Anil and Synoptic Memo-rizer of Materia Medica by Dr Subrata K Banerjea & Dr. Saptarshi Banerjea reviewed by Dr Pratibha

Pathak, HOD, Department of Surgery, Bakson Bakson Homoeopathic Medical College and Hos-pital, Greater Noida.

Happy Reading!

Dr Rashi Prakash

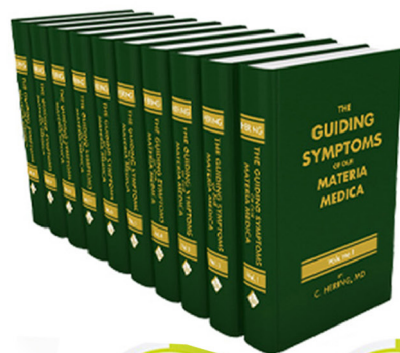
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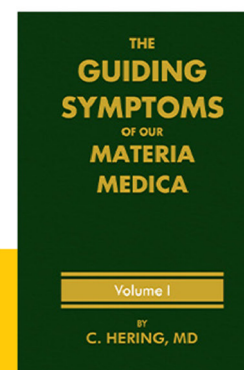
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Call for papers for the upcoming issues:

Unbolt Yourself		
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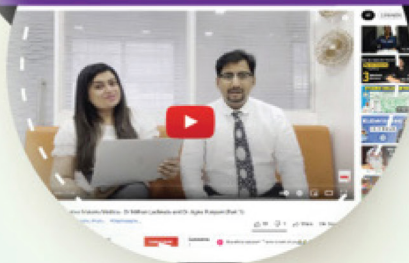
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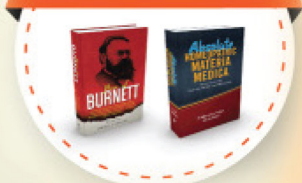
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