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BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF PHYTO-CONSTITUENTS OF MEDICINAL PLANTS IN MAINTAINING VISION & HEALTHY EYE SIGHT

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ABSTRACT: The eye is one of the most sensitive organs of human body and is continuously exposed to different environmental agents so it is very important to take care of eyes. Poor vision makes it harder to read, drive, and cook. Many eye problems and diseases can be treated if caught early. Ophthalmologists will examine eyes for signs of vision problems or eye diseases. It's the best way to find out if glasses or contacts are needed in the early stages of a serious but treatable eye disease. Wearing protective eyewear when playing sports or doing activities around the home, smoking cessation, wearing UV radiationblocking sunglasses, Cleaning hands and contact lenses properly to avoid the risk of infection, etc., are the steps to protect vision.

INTRODUCTION: People with vision problems are more likely than those with good vision to have diabetes, poor hearing, heart problems, high blood pressure, lower back pain and stroke, as well as have increased risk for falls, injury and depression ¹. Zinc, Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vitamin-E (α tocopherol, β -tocopherol, δ -tocopherol and γ tocopherol), Selenium, Carotenoids, Vit-**B**1 (Thiamine), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit-B6 (pyridoxine), Vit-B9 (folate or folic acid)&Vit-B12 (cyanocobalamin), Omega-6-fatty acids like gamma Linolenic acid (GLA), Vit- A (converted beta carotene) and Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha-Linoleic acid). EPA (Eicosapentaenoic acid) & DHA (Docosahexaenoic acid), Polyphenols like Quercetin, Anthocyanins



and Resveratrol are the Phyto-constituents effective in alleviating eye disorders and play a major role in maintaining healthy eyes thereby helpful in the prevention & treatment of ophthalmic diseases²⁻³.

Vitamin-C (Ascorbic Acid): It is a water-soluble vitamin & an antioxidant present in aqueous humor fluid on the outermost parts of the eyes. Large doses of it are used to treat & prevent glaucoma and cataract (clouding of eye lens) and fight against Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD), a major cause of vision loss among older ⁴. Oxidative stress is the major contributing factor to the Pathogenesis of AMD. Recommended daily intake of Vit-C is 500mg. It reduces the cellular oxidative stress of the retina or macular region of the eye. Unlike animals, humans cannot synthesize Vit-C because of the liver's absence of the L-gluconolactone oxidase enzyme. Open-angle glaucoma can be reversed by supplementing with high doses of Vit-C. People with high levels of Vit-C have 70% lower risk of developing AMD. Vit-C supports the health of ocular blood vessels. Scientific evidence suggests Vit-C lowers the risk of developing cataracts. When taken in combination with other essential nutrients, it can slow down the progression of AMD and visual acuity loss ⁵.

Vitamin-E: It is a fat-soluble vitamin & an essential micronutrient available in four different forms α-tocopherol (found in retina), β-tocopherol, ²⁰. It is an δ -tocopherol and γ -tocopherol antioxidant that prevents cataract (clouding of eye lens) & fights against Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD)⁶. 21 Its deficiency in the body leads to retinal degeneration or damage, loss of photo-receptors & blindness. Recommended daily intake is 400 IU²². It reduces the cellular oxidative stress of the retina or macular region of the eye. Cataracts occur due to the accumulation of proteins damaged by free radicals ⁷. Long-term supplementation of vitamin E is associated with the age-related slower progression of lens opacification. The vitamin E group (i.e., chroman-6-ols), collectively termed tocochromanols (divided into tocopherols and tocotrienols)¹²⁻¹⁴. There are eight naturally occurring forms of vitamin E: alpha, beta, gamma, and delta classes of tocopherol and tocotrienol, synthesized plants in from homogentisic acid ¹⁶⁻¹⁸. Alpha- and gammatocopherols are the two major forms of this vitamin. Vit-E is found in various nuts, seeds, vegetable oils, green leafy vegetables, and fortified cereals. Vit-E absorption depends on vitamin C, vitamin B3, selenium, and glutathione. A diet high in vitamin E cannot have an optimal effect unless it is also rich in these other nutrients. 24 Vitamin E promotes the health of cell membranes and DNA repair & plays a significant role in the immune system functions. Thus, it slows the progression of AMD and visual acuity loss when combined with other essential nutrients⁹.

Zinc: Zinc is a co-factor of many metabolically active enzymes within the eye. It prevents cataract (clouding of eye lens) & fights against AMD. Retina, in the eyes & vascular or ocular tissue surrounding the retina, contains high levels of zinc in the form of many essential antioxidant enzymes like superoxide dismutase. Zinc forms visual pigments in the retina, so zinc deficiency leads to night blindness. Zinc is abundant in oysters, meat, pumpkin seeds, peanuts, green leafy vegetables, beef, chicken, pork, eggs & coconut water. Recommended daily intake is 80mg²⁵⁻²⁷.

Omega-3-fatty Acids like ALA (Alpha-Linolenic Acid), EPA (Eicosapentaenoic Acid) & DHA (Docosahexaenoic Acid): These are Poly-Unsaturated Fatty Acids (PUFA's) that are essential for humans but cannot be synthesized in the body even though obtained from the diet. DHA levels are highly found in the cell membranes of the retina of human eyes; hence, they are called Essential Fatty Acids (EFA's). These are important components of the cell membranes in the body ⁷⁹. They prevent cataracts (clouding of the eye lens), eye dryness called Dry Eye Syndrome (DES), & fight against AMD. They are anti-inflammatory in action (prevents inflammation of lacrimal gland and secretory epithelial cells), reduce the risk of diabetic retinopathy (DR), and prevent its occurrence. These are present in the gut and body tissues of oily fish like tuna, salmon, sardines, herring, anchovies, mackerel & trout. Consumption of DHA, EPA & ALA sources during pregnancy aids in the fetus's proper development of the retina. ALA is found in plant oils such as flaxseed, soybean, and canola. DHA and EPA are found in fish and other seafood ²⁴. The human body can convert some ALA into EPA and then to DHA, but only in tiny amounts. Therefore, getting EPA and DHA from foods & dietary supplements is the only way to increase the levels of omega-3 fatty acids in the body. Thus, Omega-3 fatty acids reduce inflammation, enhance tear production and support the eye's oily outer layer by increasing oil that flows from the meibomian glands& can play a vital role in preventing or easing the discomfort of dry eyes. Table 1 average daily recommended amounts for ALA are listed below in grams (g). The amount needed depends on age and sex Table 1

TABLE 1: DAILY INTAKE OF ALPHA LINOLEICACID DEPENDS ON AGE AND SEX

Life Stage	Recommended amount in gm
Birth to 12 months	0.5
Children 1–3 years	0.7
Children 4–8 years	0.9
Boys 9–13 years	1.2
Girls 9–13 years	1.0
Teen boys 14–18 years	1.6
Teen girls 14–18 years	1.1
Men	1.6
Women	1.1
Pregnant teens and	1.4
women	
Breastfeeding teens	1.3
and women	

Omega-3s are found naturally in some foods and are added to some fortified foods. One can get adequate amounts of omega-3s by eating a variety of foods, including the following:

- **A.** Fish and other seafood (especially cold-water fatty fish, such as salmon, mackerel, tuna, herring, and sardines).
- **B.** Nuts and seeds (walnuts, brazil nuts, cashew nuts, peanuts, lentils, chia seeds, flax seeds, hemp seeds, beans).
- **C.** Plant oils (such as flaxseed oil, soybean oil, olive oil and canola oil).
- **D.** Fortified foods (such as certain brands of eggs, yogurt, juices, milk, soy beverages, and infant formulas).

Omega-3 dietary supplements include fish oil, krill oil, cod liver oil, and algal oil (a vegetarian source that comes from algae) 20-24. They provide a wide range of doses and forms of omega-3s. A deficiency of omega-3s can cause AMD & Dry eye disease. AMD is a major cause of vision loss among older adults. People who get higher amounts of omega-3s from the foods they eat may have a lower risk of developing AMD. If someone has AMD, taking omega-3 supplements does not prevent the disease from worsening or slowing down vision loss. Dry eye disease occurs when tears don't provide enough moisture, causing eye discomfort and vision problems. Getting more omega-3s from foods or supplements, mainly EPA and DHA helps relieve symptoms of dry eye disease 30-35.

Vitamin- A is a group of antioxidants that play an important role in vision. There are two types of vitamin -A depending on the kind of food source it comes from.

- **A.** Retinol- Derived from animals. Present in beef, chicken liver, milk & cheese. It is utilized directly by the body.
- **B.** Provitamin A- ex: Beta carotene, Present in colorful fruits& vegetables.

Carotenoids are present in all the sources of Vit-A are converted either into retinol or provitamin A, in the body after food consumption. Carrots, sweet

potatoes, spinach, kale, cantaloupes have carotenoids which get converted into retinol. Vit-A prevents night blindness & dry eyes ⁵⁰⁻⁵⁵. Its deficiency may cause blindness. It is essential for maintaining the eves' light-sensing cells (photoreceptors). It is a component of a protein called rhodopsin, which helps the retina to absorb light. It is found in animal-derived food sources like liver, egg yolks, and dairy products. It is obtained from antioxidant plant compounds like provitamin-A carotenoids (beta-carotene) in carrots, and sweet potatoes. Consumption of fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin-A have a decreased risk for any stage of AMD ³¹⁻³⁸. Vit-A protects the eye's surface (cornea) and is essential for good vision. It treats superior limbic keratoconjunctivitis, an eye inflammation. The eye's light-sensitive retina (thin layer of tissue at the back of the eye) requires adequate vitamin A for proper function³⁹.

Omega-6-fatty Acid Like Gamma Linoleic Acid (**GLA**) and Arachidonic Acid (**AA**): These are abundantly found in prime rose oil and starflower oil, Sunflower oil, rape seed, corn, peanut, chicken, eggs, cereals, grains & bread and helps in reducing eye dryness. ALA and GLA relieve ocular discomfort and corneal epithelial defects due to DES 1,2,3 .

Combination of Vitamin B6, B9 & B12: Combining these three vitamins can lower levels of homocysteine, a protein in your body that may be associated with inflammation and an increased risk of AMD.

Vitamin-B2 (**Riboflavin**): It is a potential antioxidant& helps in reducing oxidative stress in the eyes. Recommended daily intake is 1.1-1.3 mg. It is present in oats, milk, yogurt, beef & fortified cereals. Its deficiency causes cataracts & corneal vascularization (dryness, burning, itching & lacrimation).

Vitamin-B3 (Niacin): It is an antioxidant that prevents glaucoma, a condition in which the optic nerve in the eye gets damaged. It is present in fish, beef, mushrooms, chicken, peanuts& legumes.

Vitamin B1 (Thiamine): It reduces the risk of cataracts. Administration of thiamine 100 mg three times a day reduces albumin excretion in urine, which indicates Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) in type

2 Diabetes; thus, it treats DR in its early stages. It is mostly present in bread, cereals & pasta.

Polyphenols: There are various types of polyphenols & among them, flavonoids are especially helpful in alleviating eye-related problems. Flavonoids are found mostly in apples, onions, dark chocolate, and red cabbage. There are various types of flavonoids & among them, quercetin, belonging to the flavonols group and other group called anthocyanins, play a major role in maintaining healthy eyesight.

Quercetin: It is aunique flavonol, belonging to flavonoid group, abundantly found in Yellow onion, Curlykale, Leek, Cherrytomato, Broccoli, Apple, Green and black tea, Black grapes, and Blueberry. It protects against cataracts & diabetesinduced retinal lesions. It acts as an antioxidant; thus, it protects the body against ROS produced during normal oxygen metabolism.

Free radicals (ROS) interfere with cellular functions & cause lipid peroxidation, causing cell death. To protect this cellular death from ROS, living organisms have developed antioxidant line of defense systems like enzymatic and nonenzymatic antioxidants, that check ROS levels and repair oxidative cellular damage regularly. The major enzymes, constituting the first line of defense, directly involved in the neutralization of ROS are: superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT) and glutathione peroxidase (GPx). The second line of defense is by radical scavenging antioxidants such as vitamin C, vitamin A and plant phytochemicals like quercetin. They inhibit the oxidation chain initiation & prevent chain propagation, termination of a chain by the reaction of two radicals. The repair and de novo enzymes act as the third line of defense by repairing damage and reconstituting membranes. These include lipases, proteases, DNA repair enzymes and transferases ^{49,40,41}.

Anthocyanins: These are naturally occurring coloring pigments, antioxidants, phytochemical flavonoid compounds, group red purple pigments of phenolic groups found in plants with red, blue, and purple colored flowers, fruits, and vegetables ⁵, ⁷. Ex: Cyanidin, Delphinidin.

Berries such as blueberry, bilberry (Vaccinium myrtillus), blackcurrant, Grape skin, Maqui berry,

dried cornelian cherry, strawberry, and wolfberry (goji berry), are rich in anthocyanins⁸. These are found in wines, tea, nuts, fruits, cocoa, cereals, honey, olive oil, vegetables, blackcurrant, red cabbage, red radish, and black carrot. Cyanidin and Delphinidin are anthocyanin aglycones present in bilberry⁹. These promote the synthesis and regeneration of rhodopsin to protect the retina from exposure to UV, visible light, and irradiation^{10, 11}. As well as to improve vision and increase blood supply to the retina^{12, 13}.

They play a major role in the inhibition of enzymes, protection against DNA cleavage, antiinflammatory activity, estrogen activity (modulation of the development of symptoms of hormone-dependent disease), and stimulation of cytokine production thereby regulating immune responses, peroxidation, a decrease of capillary permeability and fragility and membrane hardening ^{60, 61, 62} and ⁶³.

They inhibit lens opacity, cataractogenesis, and ROS. They protect retinal cells from diabetesinduced oxidative stress & inflammation, and protect retinal neurons from functional damages ^{47, 58, 56, 77, 76}

Other Polyphenols Like Resveratrol: It is a polyphenolic phytoalexin with various bioactivities associated with health promotion. It is readily absorbed by other human dietary sources like peanuts, peanut butter, grapes and red wine. It has antioxidant activity and thus inhibits apoptosis and lipoprotein low-density (LDL) oxidation. Resveratrol is a stilbenoid, a fat-soluble compound & a derivative of stilbene, which is produced in plants with the help of stilbene synthatase enzyme. It reduces cell damage from free radicals, which are generated when cells burn nutrients in the mitochondria. It suppresses oxidative stress, inhibits cataract formation, and prevents diabetic retinopathy ^{67, 71, 72} and ⁷³.

Carotenoids: Lutein, meso-zeaxanthin, and zeaxanthin are dietary carotenoid xanthophylls found throughout the visual system except for the cornea, vitreous, and sclera. It is mostly found in the retina, the most metabolically active body tissue. The macula is a specialized part in the posterior pole of the retina since it mediates central

vision, provides the sharpest visual acuity, and facilitates the best color discrimination. As the major functional component in the macular region, macular pigment (MP) was uniquely concentrated in the inner and central layers and mainly composed of xanthophyll carotenoids, including lutein, zeaxanthin and meso-zeaxanthin, which play pivotal role in maintaining the normal morphology and function of the macula.

- A. Lutein: It is a carotenoid xanthophyll. It prevents cataract development (clouding of the eye lens) & fights against the progression of Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD). Thus, it protects the eyes from photooxidative damage. It is a yellow carotenoid antioxidant, known as a macular pigment because it is present in macula (the central part of the retina made of light-sensitive cells on the back wall of eveball). the The human body cannot synthesize lutein, so it must be obtained from the diet. It is mostly present in eggs and green leafy vegetables like spinach, kale, broccoli, collards. Recommended daily intake is 10mg.
- **B.** Meso-zeaxanthin: It is а carotenoid xanthophyll with antioxidant & antiinflammatory properties. It filters blue light & macular pigments and thus helps in reducing the incidence of eye diseases. The human body can synthesize meso-zeaxanthin, which is also obtained from diet such as eggs, green leafy vegetables like spinach, kale, broccoli & collards.
- **C. Zeaxanthin:** It is a carotenoid xanthophyll. It prevents cataracts (clouding of eye lens), Inhibits diabetic retinopathy, and fights against the progression of Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD). It is a yellow carotenoid antioxidant, known as a macular pigment because it is present in macula (the central part of retina made of light-sensitive cells on the back wall of eyeball). The human body cannot synthesize zeaxanthin, so it must be obtained from the diet. It is in eggs, green leafy vegetables like spinach, kale, broccoli, and collards. Recommended daily intake is 2mg¹⁴.

High intake of xanthophyll-containing foods elevates levels of plasma lutein and zeaxanthin ¹⁵,

¹⁶. Lifestyle and dietary factors (physically inactive, poor diet, and smoking) affect the degeneration of macular pigment & increase the risk of AMD. Inflammation of macular pigment among heavy smokers was higher than among light or nonsmokers ^{17, 70, 71, 72, 73}. Lutein and zeaxanthin reduce the risk of chronic eye diseases, including cataracts and age-related macular degeneration (AMD). These plant-based pigments also appear to lower the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, a leading cause of blindness. They are also protective antioxidants like internal sunglasses, absorbing damaging blue light that Indians are exposed to daily. In the initiation and progression of AMD, cataract, diabetic nephropathy & glaucoma, aspects that play a major role are inflammation & oxidative stress. Phytochemicals like carotenoids and polyphenols have antioxidant activity and thus helps in alleviating these ophthalmic diseases ^{30, 71,} 72, 73

The actual mechanism involved in the alleviating eye diseases by carotenoids and polyphenols is,

- **1.** Mitigating the production of reactive oxygen species (ROS).
- 2. Inhibiting Tumor Necrosis factor (TNF- α) and Vascular endothelial growth factor pathway.
- 3. Suppressing p53-dependent apoptosis.
- Suppressing the production of inflammatory markers like interleukins (IL's) Ex: IL- 8, IL-6, IL-1a, and endothelial leucocyte adhesion molecule ^{70, 71, 72, 73}.

Polyphenols possess antioxidant, antiinflammatory, antiallergic, antimicrobial. and antiviral effects. They help in scavenging free radicals, ameliorating inflammation, improving ocular blood flow, signal transduction, reduction of apoptosis in the RPE, opacification of the suppressive lens, and inhibition of the blood-retinal barrier. The retina is highly susceptible to oxidative stress due to its rich content of poly-unsaturated fatty acids & oxygen and its heavy exposure to light.

In addition, oxidative stress can be involved in producing severe inflammation by increasing the proinflammatory cytokines in the retinal tissue. These cytokines degrade the RBB and produce vascular cell death & apoptosis through tumor necrosis factor- α , chemotactic proteins, intercellular adhesion molecule 1 and IL-1 β .

Selenium: It is an essential trace element, a strong antioxidant, found in several enzymes of the human body. Selenium is a micronutrient that is essential for the proper functioning of all organisms. It protects the eyes by reducing AMD risk and prevents the development of cataracts, AMD & retinitis pigmentosa. It reduces cellular oxidative stress of the retina or macular region of the eye^{28, 29}. Selenium is existed as selenocysteine residues in two Selenoproteins like Cytosolic or classical Glutathione Peroxidase enzyme cGPx-1) & Plasma GPx-3.

This element is a co-factor of many enzymes, for example, glutathione peroxidase or thioredoxin reductase. Insufficient supplementation of this element increases the risk of developing many chronic degenerative diseases. Selenium is important for protecting against oxidative stress, demonstrating the highest activity as a free radical scavenger and anti-cancer agent.

It is present in organic forms in food, as exemplified by seleno methionine and seleno cysteine. Extreme selenium deficiencies are widespread among people all over the world. Therefore, it is essential to supplement the deficiency of this micronutrient with seleniumenriched food or yeast cell biomass in the diet. WHO recommends a daily dose of selenium at 55 μ g for adults. The combined interaction of selenium and tocopherol gives the best results in protecting organs against the destructive effects of free radicals. The combination of these compounds effectively protects mitochondria, cytochrome, and microsomal membranes from the oxidation of fatty acids.

Protein-rich foods contained higher levels of selenium, whereas low levels were found in plants containing low protein. The main sources of selenium in the diet are foods like brazil nuts, cereals, chocolate, broccoli, beef kidney, bread, meat and dairy products, marine fishes, pork, seafood, and milk. A rich source of selenium is found in sea salt, eggs (only in case of Se-yeast supplementation of feed), giblets, yeast (yeasts containing selenium), bread, mushrooms, garlic, asparagus, kohlrabi (enriched with this element). A relatively low selenium content characterizes fruits and vegetables. The bioavailability of selenium is increased in the presence of Vit-A, C & E.

The severity and irreversibility of cataracts and AMD have generated interest in preventing or delaying their progression. Nutrition plays an important role in reducing the risk of developing age-related eye disease. Adding certain nutrients to one's diet daily through foods or supplements can help preserve vision.

Table 2: Several researches have shown eating more fruits and vegetables can help protect against eye disease and can also help overall health. One should eat foods rich in certain vitamins and minerals to keep the eyes healthy. These vitamins and minerals are called antioxidants. Antioxidants help keep our cells and tissues healthy. The following foods may help stop the occurrence or slow the progression of certain eye diseases **Table 2**.

 TABLE 2: FOODS MAY HELP STOP THE OCCURRENCE OR SLOW THE PROGRESSION OF CERTAIN EYE

 DISEASES

Foods rich in antioxidants for eye health	Antioxidants related to eye health
Eggs, kale, spinach, turnip greens, collard greens, romaine lettuce, broccoli,	Lutein & Zeaxanthin.
zucchini, corn, garden peas, and Brussels sprouts.	
Red berries, kiwi, red and green bell peppers, tomatoes, broccoli, spinach, and	Vitamin C (ascorbic acid)
juices made from guava, grapefruit, and oranges.	
Vegetable oils, nuts, green leafy vegetables, sweet potatoes, avocados, wheat	Vitamin E
germ, and whole grains.	
Carrots, sweet potatoes, squash, eggs, and green leafy vegetables.	Vitamin A/Beta Carotene
Salmon, sardines, flax seeds, soybeans, and walnuts.	Essential Fatty Acids
Red meat, poultry, oysters and other seafood, nuts, dried beans, soy foods, milk	Zinc
and other dairy products, whole grains, and fortified breakfast cereals.	

Fruits	content in mg/100g			
	Vit-C	Vit-A (IU)	Vit-E	
Apple	4.6	54	0.1	
Avocados	10	146	2.1	
Bananas	8.7	64	0.1	
Red cherries	10	1283	0.07	
Red chili peppers	143.7	952	0.37	
Grapes	4	100	0.19	
Kiwi	92.7	87	1.5	
Lemon	53	22	0.1	
Peach	6.6	326	2000	
Pineapple	78.8	58	0.03	
pomegranate	10.2	0	0.6	
strawberries	58.8	12	0.25	
watermelon	8.1	569	0.08	
Jack fruit	13.7	110	0.34	
sapota	14.7	60	0	
Custard apple	19.2	33	0	
mango	36.4	180	0.9	
papaya	60.9	950	0.30	
orange	48.5	230	0	
guava	228	624	0.73	
Musk melon	36.7	3382	0.05	

TABLE 3: NUTRITIONAL CONTENT OF COMMONLY AVAILABLE FRUITS IN INDIA THAT AID IN MAINTAINING HEALTHY EYE SIGHT IS AS FOLLOWS

TABLE 4: NUTRITIONAL CONTENT OF THE COMMONLY AVAILABLE VEGETABLES IN INDIA THAT AIDIN MAINTAINING HEALTHY EYE SIGHT IS AS FOLLOWS

Vegetables	content in mg/100g					
	Vit-C	Vit-A (IU)	Vit-E			
Sunflower seeds	1.4	50	26.1			
Spinach	28.1	0.5	2.1			
Broccoli	89.2	623	1.5			
Beetroot	4.9	33	1.8			
Cabbage	36.6	98	0			
Cauliflower	48.2	0	0.08			
Ginger	5	0	0.26			
Beans	16.3	690	0			
Onions	7.4	2	0.02			
Radish	14.8	7	0			
Sweet potatoes	2.4	14187	0.26			
Bitter gourd	84	471	0			
Bottle gourd	10.1	16	0			
Brinjal/ egg plant	2.2	27	0.30			
Tomato	13	833	0.54			
Lady's finger/ okra	21.1	375	0.36			
Drum sticks	141	74	0			
Carrot	5.9	16706	0			
Malanga	5.2	8	0			
Parsley	21	1320	0			
Ash gourd	13	0	0			
Chilli	143.7	952	0.69			
Capsicum	127.7	3131	1.58			

These fruits and vegetables contribute to preserving vision and even reversing visual impairment. Due to the side effects of allopathic drugs, now a day's huge numbers of herbal drugs are used to treat eye diseases. This review mentions Phyto-constituents, which are effective in alleviating eye disorders, and potential medicinal plants used in the prevention & treatment of eye dysfunctions. Thus, this review provides a platform for the researcher to develop more efficient new herbal formulations. **Table 5** _

More than 100 Potential medicinal plants and their Phyto-constituents that can be used as products that aid in the prevention & treatment of eye dysfunctions are listed in the following table.

TABLE 5: MORE THAN 100 POTENTIAL MEDICINAL PLANTS AND THEIR PHYTO-CONSTITUENTS THAT CAN BE USED AS PRODUCTS THAT AID IN PREVENTION& TREATMENT OF EYE DYSFUNCTIONS ARE LISTED IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE

Sl. no.	Plant Name	Common Name	Family	Useful Parts	Phyto-Constituents
1.	Cynodondactylon	Durva grass, Bermuda grass, Bahama grass, Devil's grass, Couch grass, Dog's Tooth grass, Indian Doab, Scutch grass	Poaceae.	Leaves	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Omega-3-fatty acids like DHA (Docosahexaenoic acid), ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 44
2.	Glycyrrhiza glabra	Liquorice	Fabaceae	Whole plant	Xanthophylls (Lutein and zeaxanthin) 39,40
3.	Asparagus racemosus	Satawari, satavari.	Asparagaceae	Whole plant	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols, Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), B1 (Thiamine) 63
4.	Triticumaestivum	Wheat grass	Poaceae	Leaves	Vit- A (converted beta carotene), Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid)& B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vitamin-E (tocopherol) 43
5.	Carica papaya.	рарауа	Caricaceae	Fruits, seeds	Vit- A (converted beta carotene), carotenoid xanthophylls like Lutein, meso-zeaxanthin and zeaxanthin , Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid)31-33 75-78
6.	Azadiractaindica	Neem	Meliaceae	Leaves, seeds, bark	Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 31
7.	Ixorapavetta	Jungle flame, flame of woods, jungle geranium	Rubiaceae	flowers	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
8.	Boerhaviadiffusa	Punarnava	nyctaginaceae	Leaves, roots	Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 63
9.	Vitisvinifera	grapes	Vitaceae	Fruits	Resveratrol
10.	Cichoriumintybus	chicory	asteraceae	Leaves	Selenium
11.	Phyllanthusamarus	stone breaker	Phyllanthaceae	Whole plant	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 55,56
12.	Adansoniadigitate	Baobab tree	Malvaceae	Leaves, bark	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
13.	Taraxacumofficinale	dendelion	Asteraceae	leaves	Selenium
14.	Buteafrondosa	Flame of the forest, Gogipuvvu	Fabaceae	Roots, Bark& Gum	Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 30
15.	Allophylusserratus	thippani	Sapindaceae	Leaves	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols

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16.	Banincasanispiaa	winter melon, Ash	Cucurbitaceae	Fruits	Vit-BI (Iniamine), Vit-B3
		gourd, white guard			(Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin),
					Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9
					(folate or folic acid) & B12
					(cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C
					(Ascorbic acid), Vit- A
					(converted beta carotene) 50
17.	Mimusopselengi	Spanish cherry.	Sapotaceae	Leaves.	Flavonol named quercetin.
1.1.	internet of seconds.	bullet wood	Superior	Flower bark	belonging to flavonoid group of
		buildt wood		soods	polyphanols
10	Detrogalinumarianum	noralay	Aniagona	Laguas	Solonium
10.	n etrosettnumertspum		Malaishiaaaaa	Leaves	Element armed amongstin
19.	byrsonimacrassa	Locustoernes	Maipiginaceae	Leaves	Flavonoi named querceun,
					belonging to flavonoid group of
• •					polyphenols
20.	Acorus calamus	Vasa	Acoraceae	rhizome	Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA
					(alpha- Linoleic acid) 51,52
21.	Valerianellalocusta	Lamb's lettuce	Caprifoliaceae	Leaves	selenium
22.	Acacia Arabica	Babul, gum Arabic	Leguminaceae	Leaves,	Flavonol named quercetin,
		tree,	-	Gums	belonging to flavonoid group of
					polyphenols
23.	Ipomoea batatas	Sweet potato	Convolvulacea	Tubers	Vit- A (converted beta carotene)
	1p 01110 cu 0 ununus	Sheer polato	contortunatea	1 40 015	38
24	Phasoolus vulgaris	Bean	Fabacasa	Seeds	selenium
24.	A labornagaastan agafalia	inomm	Furborbiogooo	looves and	Elevenel nemed querestin
23.	Alchomedcusianedejolia	iporuru	Euphorbiaceae	hearly	halonging to flower oid aroun of
				Dark	belonging to havonoid group of
		-	*	T 0	polyphenols
26.	Napoleonavogelii	Ivory coast,	Lecythidaeceae	Leaf	Omega-3-fatty acids like DHA
		Sierra leone			(Docosahexaenoic acid).
27.	Panas ginseng	Hurmar	Araliacae	Root, leaf	Resveratrol, Vit- B1 (Thiamine),
				and stem	Vit- B2 (Riboflavin) 34,35
28.	Kochiascoparia	Kochea	Chenopodiaceae	Fruit, leaves	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit- B2
	*		1		(Riboflavin), Vit- A (converted
					beta carotene). Vitamin-C
					(Ascorbic acid)
29	Morus alba	White mulberry	Moraceae	Whole plant	Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid)
27.	morus alba	white maloeny	Moraceae	whole plane	Flavonol named quercetin
					halonging to flavonoid group of
20		D	M	1 (11	polyphenois, resveration
30.	Musa sapientum	Banana	Musaceae	peels, stalks,	Vit- A (converted beta carotene),
				fruits, roots	Vit-BI (Thiamine), Vit-B3
				and leaves	(Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin),
					Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9
					(folate or folic acid) & B12
					(cyanocobalamin) 36,37
31.	Kielmeyeracoriacea	Pau-santo	Guttiferae	Stem	Xanthophylls (Lutein and
	,				zeaxanthin) 38
32.	Basellarubra	rubrella spinach.	Apocynaecae	Leaves	Flavonol named quercetin.
		Malabar spinach	<u>r</u> <i>j</i>		belonging to flavonoid group of
		manuoar spinaon			nolyphenols
33	Utleriasalicifolia	shodgandha	Asclaniadacaaa	LANVAS	Vit B1 (Thiamina) Vit B3
55.	Oneriasancijona	shouganuna	Asciepiauaceae	Leaves	(Niasia) Vit D2 (Dihaflasia)
					(Niacin), Vii- D2 (Ribonavin),
					vit- B6 (pyridoxine), vit- B9
					(tolate or folic acid) & B12
					(cyanocobalamin) 38
34.	Momordicacymbalaria	Kasarakaye,	Cucurbitaceae	Fruit	Vit- A (converted beta carotene)
		Karchikai			
35.	Lagenariasiceraria	Bottle guard, sora	Cucurbitaceae	Whole plant	Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA
		kaya			(alpha- Linoleic acid)
36.	Musa paradisiaca	banana	Musaceae	Root, leaves,	Flavonol named quercetin,
	-			trunk	belonging to flavonoid group of

					polyphenols
37.	Ocimum sanctum	Holy basil, Krishna Tulsi, Rama Tulsi	Lamiaceae	Whole plant	Anthocyanins (cyanidin, delphinidin 41,42
38.	Allophylusserratus	Tippani	Sapindaceae	leaves	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
39.	Colocasiagigantea	yendem	Araceae	Leaves	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Anthocyanins (cyanidin, delphinidin) 75
40.	Brassica rapa	Bird rape, field mustard	brassicaceae	Leaves, roots & seeds	Vit- A (converted beta carotene), Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 60,70
41.	Bauhinia racemosa	Beedi leaf, beedi tree, katmauli	Caesalpiniaceae	Flower buds, fruit, root	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols, resveratrol.
42.	Cocos nucifera	Coconut	Arecaceae	Kernel fruit	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid), Vit- B1 (Thiamine) 72
43.	Ipomoea batatas	Sweet potato	Convolvulacea	tubers	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
44.	Desmostachyabipinnata	Saved gram	Gramineae	Aerial parts	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
45.	Erucasativa	Garden rocket	Cruciferae	Seed, leaves	Omega-3-fatty acids like DHA (Docosahexaenoic acid) 45
46.	Mangiferaindica L.	Mango	Anacardiaceae.	Fruits and leaves	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
47. 48.	Emblicaofficinalis Bambusaarundinaceae	Amla Bamboo	Euphorbiaceae Poaceae	Fruit Whole plant	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 46 Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin) 47
49.	Hibiscus rosasinensis	China rose, shoe back plant	Malvaceae	roots	Anthocyanins (cyanidin, delphinidin) 48
50.	Lagenariasiceraria	Long melon	Cucurbitaceae	Fruit	Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid)
51.	Garciniacambogia	Brindle berry, Malabar tamarind, pot tamarind	Clusiaceae	Fruits	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 49
52.	Hibiscus rosasinensis	China rose, shoe back plant	Malvaceae	Roots	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
53.	Maclurapomifera	Osage orange	Moraceae	Fruit	Vit- A (converted beta carotene), Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 51
54.	Plantagoerosa	Common plantain, asvagola	Plantaginaceae	Whole plant	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit-B2 (Riboflavin), Vit-B6

					(pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Omega-3- fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 52 53
55.	Ecboliumligustrinum	Green ice crossandra	Acanthaceae	Roots	Anthocyanins (cyanidin, delphinidin) 54
56.	Abutilon indicum	Duvvenabenda	Malvaceae	Leaves	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of
57.	Trianthemadecandra	Giant pig weed	Ficoidaceae	Roots	Anthocyanins (cyanidin, delphinidin) 54
58.	Napoleonavogelii	Ivory coast, Sierra leone	Lecythidaeceae	Leaves	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit-B2 (Riboflavin), Vit-B6 (pyridoxine), Vit-B9 (folate or folic acid) &Vit-B12 (cvanecohalamin) 54
59.	Amaranthushybridus	Amaranth	Amaranthaceae	Leaves, seeds	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 55,56
60.	Harunganamadagascari ensis	Dragons blood tree, orange milk tree	Hypericaceae	Bark	Vit- B1 (Thiamine)57
61.	Psidiumguajava	Guava	Myrtaceae	Fruits, leaves	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
62.	Magnifferaindica	Mango	Anacardiaceae	Bark, fruits, leaves	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Anthocyanins (cyanidin, delphinidin), Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 58
63.	Allium hookerii	Garlic chives	Amaryllidaceae	leaves	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- B12 (cyanocobalamin), Omega- 3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 59 60
64.	Basella alba	Amunututu	Basellaceae	Bark, stem	Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 58
65.	Aervapersica Merrill	Kapok bush, Desert cotton	Amaranthaceae	Root	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
66.	Lafoensiapacari	Beni	Lytraceae	Stem bark	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
67.	Triticumaestivum	Wheat grass	Poaceae	leaves	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- A (converted beta carotene), Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit-B2 (Riboflavin), Vit-B6 (pyridoxine), Vit-B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin) 61
68. 69	Vitellaria paradoxum Altstoniaboonei	Shea tree Cheese wood	Sapotaceae apocynaceae	Roots Bark	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 62,63 Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 62 63
70.	Ricinuscommunis	Castor oil plant, wonder tree	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves and stem	Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha-Linoleic acid) 53
71.	Zea mays	Corm	Poaceae	Seeds	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit-B2 (Riboflavin), Vit-B6 (pyridoxine), Vit-B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cvancechalamin) 64
72.	Plantagoerosa	Yempat	Plantaginaceae	Whole plant	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 52,53

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73.	Justiciaspicigera	fire cracker bush	Acanthaceae	Leaves	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit-B2 (Riboflavin), Vit-B6 (pyridoxine), Vit-B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cvanocobalamin) 65.66
74. 75.	Pterocarpuserinaceus Pithecellobiumdulce	Barwood Kikar	Fabaceae Fabaceae	Bark Fruit	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 61 Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of
76.	Ecballium elaterium	Squirting cucumber	cucurbitaceae	Fruit	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha-Linoleic acid)
77.	Justiciaseconda	Water willow, shrimp plant	acanthaceae	Leaves and stems	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 51
78.	Prunus spinosa	Black thorn	Rosaceae	Fruits	Anthocyanins (cyanidin, delphinidin) 64
79.	Rosa canina	Dog rose	Rosaceae	Fruits	Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 64
80.	Telfairiaoccidentalis	Fluted pumpkin	Cucurbitaceae	Leaves	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) 65
81.	Cynodondactylon	Bermuda grass, Indian couch	Poaceae,	Whole plant	Omega-6-fatty acid like gamma Linolenic acid (GLA) 66,67,68
82.	Medicago saliva	Alfalfa	fabaceae	Whole plant, Seeds	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 66,67,68
83.	Chenopodium album	Fat hen, white ghoose foot	Chenopodiaceae	leaves, aerial part	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cvanocobalamin) 63
84.	Alternantherasessilis	Ponagantiaaku]	Amaranthaceae	Leaves	Vit- A (converted beta carotene) 69
85.	Moringaloeifera	Drum-stick tree, Horse-radish tree, Ben oil tree	Moringaceae	Fruits, leaves	Flavonol named quercetin, belonging to flavonoid group of polyphenols
86.	Polygonumbarbatum	Knotweed	Polygonaceae	Leaves	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 69
87.	Daucuscarota	Carrot	Apiaceae	Tuber of root	Anthocyanins (cyanidin, delphinidin)
88.	Citrus sinensis	Orange	Rutaceae	Fruit	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid)
89.	Helianthus annus	sunflower	Asteraceae	Seeds	Omega-6-fatty acid like gamma Linolenic acid (GLA) 52
90. 91. 92.	Malvanicaeensis Pandanusodoratissimus Prunusdulcis	French mallow Screw pine almond nuts	Malvaceae Pandanaceae Rosaceae	Leaf Leaves Seeds	Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 52 Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 52 Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 67,68

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93.	Triticumaestivum	Wheat grass	Poaceae	Leaves	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- A
94.	Brillanthisianitens	Giant salvia	acanthaceae	Leaves	(converted beta carotene) 58 Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C
95.	Detariummicrocarpum	Sweet detar	Caesalpiniaceae	Leaves	(Ascorbic acid) 58 Omega-6-fatty acid like gamma Linolenic acid (GLA) 67
96.	Spinaciaoleracea	Spinach, bacchalaaaku	chenopodiaceae	Leaves	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Vit- A (converted beta carotene) 66
97.	Jatrophatanjorensis	atholic vegetable	Euphorbiaceae	leaves	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin)
98.	Juglans regia	Walnut	Juglandaceae	leaf, Fruit shell	Resveratrol, Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C
99.	Oenanthejavanica	Indian pennywort, water celery	Apiaceae	Leaves	(Ascorbic acid) /1 Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C
100.	Cichoriumintybus	Common chicory	Asteraceae	leaves, roots	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 72
101.	Nasturtium officinale	Watercress	Brassicaceae	Leaves & stem	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cvanocobalamin) 66.67.68
102.	Portulacaoleraceae	Lunia, parsley, gangavayili	Portulacaceae	Aerial parts	Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vit- B2 (Riboflavin), Vit- B6 (pyridoxine), Vit- B9 (folate or folic acid) & B12 (cyanocobalamin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid), Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid) 73
103.	Sennaspectabilis	Golden wonder tree, popcorn tree	Fabaceae	leaves, flowers	Omega-3-fatty acids like ALA (alpha- Linoleic acid), Vit- B1 (Thiamine), Vit-B3 (Niacin), Vitamin-C (Ascorbic acid) 51

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CONCLUSION: The eye is one of the most sensitive organs of the human body and is continuously exposed to different environmental agents, so it is very important to take care of the eyes. Poor vision makes it harder to read, drive, and cook. Many eye problems and diseases can be treated if caught early. Ophthalmologists will examine eves for signs of vision problems or eve diseases. It's the best way to find out if glasses or contacts are needed in the early stages of a serious but treatable eye disease. Taking care of the eyes also may benefit overall health. People with vision problems are more likely than those with good vision to have diabetes, poor hearing, heart problems, high blood pressure, lower back pain, and stroke, and have an increased risk for falls, injury, and depression. Older adults tend to have more vision problems. Eating plenty of right dark leafy greens such as spinach, kale, or collard greens and fish that is high in omega-3 fatty acids, maintaining a healthy weight, Wearing protective evewear when playing sports or doing activities around the home, smoking cessation, wearing UV radiation blocking sun glasses, Cleaning hands and contact lenses properly to avoid the risk of infection etc., are the steps to protect vision.

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