



Review Article

AN UPDATED REVIEW ON HEPATOPROTECTIVE MEDICINAL PLANTS IN 2012

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Abstract: Medicinal plants may serve as a vital source of potentially useful new compounds for the development of effective therapy to combat a variety of liver problems. Many herbs have been proven to be effectual as hepatoprotective agents while many more are claimed to be hepatoprotective but lack any such scientific evidence to support such claims. Developing a satisfactory herbal therapy to treat severe liver diseases requires systematic investigation of properties like anti-hepatotoxicity (antioxidants), stimulation of liver regeneration and choleric activity. Formulation of herbal medicines with standards of safety and efficacy can revitalize treatment of liver disorders. The aim of this review is to elucidate the list of hepatoprotective medicinal plants, which are scientifically proved during jan-dec 2011.

Keywords: Medicinal plants, hepatoprotective agents, treatment of liver disorders

INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants play a key role in the human health care. About 80% of the world population relies on the use of traditional medicine which is predominantly based on plant materials¹. The traditional medicine refers to a broad range of ancient natural health care practices including folk/tribal practices as well as Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani. These medical practices originated from time immemorial and developed gradually, to a large extent, by relying on or based on practical experiences without significant references to modern scientific principles.

It is estimated that about 7,500 plants are used in local health traditions in, mostly, rural and tribal villages of India. Out of these, the real medicinal value of over 4,000 plants is either little known or hitherto unknown to the mainstream population. The classical systems of medicine such as Ayurveda, Siddha, Amchi, Unani and Tibetan use about 1,200 plants². A detailed investigation and

documentation of plants used in local health traditions and pharmacological evaluation of these plants and their taxonomical relatives can lead to the development of invaluable plant drugs for many dreaded diseases. Random screening of plants has not proved economically effective³.

Liver damage is very common since liver has to detoxicate lot many toxic substances. Most of the hepatotoxic chemicals damage liver cells primarily by producing reactive species which form covalent bond with the lipids of the tissue. Due to excessive exposure to hazardous chemicals, sometimes the free radicals generated are so high that they overpower the natural defensive system leading to hepatic damage and cause jaundice, cirrhosis and fatty liver. Production of the reactive species depletion manifests in tissue thiol depletion, lipid peroxidation, plasma membrane damage etc., culminating into severe hepatic injury⁴.

Table 1: List of Hepatoprotective plants

Botanical Name	Parts used	Chemical Constituents	References
<i>Adina corolifolia</i>	Leaves	Alkaloids, resins, Coumarins	Sarma et al ⁵
<i>Alianthus excelsa</i>	Roots	Alkaloids, Tannins, Flavonoids, Terpenoids, Carbohydrate, Sterols	Varsha Zade et al ⁶
<i>Allium cepa Linn</i>	Bulb	Proteins, Carbohydrate, Saponins, Flavonoids	Riyaz Shaik et al ⁷
<i>Allium sativum</i>	Bulb	Resins, Tannins, Alkaloids, Glycosides, Gums	L.N.Vbenyl et al ⁸
<i>Aloe barbadensis</i>	Aerial Parts	Flavonoids, Hydroxy Anthra Quinones, Chrysophenol, Aloe Emodin	Harsha Deep Sharma et al ⁹
<i>Amorphophallus paenifolius</i>	Tubers	Carbohydrates, Sterols, Thiamin, Riboflavin	Pramod Hurkadale et al ¹⁰
<i>Andrographis paniculata</i>	Whole Plant	Diterpenoids, Stigmasterol, Neoandrographolide	Anitha et al ¹¹
<i>Bassia alatifolia</i>	Bark	Flavonoids, Terpenoids,	Rizwom Asheikh et al ¹²

<i>betula Utilis</i>	Bark	Alkaloids, Glycosides, Saponins, Sterols, Flavonoids	B. Duraiswamy et al ¹³
<i>Calycopteris floribunda</i>	Leaf	Tannins, Steroids, Flavonoids	Aiyalu Rajasekarom et al ¹⁴
<i>Cassia fistula</i>	Root	Anthraquinone, Flavonoids, Saponins	Varshazade et al ¹⁵
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Whole Plant	Alkaloids, Flavonoids, Tannins, Aminoacids, Carbohydrates.	Durga Prasad Hayak et al ¹⁶
<i>Cleome viscosa</i>	Leaf	Saponins, Flavonoids, Tannins, Polyphenols, Carbohydrates	Nishant Kumar Gupta et al ¹⁷
<i>Coronopus squamatus</i>	Leaves	Flavonoids	Abdelhady et al ¹⁸
<i>Cucurbita moxima</i>	Seeds	Glycosides, Carotenoids, Proteins, Phenolic Compounds	Nidhi et al ¹⁹
<i>Dodonaca viscosa</i>	Leaves	Flavonoids, Fattyacids, Saponins, Steroids	Mohammad Imromqadie et al ²⁰
<i>Dregea voluibilis</i>	Fruit	Glycosides, Terpenoids, Flavonoids	Pauab K Haldir et al ²¹
<i>Ecbolium viride</i>	Leaf	Flavonoid orientin, Vitexin	J. Jayatrakash Marayan et al ²²
<i>Elephantopus Scaber</i>	Leaf	Sesqui Terpenes, Lactones, Flavonoids	Wangoumgho et al ²³
<i>Ervatamia coronaria</i>	Leaf And Flowers	Alkaloids, Flavonoids, Glycosides, Tannins	Stalin et al ²⁴
<i>Euphorbia ligularia</i>	Whole Plant	Saponins, Alkaloids, Flavonoids, Tannins, Aminoacids	K. Pavan Kumar et al ²⁵
<i>Feronia limonia</i>	Whole Plant	Flavonoids	Arshed Iqbalidar et al ²⁶
<i>Ficus hispida</i>	Roots	Alkaloids, Glycosides, Flavonoids, Sterols	K. Senthil Kumar et al ²⁷
<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i>	Root	Saponins	Al. Razuqi et al ²⁸
<i>Haldinia cordifolia</i>	Stem Bark	Tannins, Sterols, Alkaloids, Flavonoids	Ravikiran. Y et al ²⁹
<i>Hygrophilla schullia</i>	Whole Plant	Saponins, Steroids, Alkaloids, Flavonoids, Terpenoids	Sumathi et al ³⁰
<i>Indigofera tinctoria</i>	Entire plant	Steroids, Glycosides, Alkaloids, Flavonoids	D. Gnana Sekaran et al ³¹
<i>Lawsonia inermis</i>	Roots	Flavonoids, Sterols, Terpenes, Tannins	S.N. Mamjula et al ³²
<i>Leucas cephalotes</i>	Whole Plant	Flavonoids	Itoria Priayomk et al ³³
<i>Litchi chinensis</i>	Leaves	Stigmasterol, litchiol	Soumita Basu et al ³⁴
<i>Macrotyloma uniflorum</i>	Seeds	Tannins, Glycosides, Alkaloids, Flavonoids	H.B. Parmar et al ³⁵
<i>Malachra capitata</i>	Roots	Phenols, Tannins, Carbohydrates, Saponins, Flavonoids	N. Sriram et al ³⁶
<i>Musa paradisiaca</i>	Stem	Carbohydrates, Tannins, Glycosides	Nirmala. M et al ³⁷
<i>Naringi crenulato</i>	Leaves And Bark	Phenols, Triterpenoids, Proteins, Tannins, Saponins	V.R. Mohan et al ³⁸
<i>Picrorhiza kurroa</i>	Roots And Rhizomes	Picrosides, Kuthinol, Apocynin	Somgeet Simha et al ³⁹
<i>Polycarpaea coymbosal</i>	Whole Plant	Phenolic Compounds, Flavonoids	R. Vardharajam et al ⁴⁰
<i>Pohgamia pinnata</i>	Flowers	Sterols, Fattyacids, Carbohydrates	Ahuradha et al ⁴¹
<i>Rhynchosia beddomei</i>	Leaves	Essential oils, Fattyacids, Glycosides, Flavonoids	Ashok Babu et al ⁴²
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Leaf	Tannins, Steroids, Carbohydrates, Glycosides, Saponins	Padmapriya et al ⁴³
<i>Rohitaka ghrita</i>	Bark And Fruit	Glycosides, Naphthoquinones, Sterols	R. Goyal et al ⁴⁴

<i>Ruellia tuberosa</i>	Leaves	Flavomoids, Carbohydrates, Glycosides, Tannins, Fixedoils, Fats	M. Rajam et al ⁴⁵
<i>Samtolina chanaecyparissus</i>	Whole Plant	Flavanoids, Phenols Triterpenes	Dhanabalsp et al ⁴⁶
<i>Sedhium edule</i>	Fruits	Alkaloids, Phenols, Flavanoids, Carotenoids, Glycosides, Carbohydrates	Firdous Sm et al ⁴⁷
<i>Sida rhombifolia</i>	Whole Plant	Alkaloids	Ramadoss et al ⁴⁸
<i>Sida veronicaefolia</i>	Leaves	Flavanoids, Alkaloids, Phytosterols	Ajay Sharma et al ⁴⁹
<i>Sphaeranthus indicus</i>	All Parts	Flavanoids, Phenols, Carbohydrates	Gprasad et al ⁵⁰
<i>Thespesia lampus</i>	Stems	Geranin	A. Subramonium et al ⁵¹
<i>Urtical dioica</i>	Leaves	Flavomoids Tannin Glycosides,	Kataki et al ⁵²
<i>Vigna mungo</i>	Leaves	Carbohydrates, Flavomoids, Aminoacids, Tannins, Proteins.	Anithak et al ⁵³
<i>Vitis vinifera</i>	Root	Phenolic Compound Flavomoids, Terpenoids	Surendra Ke Sharma et al ⁵⁴
<i>Wattakaka volubilis</i>	Leaf And Fruit	Carbohydrates Flavomoids	Varsha Zade et al ⁵⁵

CONCLUSION

From this study, it is clear that the medicinal plants play a vital role against various diseases. Various herbal plants and plants extracts have significant hepatoprotective activity in animal models. The hepatoprotective activity is probably due to the presence of flavonoids in all few herbal plants. The results of this study indicate that extracts of leaves and plants extracts of some medicinal plant have good potentials for use in hepatic disease. The present review study give evidential explore mechanism of action of medicinal plants against experimentally induced hepatotoxicity. Hence the review study is concluded that the herbal drug possesses hepatoprotective activity and it has been proved by different animal models give many links to develop the future trials.

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