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A REVIEW ON HERBAL DRUGS WITH POTENTIAL ANTI-ARTHRITIC ACTIVITY

Shanaz Banu¹ and Leemol Varghese^{* 2, 3}

Department of Pharmacognosy¹, Dayananda Sagar University², Bengaluru - 560078, Karnataka, India.
Sarojini Naidu Vanita Pharmacy College³, Hyderabad - 500017, Telangana, India.

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Correspondence to Author:

Mr. Leemol Varghese

Assistant Professor,
Sarojini Naidu Vanita Pharmacy
College, Hyderabad - 500017,
Telangana, India.

E-mail: leemolvarghese1@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is a general inflammatory disorder touching about 1.3% of the grown-up census of the world. Over the last two decades, a significant development has been done in the thoughtfulness of RA pathophysiology, best outcomes, and successful treatment strategy, and the credit of the significance of diagnostic agents and treating RA near the beginning. Earlier than novel treatments were obtained, RA caused notable incapability and deaths. At present, it is customary that principal diagnostic agents and therapy are significant and helpful. Development in the treatment of RA made it likely to manipulate signs in inflammatory arthritis. The early hour diagnosis and treatment of RA can prevent or reduce the progression of joint erosion to about 90% of patients; by this means irreversible disability can be prevented. In advance and more effective treatment significantly improves the prognosis of RA. The advancement of novel instruments to assess disease activity and recognize remission has brought about innovative treatment strategies to inhibit RA ahead of joint damage forever. The pharmacological therapy consists of the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAIDs), glucocorticoids (GC); disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs), biological drugs is of two types: 1) Monoclonal antibodies, 2) bisphosphonate agents. The price of a few treatments is considerable, but their use has come down with the advancement of biosimilars. A target-treatment strategy aims to decrease disease activity by around 50% in three months and achieve a reduction of disease succession in six months, with continuous therapy if needed, which can prevent RA-related disability. There is a restoration of attention in plant products because of the present belief that green medicine is safer and more trustworthy than expensive synthetic drugs. The outlook is towards the synchronized multidimensional research intended to correlate botanical and phytochemical activities to exact anti-arthritis activity is achieved.

INTRODUCTION: RA is an inflammatory rheumatic disorder in which moving articular and extra-articular parts cause ache, disability, and death^{1, 4}. It causes chronic inflammation, which is a systemic autoimmune disorder, at first disturbing to small bones and then the larger ones, eventually to skin, eyes, heart, kidneys, and lungs.

Frequently, joints and cartilage of bones are damaged; tendons and ligaments are destroyed^{5, 7}. Constant inflammation causes erosion of joints and practical injury in the huge bulk of patients^{8, 11}.

RA results in severe ache, bulge, rigidity, and lack of activity in bones. It damages any bone still commonly affects bones of the wrist and fingers. Further, women are affected than men by RA. It usually begins in middle age and is very general in elderly people^{12, 15}. Natural products from plants play an extraordinary function in treating and prevent many pathological conditions from olden times. Research examined by World Health Organization (WHO) has concluded that

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approximately 80% of world's population depends on conventional therapy^{16, 21}. In the USA, about 121 therapeutic agents are prescribed, 90 of them are from the natural agents chiefly from plants in a straight or indirect way. Herbal remedy will be a source to alleviate signs of RA and handle the problems linked with current therapy of allopathic agents²⁷.

Signs: RA signs depend on the extent of membrane inflammatory reaction. During membrane inflammation, disease is vigorous. AS membrane inflammatory reaction suppresses, the disorder becomes dormant, as called remission. During the active state, RA symptoms appear: exhaustion, lack

of energy, decreased craving for food, low fever, muscle and ache, flush, bump, softness, deformity, nodules, rigidity, and lack of movement reduced bone activity^{22, 23}.

As reported by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the signs typically distress equivalent bones on either side of body^{24, 28}.

Rarely, RA damages the joint, resulting in the contraction of voice cords to change the tone of voice. This causes horse voice^{29, 31}. Signs are usually on and off. Through remission, symptoms vanish, or can be mild. Conversely, through a flare, symptoms will be severe³².



FIG. 1: SIGNS OF RA

Pathophysiology: The core reason of RA is unidentified. Although viruses, bacteria, and fungi have extensively been assumed, but not been proved. It is thought that the propensity to grow RA may be hereditary^{33, 34}. RA is classified as an autoimmune disease, which occurs due to the over-activity of the immune structure by offending the body's own cells and tissues. In people with RA, the immune system stimulates unusual inflammation in the membrane that covers joints *i.e.*, the synovial membrane. Inflammation of synovium; causes ache, swelling, and stiffness of joints. In harsh situations, inflammatory reactions damage the bone, joints and surrounding tissues within the joints, resulting in bigger damages³⁵. Immune cells, called lymphocytes, are stimulated, and chemical messengers (cytokines, such as tumor necrosis factor/TNF, interleukin-1/IL-1, and interleukin-6/IL-6) are produced in the inflamed

regions^{36, 39}. Synovial fibroblasts are major players in RA. They motivate a pro-inflammatory situation in the synovial membrane, cooperate with the immune system, and control the differentiation of monocytes to osteoclasts^{39, 42}.

Major genetic agents of RA are variations in Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA), particularly the HLA-DRB1 gene. The amino acids synthesized by HLA assist the immunity to differentiate its own amino acids apart from foreign ones of viruses and bacteria^{43, 48}.

Environmental agents also appear to take a prime role in causing RA. Smoking tobacco, contact with silica, and long-term periodontal disorders raise the threat of budding RA. Studies regarding gut organisms that can stimulate the beginning of RA in hereditarily vulnerable candidates^{49, 50}.

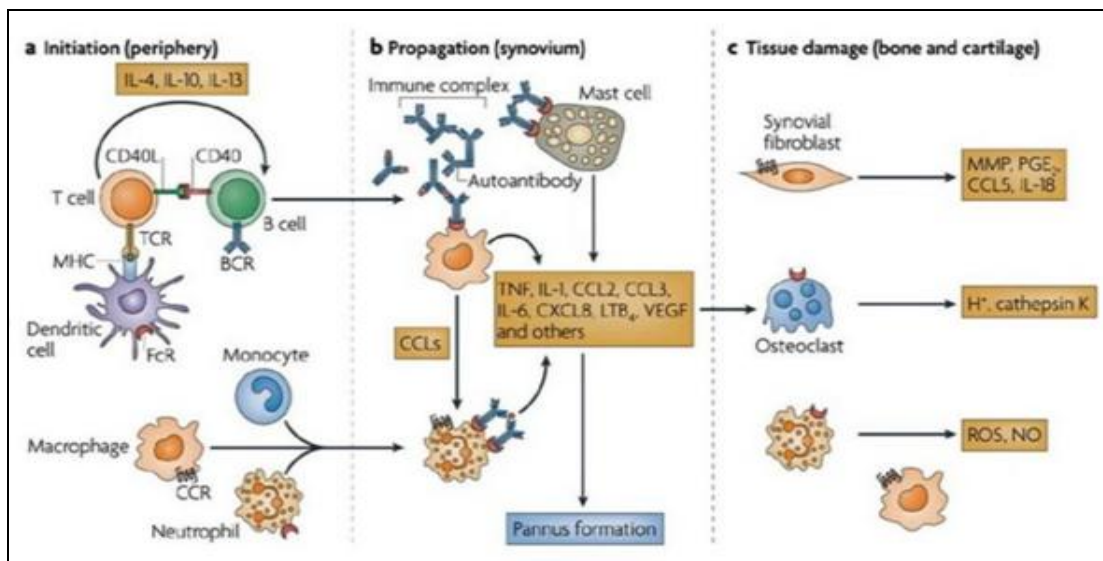


FIG. 2: RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS PATHOPHYSIOLOGY CD40=cluster of differentiation 40, co-stimulatory protein present of antigen presenting cell(APC); CD40L= cluster of differentiation 41-Ligand present of th cell, bind to CD40 to activate APC; TCR=T cell receptor; BCR=B cell receptor MHC= major histocompatibility complex= surface receptor, with its ligand activate TCR; FcR receptor = protein receptor present on immune cells, CCR=c-c-motif receptor= beta chemokine receptor; CCL5= chemokine (c-c-motif) ligand-5=RANTES= its chemo tactic for neutrophils; CCL2= chemokine (c-c-motif) ligand-2= MCP; CCL3= chemokine (c-c-motif) ligand-3MIP-1; CXCL8=IL8; LTB₄=TNF-C= induce inflammatory response; VEGF= vascular endothelial growth factor, Pannus= abnormal fibrovascular tissue lies over joint surface; MMP= matrix metalloproteinase PGE= prostaglandin E; IL-1β= interleukin -1 beta; cathepsin k= enzyme regulating bone remodelling; ROS= reactive oxygen species; NO= nitric oxide; IL-4= interleukin-4; IL-10 = interleukin-10 IL-13= interleukin-13; T cell = T lymphocyte; B cell = B lymphocyte; TNF= tumor necrosis factored; IL-1= interleukin-1

Risk Factors and Complications: CDC reported that patients with an elevated threat of attacking RA can comprise individuals of age 60 years or above, female, overweight, smoking^{50,55}.

Diagnosis: The diagnosis depends on the clinical presentation. The existence of rheumatoid factor and citrulline antibody (Abs). The occurrence of nodules and X-ray changes⁵⁵.

Antinuclear Antibody (ANA) Test: Presence of antinuclear Abs in blood. The test detects antinuclear Abs in blood and confirms autoimmune disease. On taking the blood samples from veins of arms, positive result on an ANA test explains that antinuclear antibodies were confirmed in blood. Individuals may expect a positive result if:

- Person has SLE (lupus).
- Person has an autoimmune disorder.
- Person has a viral infection.

Cyclic Citrullinated Peptide Antibody: This test helps confirm RA and differentiate it from other arthritis and estimate the prognosis of RA patients. Cyclic citrullinated peptide antibodies are those

released by the immune systems which are focussed against cyclic citrullinated peptides (CCP). This test identifies and calculates anti-CCP antibodies in the blood. Citrulline is formed in the body due to the metabolism of amino acid arginine. Though, in joints with RA, this translation happens at a higher rate. Citrulline modifies protein configuration and stimulates an immune response, forming autoantibodies in opposition to joint proteins. The CCP antibody test confirms the diagnosis of RA and is used in recognizing patients with the quickly erosive type of disease.

Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate (ESR): ESR is a test that calculates how rapidly RBC settles down. In general, red cells settle comparatively slowly. A faster rate confirms inflammation in the body. Higher ESR shows inflammatory disorders^{55,59}.

Stages Of Rheumatoid Arthritis The stages of RA by the condition of cartilage, ligament, and joints are as follows.

Stage I: early RA: Negative effect on X-ray, whereas symptoms of joint thinning may be present.

Stage II: moderate progressive: X-ray confirmation of joint thinning surrounding a bone with or devoid of little joint erosion.

- little cartilage destruction is probable
- Joint movement is restricted; the absence of bone deformities are seen
- Atrophy of surrounding soft tissue
- Damage of muscle adjacent to joints.

Stage III: severe progression:

- X-ray examination of joints shows erosion
- Joints deformities with reversible stiffness joints
- Widespread soft tissue atrophy

Stage IV: terminal progression:

- X-ray observation of joint damage and osteoporosis surrounding the joints.
- Joint deformities with irreversible stiffness of the joints (ankylosis)
- Widespread soft tissue atrophy and abnormalities

Physicians Categorize The Position RA Patients as Follows:

- Capable of carrying out normal functions of everyday
- Capable of carrying out common self-care except in working outdoor like playing sports.
- Capable of executing normal self-care but restricted in other jobs
- Incomplete capability to execute normal self-care and activities^{60, 63.}

Treatment:

Non-Pharmacological Treatment:

Rest: During a flare, the patient should rest. Swollen and aching bones make signs worse.

Exercise: Upon remission, signs are gentle; patients must often exercise to improve health and reinforce the soft tissues surrounding the bones.

The finest workout is that which does no tension on the bones, like swimming.

Diet: Subsequently, healthy food with lots of fruits and vegetables will improve the patient, allow feeling better, and maintaining a healthy weight^{64, 65.}

Pharmacological Treatment:

Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs): Chronic administration and high concentrations result in adverse effects like gastric upset, elevated BP, kidney damage, and liver injuries^{66.}

Corticosteroids: They intend to decrease aches and inflammatory responses and can slow down bone injuries, although they may not heal RA. Corticosteroids are very useful in acute signs or short-term flares. Chronic therapy of corticosteroids causes severe side effects like being overweight^{67.}

Disease-modifying Antirheumatic Drugs (DMARDs): DMARDs decrease the succession of RA and stop irreversible erosion of the joints and other soft tissues by intrusive overactivity of the immune system. It is largely successful in the near beginning stages. Adverse effects liver includes marrow and immune suppression.

Tumour Necrotic Factor Alpha Inhibitors (TNF-Alpha Inhibitors): TNF-alpha is an inflammation-causing agent. TNF-alpha blockers avoid inflammatory reactions.

Blockers diminish ache, morning rigidity, and inflamed joints^{67, 68.} Probable adverse effects comprise elevated threat of infection, blood-related diseases, heart failure, demyelinating disorders.

Surgery: Surgery restores injured bones, corrects deformity, and decreases ache.

Arthroplasty: It is a complete bone replacement; surgeons take out injured structures and add a metallic or plastic prosthesis^{69.}

Tendon Renovate: If tendons have loosened or ruptured surrounding joints, surgery helps renovate them^{70.}

Synovectomy: This process involves the elimination of the synovial membrane due to inflammation and ache.

Arthrodesis: The doctor can combine bones to reduce ache and to steady joints.

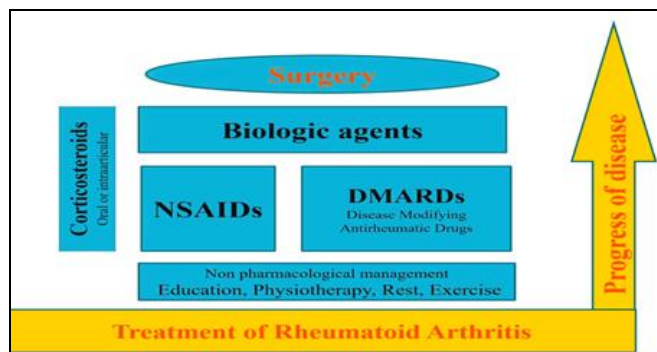


FIG. 3: TREATMENT OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Herbal Therapy: Numerous anti-arthritic agents have been developed and used in RA treatment; still, these agents experience many adverse effects resulting in limited efficacy.

The herbal therapy approach now has a wide variety, usually not seen with artificial agents. Green medicine has been extensively studied as harmonizing and optional agent since the olden days in the alleviation of inflammation and immune system diseases.

The present pharmacotherapeutics administered by conservative formulations give healing profits merely till suboptimal level; therefore take up all the problems in the RA therapy. Green phytoconstituents for RA therapy are given as follows in **Table 1**.

TABLE 1: HERBAL THERAPY FOR RA 71

S. no.	Natural product	Source	Part used	Active principal	MOA and molecular pathways involved	Challenge and adverse effect
1	Boswellia Serrate Indian frankincense salai/ salaigu gglu	The resin of Boswellia	Oleo gum resin from the trunk of the tree	Triterpenic acid that is b- Boswellic acid acety b- Boswellic acid 11 keto b- Boswellic acid and acetyl 1-keto-b- b- Boswellic acid	Acts via 5-LOX inhibition	Stomach pain, nausea diarrhoea and allergic rashes reported
2	Turmeric Curcumin Curcuma Longa	Curcuma Longa Linn	Dried as well as fresh rhizome	Curcumin	It acts by inhibition of COX, 5-LOX and glutathione S-transferase	Higher dose long term administration causes nausea and diarrhea
3	Gamma limol (GLA)	Rapeseed canola oil soy beans walnuts and flex seed linseed oil	Plant seed oil	O-mega 6 fatty acids	Dietary GLA it converted directly to DGLA increased levels of DGLA promote the synthesis of in- flammatory metabolites <i>i.e</i> , series prostaglandins PGEI suppress chronic inflammation	It is safe at the dose 2.8 g/day up to year besides it causes softening of tools belching and intestinal gas to
4	Ginger Zingiberofficinale	Zingiberofficinale Linn	Rhizomes	It contains high proportions sesquiterpenes, predominantly zingiberene and gingerols	It inhibits PG and LTs biosynthesis via an inhibitory action on PG synthetase and 5-LOX, and addition to this also inhibits pro-inflammatory cytokines such as IL 1 TNF, and IL-8	It is safe, but some minor side effects such as heartburn diarrhoea, stomach discomfort, and skin irritation may take place
5	Thunder God vine	Tripterygium wilfordii	Skinned root (extract)	Its major compositions are di-terpenoid triptolide	It interferes with the production of PGs cytotoxic T-cell proliferation and IL-2 too	GIT disturbances such as nausea, abdominal pain, indigestion flatulence, constipation, hair loss male

6	Celastrol	Tripterygium wilfordii (leigongteng thunder of god vine), which belongs to the Celastraceae family	Root and work	A yellow quinoidenortriterpene called Celastrol which is a pentacyclic triterpene	Celastrol has beneficial antiarthritic effects by suppression of pro-inflammatory cytokines mediated MMP-9 expression and lipopolysaccharides	infertility, and significant immune suppression Diarrhoea headache nausea, and infertility, especially at high dose
7	Thymoquinone (TQ)	TQ is obtained from the volatile oil of black the black caraway seed <i>Nigella sativa</i> Ranunculaceae family	Volatile oil of the black seed	TQ is a major bioactive constituent of the volatile oil of black seed (54%)	It extracts antiarthritic action against carrageenan induced paw oedema in rats by inhibiting the inflammatory mediators	It is safe and may cause allergic rashes
8	Sinomenine	It is obtained from the root of Sinomenine Actum	Roots	Sinomenine is an alkaloid	Sinomenine may inhibit proliferation of synovial fibroblasts in arthritis	It produces abnormal immunosuppression
9	Paeoniflorin	It is obtained from the root of a Paeonia	Roots	It is a major constituent of paeoniflorin	It extracts anti-arthritis action by inhibition of IL-6 and COX-2	Abdominal upset and skin rashes
10	Asiatocic acid and madecassoside	Two whole plants of <i>Cheilanthes asiatica</i>	whole plant	It contains large amounts of pentacyclic triterpenoid, including asiatic acid and madecassoside	It provides protection against joint destruction in CIA mice	Skin allergy, burning sensations, headache nausea, extreme drowsiness and contact dermatitis
11	Epigallocatechin	It is obtained from <i>Oldenlandia diffusa</i> and fruits <i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	Fruit	Epigallocatechin gallate also known as epigallocatechin 3-gallate is an ester of epigallocatechin and gallic acid	It showed effective action against arthritis by TNF, an inhibition	It hampered iron absorption in a dose-dependent
12	Naringin	It is obtained from grapes and citrus fruits	Grapes and citrus fruit	Naringin is a flavanone-7-O-glycoside	It showed antiarthritic action by suppression of MMP-9	Bitter taste
13	Hesperidin	It is obtained from the fruit of citrus aurantifera	Citrus fruits	Flavanone glycoside	It suppresses T-lymphocyte proliferation and IL-2 production in rats too	Limited bioavailability
14	Resveratrol	It is obtained from grapes and red wine	Grapes red wine and berries	Resveratrol polyphenolic compounds	It mediated antiarthritic action by targeting NF- κ B and simultaneously decreases AGEs-stimulated expression and prevents AGEs-mediated destruction of CLA	Poor oral bioavailability

AA, adjuvant arthritis; AGE, advanced glycation end products; CIA, collagen-induced arthritis; COX, cyclooxygenase; DGLA, dietary gamma-linolenic acid; GLA, gamma-linolenic acid; IL, interleukin; MMP-9, metalloproteinase-9; MOA, mechanism of action; NF- κ B, nuclear factor- κ B; TNF; tumour necrosis factor- α .

CONCLUSION: RA is an assorted disorder, and the response to therapy is unpredictable. DMARDs must be used almost immediately following diagnosis; methotrexate is a top early drug; illness ought to be often monitored; a combination of green medicine with synthetic drugs decreases the progression of the disease.

There is a restoration of attention in indigenous natural agents due to the prevalent faith that plant products are more harmless and reliable than expensive artificial medicines. In outlook, extra synchronized multidimensional research is required to correlate botanical and phytochemical properties to precise pharmacological activity in RA therapy. It is trusted that coming years will observe a drastic swing in how medical studies are conceived in RA.

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