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Therapeutic Uses of Medicinal Plants and their Phytoactives for the Treatment for Vitiligo

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Abstract

Skin is the largest and diverse organ of human body. It is exposed to the external environment all the time and protects human body from adverse external factors. There are several skin disorders and diseases which are to be focused on by the scientists as they directly affect their psychology by changing the physical appearances of an individual affecting their social acceptability. Vitiligo is a type of skin disorder that can affect the color of the skin in a patch. It is an autoimmune disease that results due to the malfunction of melanocytes within the skin and is characterized by whitish or pale patches. There are various herbal medicines that can be utilized for the treatment of vitiligo. There are several herbs which are commonly used to treat vitiligo such as *Angelica sinensis*, *Ginkgo biloba*, *Psoralea corylifolia L.*, and *Amni visnaga*. Some plant-derived compounds such as capsaicin, and curcumin are also used for the treatment of vitiligo since many years as they have anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties to cure skin diseases. By the use of these plants and their products, different skin diseases can be treated as they are natural, economic and proved to be safer than the artificial compounds. The present study describes various plants and their derivatives and their mechanism of action, which are used to treat vitiligo. This review analyzed the protective effects and utilization of herbal medicines against vitiligo.

Keywords: Vitiligo; Melanocyte; Herbal medicine; Bioactive compounds

Biography

Ritu Singh has completed her Bachelors in Microbiology honours at the age of 21 from CCS University and is now pursuing Masters in Microbiology from Jaypee Institute of Information Technology.



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