



A Review on Different Polyherbal Formulation Combinations Used in the Treatment of Diabetes

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ABSTRACT

Herbal medicine is the use of herbs and medicinal plants as the first medicine is a universal phenomenon. They can provide a better quality of life. Herbs are just as effective as drugs but without the side effects. Natural herbs and medicines are nature best gift to mankind and there is a lot still to be learned about them. Poly herbal combinations are effective as single herbs. In Indian medicine Ayurveda, most of the classical preparations are poly herbals with a combination of three to thirty plants. These combinations are made for the accuracy and are combined in such a way that the formula is a balanced one. On or two plants in these combinations will be active and the others will be having a supporting role. The present study has been carried out to review the antidiabetic potential of some medicinal plants and the anti-diabetic activity of their polyherbal formulation in diabetic rats.

Keywords: Diabetes mellitus, Antidiabetic, Poly herbal formulations, Polyherbalism.

INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus whether it is insulin-dependent or non-insulin dependent, is a common and serious metabolic disorder throughout the world. Traditional plant treatments have been used all over the world for the treatment of diabetes mellitus. Among many medications and polyherbal plants, numerous herbs have been known to cure and control diabetes; additionally, they don't have any side effects. Diabetes mellitus is a dreadful disease found in all parts of the world and is becoming a serious threat to mankind health.¹

Formulations containing more than 2 herbs are called polyherbal formulation. Drug formulation in Ayurveda is based on 2 principles: Use as a single drug and use of more than one drug. The idea of polyherbalism is tricky to explain in term of modern parameters. The Ayurvedic literature Sarangdhar Samhita highlighted the idea of polyherbalism to attain greater therapeutic efficacy.²

Plants are a potential source of anti-diabetic drugs which can be proved by the ethnobotanical information reports about 800 plants that may possess anti-diabetic potential. Though, synthetic oral hypoglycemic agents/insulin is the typical treatment of diabetes and effective in controlling hyperglycaemia, they have more side effects and fail to significantly modify the course of diabetic complications. This forms the reason for a growing number of people finding alternating therapies that may have less severe or no side effects.¹

In the rising countries great task is to tackle increased cost of medicine and their side effects. The scientific advancement carries with it the improvement in polyherbal formulations, through the study of various phytoconstituents and discovery of useful herbs combinations which work synergistically to produce desirable effect. Although polyherbal formulation is commonly used in many parts of the world, but scientifically it has not been explored.² The review is the attempt to compile data on polyherbal formulation studies against diabetes.

Evaluation of Polyherbal formulation

Diabetes can be induced by different pharmacological, surgical or genetic influences in a number of animal species. Most of the experiments are carried out on rodents, although some studies are still performed in larger animals like rabbits and dogs.³ The majority of studies published engaged with Streptozotocin induced and alloxan induced models which are the most frequently used model for the study of multiple aspects of the diabetes. Both drugs administered parenterally viz. intravenously, intraperitoneally or subcutaneously to exert their diabetogenic action. The dose of these agents required for inducing diabetes depends on the animal species, route of administration and nutritional status.^{4,5}



Table 1: Composition of Antidiabetic Polyherbal formulation

Composition of polyherbal formulation	Solvent for Extract	Method of extraction	Experimental model	Ref
<i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Momordica charantia</i> , <i>Ocimum sanctum</i>	Hydroalcoholic extract	Soxhlet	Alloxan induced diabetes model	6
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> and <i>Annona squamosa</i>	Aqueous	Decoction	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	7
<i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> , <i>Momordica charantia</i> , <i>Andrographis paniculata</i> , <i>Myristica fragrans</i>	Hydroalcoholic extracts	Triple maceration	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	8
<i>Ricinus Communis</i> , <i>Tribulus terrestris</i> and <i>Piper nigrum</i>	Ethanol	Cold maceration	Alloxan induced diabetes model	9
<i>Annona squamosa</i> , <i>Psidium guajava</i> , <i>Tenospora cardifolia</i> , <i>Bougain villia</i> , <i>Aegle marmelos</i> , <i>Terminalia chebula</i> , <i>Ficus carica</i> , <i>Emblica officinale</i> , <i>Hybiscus rosasinensis</i> , <i>Cassia auriculata</i> and <i>Zingiber officinale</i>	Aqueous	Decoction	Alloxan induced diabetes model	10
<i>Schrebera swietenoides</i> , <i>Barleria montana</i> and <i>Rotula aquatica</i>	Methanol extract	Soxhlet	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	11
<i>Glycosmis pentaphylla</i> , <i>Tridax procumbens</i> , and <i>Mangifera indica</i>	Ethanol	Soxhlet	Streptozotocin Nicotinamide induced diabetes model	12
<i>Spilanthe safricana</i> , <i>Portulaca oleracea</i> Linn., and <i>Sida rhombifolia</i>	Aqueous	Maceration	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	13
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> , <i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> and <i>Azadirachta indica</i> .	Alcoholic	Maceration	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	14
<i>Emblica officinalis</i> , <i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> , <i>Terminalia arjuna</i> , <i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> and <i>Zingiber officinale</i> .	Supercritical carbon dioxide	Supercritical fluid extraction method (SFE)	Streptozotocin Nicotinamide induced diabetes model	15
<i>Vernonia amygdalina</i> , <i>Ocimum gratissimum</i> , <i>Allium sativum</i> and <i>Zingiber officinale</i>	Aqueous	Continuous cold extraction	Alloxan induced diabetes model	16
<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i> , <i>Amaranthus viridis</i> , <i>Boerhavia diffusa</i>	Aqueous	Decoction	Alloxan induced diabetes model	17
<i>Caesalpinia bonducella</i> , <i>Mucon puriens</i> and <i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	Aqueous	Continuous hot soxhlet extraction	Alloxan induced diabetes model	18
<i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> , <i>Andrographis paniculata</i> , <i>Momordica charantia</i> , <i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> and <i>Tinospora cordifolia</i>	Methanol	Maceration	Alloxan induced diabetes model	19
<i>Adiantum capillus</i> , <i>Astercantha longifolia</i> , <i>Callicarpa macrophylla</i> , <i>Ficus benghalensis</i> , <i>Melia azedarach</i>	Ethanol	Successive solvent extraction by Soxhlet apparatus	Alloxan induced diabetes model	20
<i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> , <i>Syzygium cumini</i> , <i>Trigonella foenum-graecum</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Momordica charantia</i> , <i>Curcuma Longa</i> , <i>Piper Nigrum</i> , <i>Terminalia Bellirica</i> , <i>Swerita Chirayita</i> and <i>Paneer Pera</i>	Hydroalcoholic extracts	Maceration	Alloxan Induced diabetes model	21
<i>Camellia sinensis</i> and <i>Macrotyloma uniflorum</i>	Methanol	Maceration	Streptozotocin Nicotinamide Induced diabetes model	22
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Andrographis paniculata</i> and <i>Moringa oleifera</i>	Hydroalcoholic extracts	Maceration	Streptozotocin induced diabetes animal model	23
<i>Solanum nigrum</i> , <i>Premna corymbosa</i> , <i>Holarrhena pubescens</i> , <i>Alstonia scholaris</i> and <i>Gymnema sylvestre</i>	Aqueous	Maceration	Alloxan Induced diabetes model	24

<i>Camellia sinensis</i> , <i>Punica granatum</i> , <i>Macrotyloma uniflorum</i> , <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> and <i>Trigonella foenum-graecum</i>	Ethanol	Soxhlet	Streptozotocin induced diabetes animal model	25
<i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> , <i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> , <i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> and <i>Trigonella</i> <i>foenumgraecum</i>	Ethanol	Maceration	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	26
<i>Cassia auriculata</i> , <i>Mangifera indica</i> , <i>Ficus banghalensis</i> , <i>Cinnamomum tamala</i> and <i>Trichosynthis dioica</i>	Aqueous	Maceration	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	27
<i>Syzygium cumini</i> , <i>Urtica dioica</i> and <i>Gymnema</i> <i>sylvestre</i>	Methanol	Rotary shaking	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	28
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> , <i>Momordica charantia</i> , <i>Syzygium cumini</i> & <i>Trigonella foenum</i>	Aqueous	With the help of a pestle and mortar	Streptozotocin induced diabetes model	29

CONCLUSION

A systematic approach should be made to find out the efficacy of polyherbal formulation against diabetes to exploit them as herbal anti-antidiabetic agents and to use medicinal plant resources could result in the development of satisfactory medicines to treat Diabetes. This review attempts to give a scientific account of the use of valuable medicinal plants extracts with their polyherbal formulation in diabetes.

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