

A review on animal-based homoeopathic drugs and their applications in biomedicine

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Abstract

Homoeopathy is one of the most well-practiced medical systems in the world. In Homoeopathy, like all other natural sources, animal and their secretions have been widely used. However, unlike other natural sources of homoeopathic drugs, for example, plants and chemicals, the collection and preparation of animal-based drugs are extremely challenging, especially for drugs from exotic animals. Considering the challenges, we envision that a review regarding the animal-based therapeutics, used in Homoeopathy, may be useful. Our review, consistently has found that the discoveries of the modern biomedicine agree with the reports from the homoeopathic literature. In many cases, the recent biomedical and medicinal chemistry research aptly justifies the findings of the old homoeopathic literature. Even though there are many animal-based homoeopathic drugs, this review will focus only on those drugs which are included in Essential Drugs List of Homoeopathy. We believe this article will not only be beneficial towards homoeopathic community but also may provide needed information regarding homoeopathic findings for future biomedical research.

Keywords: Animal-based drugs, Biomedicine, Homoeopathy, Sarcodes

INTRODUCTION

Homoeopathic system of medicine is the second largest medical system in the world. Homoeopathic medicines are prepared from wide range of natural sources such as plants, chemicals, minerals, microbes and animals. Homoeopathic medicines prepared from animals' venoms, secretions and fluids etc., [Table 1] have special place in the homoeopathic pharmacy. The quality, safety and therapeutic efficacy of animal-based drugs chiefly depend on their genuineness. The crude drugs from animal sources remain questionable for their quality, especially when they are procured commercially from trade due to adulteration, substitution and inappropriate storage conditions. Therefore, it is an essential aspect to check the current nomenclatures, diagnostic specifications, identification and authentication of source materials of raw drugs, testing and preparation methods of medicines, etc., according to modern scientific validation on regular basis.

However, there are many challenges associated with identification, authentication and collection of source materials for production of animal-based drugs; for example, medicines procured from endangered species, those bred in captivity and sometimes dangerous to handle. To overcome these

challenges, it is necessary to undertake in-depth study of the chemical constituents of the drugs, originated from animals. This is particularly important as this not only will unravel the origin of their bioactivities of those drugs but also will pave the path of the synthesis of the therapeutically relevant chemical constituents to successfully substitute the existing formulation in case of the unavailability of the natural sources.

In Homoeopathy, there are numerous drugs. Considering their necessity for public health, Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India has listed a number of drugs under the essential drug list (EDL).^[1(6)] Few of the aforementioned list are of animal origin. We here review those drugs. Thus, even though Table 1 has covered almost all animal-based homoeopathic drugs, we envisioned that discussion of the drugs in EDL will largely

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Table 1: Animal-based homoeopathic drugs

Name of drugs	Name of animal source material
Invertebrates	
<i>Badiaga</i>	Calcispongiae: Fresh water sponge (skeleton)
<i>Spongia tosta</i>	Common sponge (skeleton)
<i>Medusa</i>	Jelly fish (whole living animal)
<i>Physalia</i>	Portuguese man-of-war (whole living animal)
<i>Corallium rubrum</i>	Red coral (skeleton)
<i>Sanguisuga</i>	Hirudo, the leech (whole living animal)
<i>Helix tosta</i>	Toasted snail (whole living animal)
<i>Murex purpurea</i>	Purple-fish (juices)
<i>Calcarea calcinata</i>	Calcinated oyster shell (shell)
<i>Sepia</i>	Cuttlefish (juice)
<i>Asterias rubens</i>	Star-fish (whole living animal)
<i>Armadillo officinalis</i>	Sow bug, sow louse (whole dried animal)
<i>Astacus fluviatilis</i>	Crawfish or river crab (whole living animal)
<i>Homarus</i>	Lobster (digestive fluid)
<i>Limuluscyclops</i>	King crab (blood)
<i>Scolopendra</i>	Centipede (whole living animal)
<i>Aranea diadema</i>	The cross spider (whole living animal)
<i>Aranea scinencia</i>	Grey spider (whole living animal)
<i>Araneorum tela</i>	Black spider (cobweb)
<i>Araneinum</i>	Juice of greasy spider <i>Aranea scinencia</i>
<i>Buthus australis</i>	Algerian scorpion (venum)
<i>Enturoides elegans</i>	Scorpion (poison)
<i>Latrodectus katipo</i>	Poison spider (whole living animal)
<i>Latrodectus mactans</i>	Black widow spider (whole living animal)
<i>Mygale lasiodora</i>	Black Cuban spider (whole living animal)
<i>Scorpio europus</i>	Scorpion (whole living animal)
<i>Tarentula cubensis</i>	Cuban spider (whole living animal)
<i>Tarentula hispania</i>	Spanish spider (whole living animal)
<i>Theridion curassavicum</i>	Orange spider (whole living animal)
<i>Trombidium</i>	A parasite found upon common house fly
<i>Apis mellifica</i>	Honeybee (whole living animal)
<i>Apium virus</i>	Honeybee (poison)
<i>Blatta americana</i>	American cockroach (whole living animal)
<i>Blatta orientalis</i>	Indian cockroach (whole living animal)
<i>Bombyx</i>	Caterpillars (whole living animal)
<i>Cantharis</i>	Spanish fly (whole dried animal)
<i>Cimexacanthia</i>	Bedbug (whole living animal)
<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	Ladybird beetle (whole living animal)
<i>Coccus cacti</i>	Cochineal insect (whole dried animal)
<i>Culex musca</i>	Culex mosquito (whole living animal)
<i>Doryphora</i>	Colorado beetle (whole living animal)
<i>Pediculus capitis</i>	Head louse (whole living animal)
<i>Formica rufa</i>	The ant (whole living animal)
<i>Pulex irritans</i>	Common flea (whole living animal)
<i>Vespa crabro</i>	Wasp, European hornet (whole living animal)
Vertebrates	
<i>Serum anguillar ichtyotoxin</i>	Eel serum (serum)
<i>Gadus morrhua</i>	Cod (first cervical vertebra)
<i>Oleum jecoris aselli</i>	Cod-liver oil (oil)
<i>Pyrarara</i>	River fish (nosode) (whole living animal)
<i>Bufo rana</i>	Common toad (poison)
<i>Bufo sahytiensis</i>	Brazilian toad

Contd...

Table 1: Contd...

Name of drugs	Name of animal source material
Vertebrates	
<i>Amphisbaena vermicularis</i>	Snake-like lizard (poison)
<i>Heloderma</i>	Gila monster (poison)
<i>Lacerta agilis</i>	Green lizard (whole dried animal)
<i>Bothrops lanceolatus</i>	Yellow viper (poison)
<i>Cenchrus contortrix</i>	Copperhead snake (venom)
<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	North American rattlesnake (venom)
<i>Bungarus fasciatus</i>	Banded Krait (poison)
<i>Chelone</i>	Snake-head or Turtle-head
<i>Crotalus cascavella</i>	Brazilian rattle snake (poison)
<i>Elaps corallinus</i>	Brazilian coral snake (poison)
<i>Lachesis trigonocephalus</i>	Surukuku snake (venom)
<i>Naja tripudians</i>	Indian hooded snake (venom)
<i>Toxicophis</i>	Moccasin snake (venom)
<i>Vipera</i>	Common viper (venom)
Aves	
<i>Calcarea ovi testae</i>	Egg-shell (shell)
<i>Ovi gallinae pellicula</i>	Hen's egg (fresh membrane of shell)
<i>Carbo animalis</i>	Ox (charred hide)
<i>Castor equi</i>	Horse (thumbnail)
<i>Castoreum</i>	Beaver (secretion found in pre-putial sacs)
<i>Feltauri</i>	Ox (gall)
<i>Ingluvin</i>	Fowl (gizzard)
<i>Mephatis</i>	Skunk (liquid contained in the anal gland)
<i>Moschus</i>	Musk deer (inspissated secretion contained in pre-putial follicles)
<i>Cervus brazilliens</i>	Brazilian deer (fresh hide)
<i>Pulmo vulpis</i>	Wolf or fox (fresh lung)
<i>Sphingurus</i>	Tree porcupine (prickles)
<i>Vulpis heper</i>	Fox (liver)
Lacs (milk and milk products)	
<i>Koumyss</i>	Fermentation from ass's milk
<i>Lac caninum</i>	Bitch's milk
<i>Lac defloratum</i>	Skimmed cow's milk
<i>Lac felinum</i>	Cat's milk
<i>Lac vaccinifloc</i>	Milk cream
<i>Lac vaccinum</i>	Cow's milk
<i>Lac vaccinum coagulatum</i>	Curds
D. Sarcodes	
Whole endocrine glands	
<i>Thyroidinum</i>	Thyroid glands of sheep or calf
<i>Pituitarinum posterium</i>	Post-position of pituitary gland of sheep
Hormones	
<i>Adrenalin (Epinephrine)</i>	Hormone produced by adrenal gland/synthetic salt of adrenalin hydrochloricum
<i>Cortisone</i>	Hormone secreted by cortex of adrenal gland of man
<i>Cortisone acetate</i>	Cortisone monoacetate
<i>Adrenocorticotrophin</i>	Hormone produced by pituitary gland
<i>Insulin</i>	Hormone produced by pancreas
Extracts	
<i>Orchitinum</i>	Testicular extract
<i>Oophorium</i>	Ovarian of cow, sheep, pig
<i>Pancreatium</i>	Pancreas of beef containing digestive enzyme
<i>Corpus luteum</i>	Ovaries of pregnant animals

Contd...

Table 1: Contd...

Name of drugs	Name of animal source material
Other sarcodes	
Miscellaneous	
<i>Fel tauri</i>	Fresh ox-gall
<i>Vulpistel</i>	Fresh fox-gall
<i>Parotidinum</i>	Parotid gland
<i>Cholesterinum</i>	Main constituents of gall bladder and bile
<i>Mammary gland</i>	Glands of cow and sheep
<i>Placenta</i>	Extracts of placenta
<i>Spleen</i>	Extracts of spleen
<i>Ingluvin</i>	Gizzard of fowl
<i>Lecithin</i>	Yolk of egg and animal brain

serve the purpose of the review. The animal-based EDL drugs which will be discussed in detail are listed in Table 2.

This review essentially includes the exploration and characterisation of bioactive chemicals present in those medicines of animal origin. In this article, we discussed the research related to the therapeutic uses of the certain widely administrated animal-based homoeopathic drugs (under EDL) as well as their medicinally relevant ingredients. Furthermore, we seek to address the issue of unavailability of the raw drugs by replacing them with synthetic sources. We hope this review article will be beneficial towards the research not only related to Homoeopathy but also to overall biomedical research.

APIS MELLIFICA

Homoeopathic use

The homoeopathic formulation consists of whole live European honey bees *Apis mellifica* Linn. (Synonym: *Apis mellifica*; Family: Apidae). In Homoeopathy, Dr. C. W. Wolf and Dr. William Boericke, M.D. reported several uses of *Apis mellifica*.^[1(i),2] Dr. William Boericke reported the use of *Apis mellifica* in physiological and psychological ailments. The ailments include burning while urination, involuntary passage of stool on every motion, swollen fiery red tonsils, vertigo with sneezing, headache, indifference, apathy and stupor alternating with erotic mania.^[2] Overall, physiological effects of the drug chiefly deal with external as well as internal inflammation.^[2] Rev. Brauns, a clergyman of Thuringia, was first to report honeybee venom in their pure form as a therapeutic agent. He eventually published his results regarding the animal trials. E. E. Marcy, in Theory and Practice, published his results regarding the medical usage of dried and powdered bees. Recognising the immense therapeutic activity of bee venom, the clinical findings were reported in the form of a monograph in the *Amerikanische Arzneiprüfungen* (American Proving), Vol. I, p. 171-422.

Research in modern biomedicine

Recent scientific study related to the bioactivity of venoms has explored the potential medicinal usage of bee venom in modern medicines. Owen detected the presence of Serotonin,

Table 2: Animal-based homoeopathic drugs under essential drug list

Homoeopathy drug	Description
<i>Apis mellifica</i>	Honey (whole live bee)
<i>Badiaga</i>	Dried fresh water sponge
<i>Blatta orientalis</i>	Whole insect (crushed)
<i>Bufo rana</i>	Poisonous venom from dorsal gland of common toad
<i>Cantharis</i>	Dried whole Spanish fly
<i>Carbo animalis</i>	Ox-hide (charred hide)
<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	Venom of North American rattle snake
<i>Eel serum</i>	Eel serum
<i>Formica rufa</i>	Red wood ant (crushed whole live ant)
<i>Lac caninum</i>	Bitch milk
<i>Lac defloratum</i>	Skimmed cow milk
<i>Lachesis</i>	Venom of Surukuku snake
<i>Mephitis</i>	Skunk (liquid contained in the anal gland)
<i>Murex purpurea</i>	Sea snail (juice found in sac situated between heart and liver)
<i>Mygale</i>	Black Cuban spider (live whole spider)
<i>Naja tripudians</i>	Indian cobra (venom)
<i>Sepia</i>	Cuttlefish (dried liquid contained in the ink bag)
<i>Spongia tosta</i>	Marine sponge (common roasted sponge)
<i>Tarentula cubensis</i>	Cuban spider (live whole spider)
<i>Tarentula hispana</i>	Spanish spider (live whole spider)
<i>Trombidium</i>	Mite (live whole animal)
<i>Thyroidinum</i>	Domestic sheep (dried whole thyroid glands)
<i>Vipera</i>	Russell's viper (venom)

5-hydroxytryptamine, an essential human neurotransmitter in bee venom.^[3] Their further study proved that serotonin is a fundamental component of the venom.^[4] Lin's work indicated that bee venom possesses anticoagulant properties.^[5] The main toxin present in bee venom is Melittin, a small peptide [Figure 1]. It exhibits numerous bioactivities.^[6,7] Its anticancer activity was reported by Song and Hong. They found that melittin as well as the bee venom inhibited the growth of SKOV3 and PA-1 ovarian cancer cells.^[8] Beside melittin, the constituents of bee venom include number of bioactive peptides, enzymes and small molecules.^[9,10] New findings have also confirmed the use of bee venom as antinociceptive

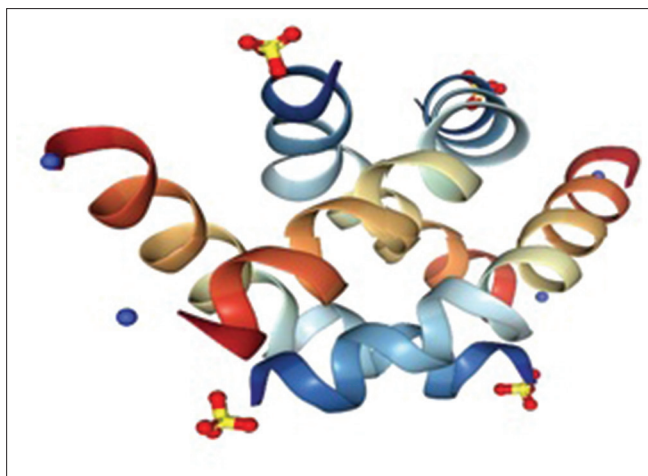


Figure 1: Structure of Melittin bee venom molecules

agent.^[11] The report suggested that the origin of the activity of the venom is due to its anti-inflammatory activity.^[12] Bee venom also shows antibacterial activity towards Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria.^[13] It shows activity against penicillin-resistant strain of *Staphylococcus aureus*.^[13] Bee venom is also known to show anti-HIV, at large antiviral activities.^[14] It also shows anticancer activities chiefly via apoptosis.^[15,16]

COCKROACHES

Homoeopathic use

Cockroaches are considered as one of the most abundant pests in the world and survived many mass extinctions. Until recently, the therapeutic effects of the cockroaches have not been recognised by the scientific community. However, this is not the case with the homoeopathic community.

There are many medicinal properties reported with cockroaches, *Blatta orientalis* and *Blatta americana* in Homoeopathy. These two species are native to two different geographical area as indicated in their species name. *B. orientalis* is chiefly used to treat asthma while *Blatta Americana* is used for oedema.^[17-20]

Research in modern biomedicine

The beneficial effects of homoeopathic drug – *B. orientalis* which is under EDL has been explored by recent biomedical communities.^[21,22] The study has shown antibacterial activity of *B. orientalis* hemolymph against five bacterial strains. The bacterial strains are *Proteus mirabilis*, *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Highest activity was observed with *E. coli*. Moderate activity was seen against *P. mirabilis*, *S. aureus* and *P. aeruginosa*. The lowest activity was observed against *S. typhi*. The SDS-PAGE analysis showed bands at 18 kDa, 30 kDa and 66 kDa. Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) showed peaks from 3299 cm^{-1} to 546 cm^{-1} . The FTIR studies suggest the presence of cyclopeptane, aromatic compounds, triazoles, secondary sulphonamide, bromo compounds, secondary amide, vinyl halides, thiophenes, aldehyde group, methylene compound and

sulphonic acid groups. The authors suggested that the presence of these functional groups may lead to its antibacterial effects. Considering the potential of these drugs, chemical analysis of the drugs has been carried out.^[23] The study provided the physicochemical standards for the homoeopathic formulation of the drug. In the work, the HPTLC data showed many spots indicating chemical complexity of the aqueous ethanolic extract of the drug.

SPONGE

Homoeopathic use

Sponges have been extensively used in Homoeopathy. In Homoeopathy, both fresh water and marine sponges have been used to treat numerous ailments. The homoeopathic drug derived from fresh water sponge *Spongilla lacustris* Linn (Family: Spongillidae; Synonyms: *Spongilla fluviatilis*) is called *Badiaga*, while the *Spongia tosta* is made from marine sponge *Spongia officinalis* Linn. (Family: Spongiidae; Synonyms: *Euspongia officinalis*).^[24,25] *Badiaga* has been widely used by homoeopathic practitioners. Dr. T.F Allen described the use of *Badiaga* in physiological ailments.^[26] For example, he reported the use of the drug, especially for headache. Beside headache, it has also been used as overall pain reliever. Interestingly, he mentioned the use of the drug for Bubo. Dr. C. Hering reported its usage in inflammatory conditions of eye, throat and head.^[27] J.H. Clarke reported that the drug can be employed for breast cancer.^[28] Similar to *Badiaga*, *Spongia tosta* has also been extensively used by homoeopathic practitioner around the world. According to Dr. James Tyler Kent, this particular drug is especially beneficial for thyroid and cardiac diseases.^[29] His report has been supported by the writings of Dr. H.C. Allen, Dr. E.A. Neatby and Dr. William Boericke.^[30-32] Interestingly, Chinese traditional medicine reports the use of sponge in goitre.^[33]

Research in modern biomedicine

Homoeopathic clinical observations have been supported by recent discovery of anti-inflammatory agents from sponges. There are many such agents which have been isolated, characterised and their activities have been evaluated from sponges. Chemically, those agents can broadly be classified into four classes: terpenes, steroids, nitrogenous, octahydroindenes and glycolipids. Among them, terpenes is the most important, as many sponge-originated terpenes (>20) have shown anti-inflammatory activities (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) [Figure 2].^[34] Interestingly, the extracted anti-inflammatory agents additionally show antiallergic and anticancer activities (e.g., avarol and avarone).^[35] These findings are in agreement with the Homoeopathy literatures.^[28] Manoalide shows antibiotic, analgesic and anticancer effects.^[36,39] Ilimaquinone shows anticancer activities [Figure 2].^[38] Plakotenin is reported to exhibit cytotoxicity, a potential anticancer agent [Figure 2].^[39] Toposentin shows antitumour and antiviral activities [Figure 2].^[40]

Similarly, Spongilipid tetracosan-1-ol-1-*O*- β -*D*-glucopyranoside, isolated from fresh water sponge shows cytotoxic activities.^[41] *S. lacustris* powder extract in 3% hydrogen

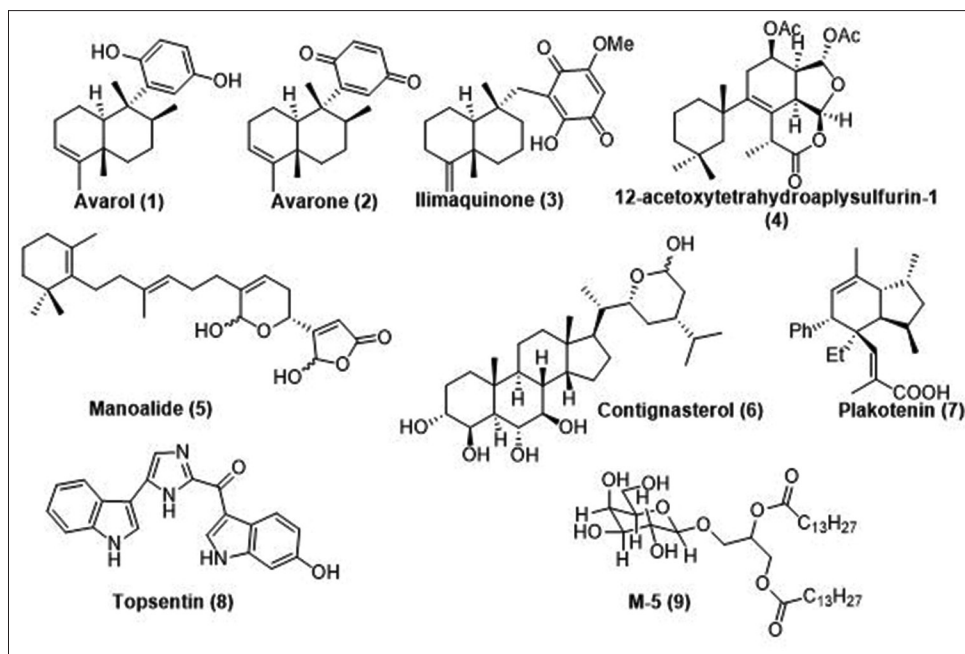


Figure 2: Sponge-based bioactive molecules: A

peroxide solution has also been used to treat acne vulgaris.^[42] A number of polyenoic fatty acids, having anti-microbial properties, have also been isolated from fresh water sponge. The studies show that the secondary metabolites from sponge exhibit antibacterial, antimicrobial, cytotoxic, antifungal and antibacterial effects. Compared to antibacterial agents, antiviral agents are rare. However, there are a number of antiviral compounds which have been isolated from marine sponge. The findings are quite important as Dragmacidin F which shows anti-HIV properties [Figure 3].^[43] Overall, modern biomedical science recognises sponges as one of the most important sources for bioactive natural products.

Considering the immense potential of marine sponges and reported homoeopathic literature, researchers explored *Spongia tosta* formulation similar to Homoeopathy in *in vitro* study.^[44] Methanolic extract of *Spongia tosta* exhibits free radical scavenging activity and cytotoxicity against breast cancer cell line MCF 7. Encouraged by their result, the same group further explored the cytotoxic effects of ethanolic extract of *Spongia tosta* further.^[44] They found that the drug shows anticancer activity against liver carcinoma, African green monkey kidney cell line, colon cancer cell line and lung cancer cell line. In accordance, the homoeopathic literatures' sponges also are found to exhibit antitumor, cardiovascular and muscle-relaxing activities.^[45]

Eryloside F, a penasterol disaccharide isolated from sponge, is a thrombin receptor antagonist [Figure 4].^[46] Another compound, Cyclotheonamide A inhibits serine protease [Figure 4].^[47] Halichlorine, a cyclic aza polyketide, is a VCAM 1* inhibitor [Figure 4].^[48] All these findings strongly suggest that marine sponge likely to possess very high level of efficacy towards cardiovascular diseases. Interestingly, sponges are known to

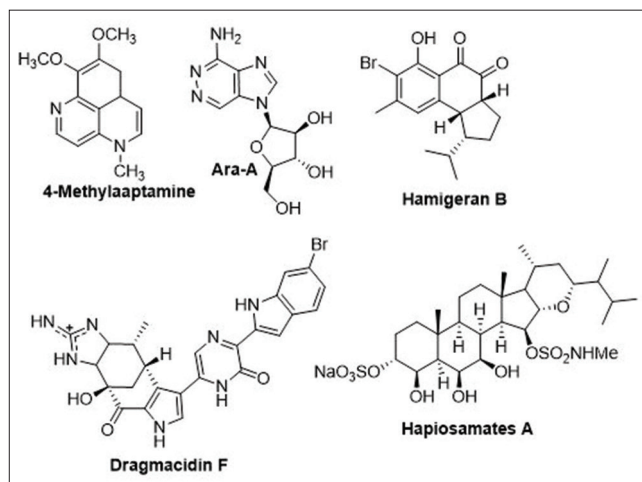


Figure 3: Sponge-based bioactive molecules: B

contain muscle relaxants. For example, Xestospongins C and S1319 [Figure 5].^[49] Beside muscle-relaxing effect, S1319 exhibits bronchodilation property.^[50]

BUFO RANA

Homoeopathic use

Bufo Rana is a homoeopathic remedy, made from the poison secreted from the dorsal glands of a toad, called *Bufo bufo* Linn. (Family: Bufonidae; Synonyms: *Rana bufo* Linn., *Bufo vulgaris* Lau.) As this poison is part of their defence mechanism, it can be extracted by threatening or irritating the toad. In 1879, Dr A. Cowperthwaite, of Iowa, in his *Materia Medica* reported the usefulness of the drug for ailments of cerebrospinal system. Dr. Henry Clarke reported the use of the drug to treat dropsy. However, this drug has mostly used

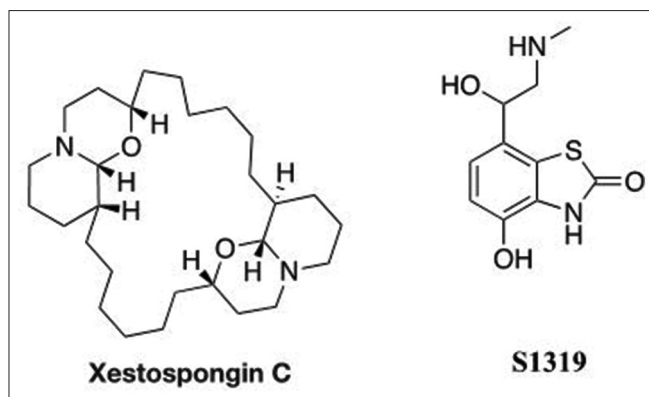


Figure 4: Sponge-based bioactive molecules: C

to treat epilepsy. Dr. Holcombe recorded a case history in detail where *Bufo rana* was successfully administered to treat epilepsy.^[51] Beside neurological disorders, this drug is known to cure a number of diseases, for example, cancer, stammering, meningitis, heart disorders, gout and skin disorders.^[52]

Research in modern biomedicine

The therapeutic values of the toad poison have recently been explored through research in the field of biomedicine with the help of chemical biology. Recent research has isolated and characterises a number of biologically active chemicals from the venom. Interestingly, most of them show considerable neurological effect. The existence of neuroactive compounds in toad venom clearly provides evidence for homoeopathic literature. Toad venom contains serotonin, 5-MeO-DMT, bufalin, bufotenin, norepinephrine, bufagins, epinephrine, bufothionine and bufotalin [Figure 6].^[53]

Serotonin chiefly has numerous effects in human body. It reduces depression, regulates anxiety, heals wounds, stimulates nausea, maintains bone health, balances libido and mental stability. 5-MeO-DMT, used as a recreational drug, possesses neurological effect. The effect of bufotenin is similar to that of 5-MeO-DMT. In fact, the mode of action of serotonin, 5-MeO-DMT and bufotenin are similar.^[53] Bufalin exhibits *in vitro* antitumor activity against different malignant tumours, including lung carcinoma and hepatocellular.^[54,55] Norepinephrine, a toad venom-based compound, has diverse biological activity and arguably one of the most important components of bufotoxins.^[56] It acts as a stress hormone, neurotransmitter and vasoconstrictor. Arenobufagin acts as an isoform-specific probe. This can be employed for sensing human sulfotransferase 2A1.^[57] Cinobufagin has extensive clinical importance. It could be used to treat cancer, heart failure and pain (analgesic).^[58] Marinobufagenin is a vasoconstrictor.^[59] Epinephrine is used for cardiac arrest, anaphylaxis and superficial haemorrhage. Inhalation of epinephrine can be administered to lessen the symptoms of croup.^[60]

SEA SNAIL

Homoeopathic use

Murex purpurea is prepared from juice found in sac situated

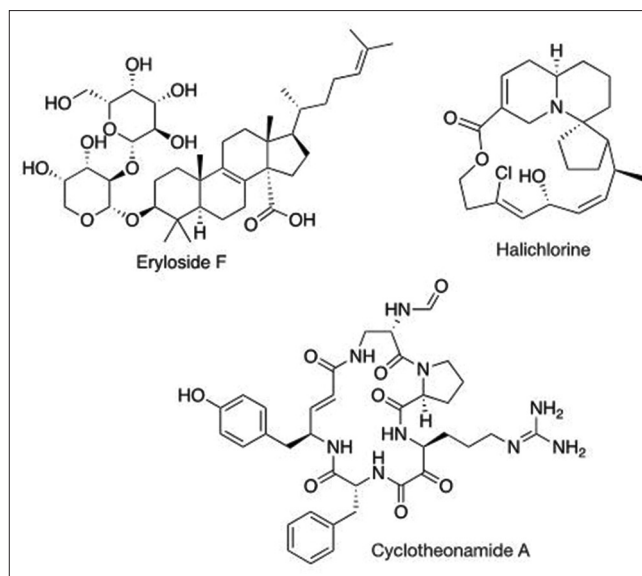


Figure 5: Sponge-based bioactive molecules: D

between heart and liver of sea snail, *Bolinus brandaris* Linn. (Family: Muricidae; Synonyms: *Murex brandaris* Linn., *Haustellum brandaris* Linn.). The shell is usually golden brown with a very long siphonal canal and a rounded body and a rounded and broad body whorl. There are many therapeutic effects documented in Homoeopathy literature.^[61] The effects are associated with ailments related to head, stomach, larynx and urinary tract. However, the most important and widely appreciated effect of the drug is its effect on women's health. Both Dr. A. Lippe and J. Hempel reported the effectiveness of *Murex purpurea* in treating pains of women's genital organs including cancer.^[61,62]

Research in modern biomedicine

Recent biomedical research also provides evidences regarding therapeutic properties of *Murex purpurea*. Benkendorff reported anticancer activity of the drug.^[62]

Snails are known to contain large number of biological compounds. As a result, this well-known traditional medicine has been immensely investigated by the modern biomedical communities. In general, the bioactive chemicals coming from snail could be classified into two categories: (a) small molecules and (b) proteins. Both classes show significant bioactivities.

Biliverdin IX, derived a green tetrapyrrolic bile pigment, shows considerable antioxidant and antimutagenic activities [Figure 7]. Its antioxidant effect could be attributed to its ability to act as a peroxy radical scavenger.^[63] It also shows activities towards preventing cardiovascular diseases. Interestingly, this compound also acts as an HIV-1 protease inhibitor.^[64] Furthermore, it has also been successfully used in fluorescence imaging.^[65] 7-Dehydrocholesterol acts as provitamin-D₃ protects skin from ultraviolet rays [Figure 7]. Tetrodotoxin, a neurotoxin, has been studied to combat cancer-related pain [Figure 7].^[66] Its effectiveness has been supported by clinical trials. This

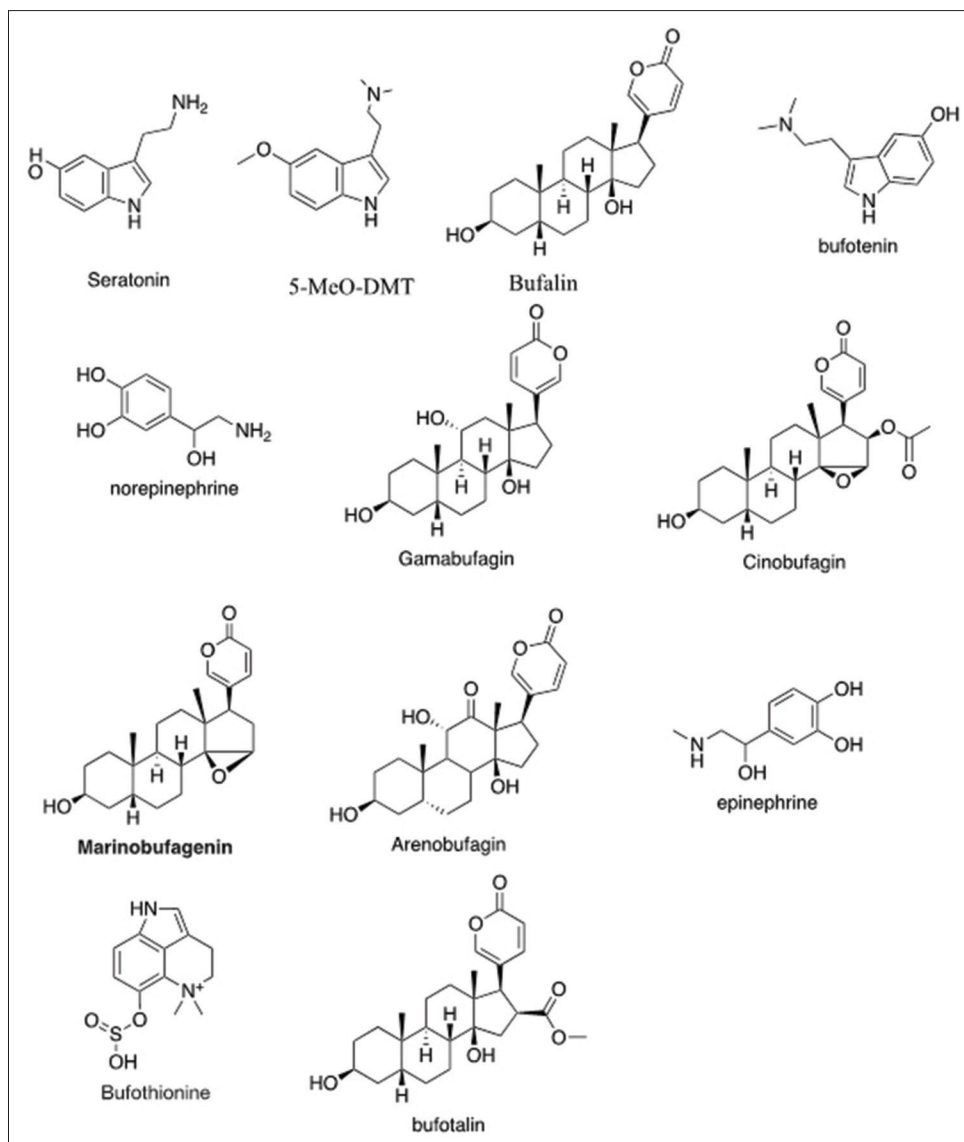


Figure 6: Toad-based bioactive molecules

has also been used to treat migraine. This mode of action is suggested to be associated with TTX-sensitive Na⁺ channel. Furthermore, it is clinically used to treat headache during heroin withdrawal.^[67] Murexine and seneciolylocholine exhibit neuromuscular-blocking activities through affecting nicotinic acetylcholine receptors [Figure 7].^[68] 6-bromoisatin and structurally related compound impart apoptosis in female reproductive cancer cell selectively [Figure 7].^[69] It also shows antipathogenic activity.^[68] Acrylylcholine, extracted from snails, show neuromuscular blocking activity, in the hypobranchial gland [Figure 7].^[68]

The second class of bioactive compounds from the snails are proteins. Conkunitzin S1, protein isolated from snail, can be used to increase glucose-stimulated insulin secretion via blocking Kv1.7 potassium currents [Figure 8].^[70] Ziconotide is a synthetic and non-opioid, analgesic [Figure 8].^[71] This has been approved by Food and Drug Administration,

USA (FDA) in 2004 under the trade name of Prialt™. This is a structural as well as functional analogue of an ω-conotoxin, isolated from marine snail. This is one of the few examples of nonnarcotic medication to treat chronic and severe pain.^[72]

CANTHARIS

Homoeopathic use

Cantharis, prepared from the insect *Lytta vesicatoria* Linn. (Family: Cantharidae; Synonym: *Cantharis vesicatoria* Linn., *Meloevesicatorius* Linn.) has been extensively used in pain treatment, especially for treating burning pain in ureter, genitals and other organs. The higher potencies have exclusively been administered owing to its extremely high toxicity in concentrated form. The proving has been documented in Lectures on Homoeopathic Materia Medica-James Tyler Kent.^[73]

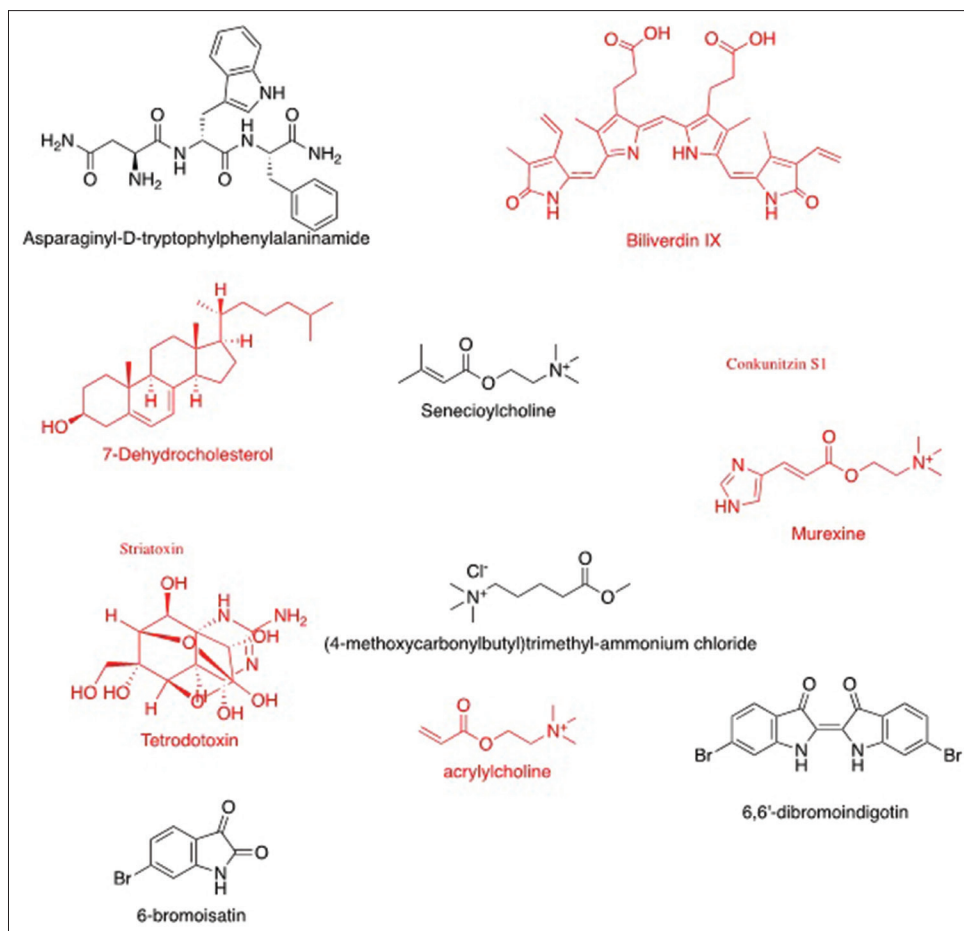


Figure 7: Snail-based bioactive small molecules

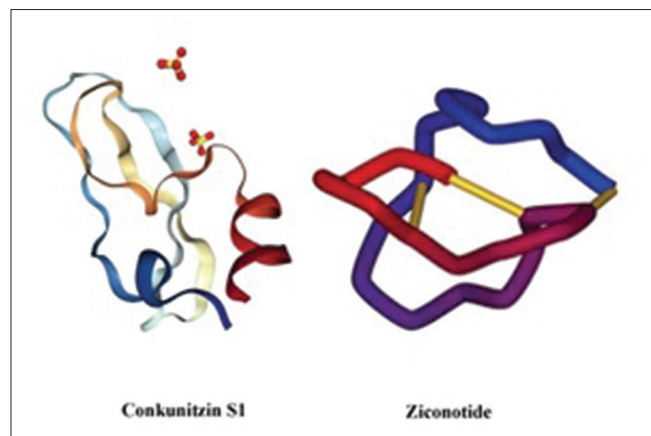


Figure 8: Snail-based bioactive proteins

Research in modern biomedicine

It has widely been used to treat blisters. The active pharmaceutical ingredient present in the drug is cantharidin [Figure 9]. This compound is in Phase 3 of Clinical trial for treatment of molluscum.^[74] Beside pain-related usage, the modern biomedical research found further bioactivities of cantharidin. Animal trials show the effect of cantharidin as a topical treatment of cutaneous leishmaniasis.^[75] Furthermore, it exhibits anticancer activities against malignant tumour cells.

SEPIA

Homoeopathic use

Homoeopathic drug *Sepia* is prepared from the ink of *Sepia officinalis* Linn. (Family: Sepiidae; Synonym: *Sepia zebrina* Risso, *Sepia rugosa* Bowdich). There are many usages of the drug in Homoeopathy.^[76] However, this drug is particularly used to treat several gynaecological complaints. For example, it is particularly useful to relieve symptoms related to premenstrual syndrome (PMS) and menopause. It also can be used to treat ailments related to ovaries, uterus and vagina. It is particularly helpful to fight against yeast infection during and after pregnancy. Overall, the effect of the drug is pain reliever. This drug is also used to treat digestive problems, especially difficulties associated with fatty foods and dairy products. This is also used for headaches and itchy patches in the skin. It has also been used for exhaustion and poor circulation.

Research in modern biomedicine

The medicinal importance of this drug has also been recognised by modern medical system. Cuttlefish (*Sepia*) ink has shown numerous promising bioactivities.^[77] *S. officinalis* ink shows *in vitro* antioxidant, cytotoxic and analgesic activities.^[78] *S. officinalis* ink can photoprotect against blue light-induced apoptosis of human retinal pigment

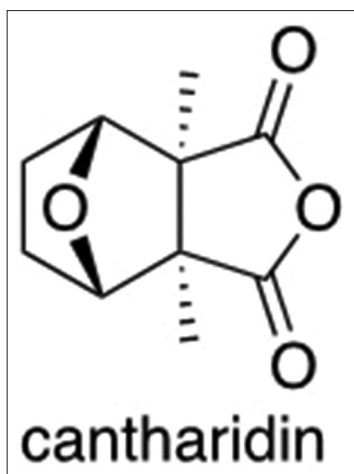


Figure 9: Structure of cantharidin

epithelium cells.^[79] Cuttlefish ink also shows antiretroviral activity.^[80] One of the remarkable effects of cuttlefish ink is its radio protective effects on hemopoietic injury.^[81] Cephalopod inks in general have been extensively used as anticancer agents. These results are in good agreement with the homoeopathic literatures.^[82] Peptidoglycans, one of the components of cuttlefish ink, shows antitumor activities. It is believed to be resulted from the inhibition of embryonic development.^[83] Sepia ink oligopeptide (SIO) shows anticancer activity against prostate cancer cell by inducing apoptosis through activation of induction of apoptosis via activation of caspase-3 and elevation of the ratio of Bax/Bcl-2 [Figure 10].^[84-87]

EEL SERUM

Homoeopathic use

Eel serum prepared from *Anguilla bengalensis* Grey (Family: Anguillidae; Subspecies: *Anguilla bengalensis bengalensis*, *Anguilla bengalensis labiata*) has extensively used in Homoeopathy for kidney diseases. In homoeopathic Materia Medica, William Boericke mentioned the serum as a toxin that can destroy blood globules.^[88] It is also mentioned as a medicine used in kidney-related ailments. Dr. Nels Bergman reported the use of this medicine in hypertension as well as kidney diseases.

Research in modern biomedicine and other medical system

This remedy has also been used in other traditional medical system, for example, Fresh blood is consumed to treat general weakness and asthma among Ao tribe of Nagaland, India.^[89] The modern medical system has found anticancer activities in eel serum.^[90] Eel serum contains atrial natriuretic peptide (ANP) which can act a vasodepressor and is natriuretically-active in rats. This ANP was found to be 100 more potent than that of human ANP.^[91] It is quite clear that the recent biomedical findings regarding cardiovascular applications of eel serum are in agreement with the reports in the old homoeopathic remedies.

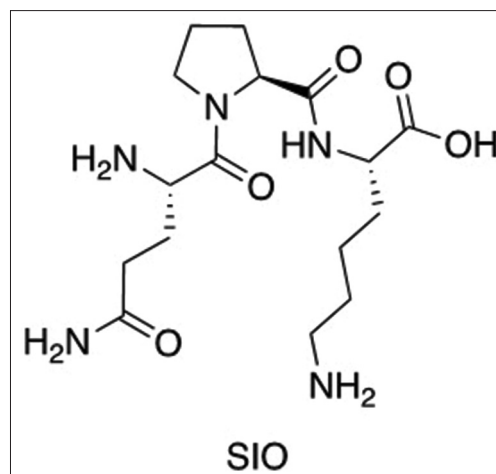


Figure 10: Bioactive sepia ink oligopeptide

SNAKE VENOM

Homoeopathic use

There are different kinds of snake venoms such as *Vipera*, *Lachesis*, *Crotalus horridus* and *Naja tripudians*, which have been used in Homoeopathy. Here, we only discuss about the snake venom-based drugs under EDL. Importantly, each venom possesses different mode of therapeutic usages. *Vipera*, derived from the venom of *Daboia russelii* (Family: Viperidae; Synonyms: *Daboia elegans* Grey, *Vipera daboia* Daudin) has been used to treat haemorrhages, senility, premature mental condition, neurasthenia, tongue swelling, varicosis, jaundice, enlargement of liver, epistaxis, phlebitis and goitre.^[92] *Lachesis*, produced from the venom of *Lachesis muta* Linn (Family: Viperidae; Synonyms: *Crotalus mutus* Linn., *Lachesis muta muta* Taylor), has been proved to cure small pox. It is one of the most important remedies for hot flushes in menopause syndrome. This is also being used to relieve symptoms associated with PMS. This is also been used in sore throat and ailments associated.^[93] This is also used to soothe mental or emotional symptoms. *Lachesis* has profound importance to treat diverse circulatory problems and angina.^[94] Interestingly, recent studies also show similar bioactivities.^[95] *Crotalus horridus* obtained from the venom of *Crotalus horridus* Linn. (Family: Viperidae; Synonyms: *Crotalus catesbaei* Hemprich) has also been used in Homoeopathy for number of physiological and psychological issues. It is particularly useful treating severe internal intoxication affecting blood and heart.^[96] It is also useful for sepsis.^[97,98] It is used to cure psychiatric uses, for example, apathy, lethargy and detachment.^[99] *Naja tripudians* consists of the venom derived from *Naja naja* Linn. (Family: Elapidae; Synonyms: *Naja tripudians* Merrem, *Coluber naja* Linn.).

Research in modern biomedicine

This venom usually has pain-relieving and soothing effects on mind.^[100] Recent studies also show anti-HIV effects of the snake venom.^[101] These medicinal properties of snake venoms have also been explored by biomedical communities.

Cobratoxin present in *Naja naja* Linn. It shows numerous beneficial effects as a painkiller and in conditions like lung cancer, multiple sclerosis [Figure 11].^[102-104]

Dilute Russell's viper venom time is an *in vitro* test to detect Lupus anticoagulant [Figure 12].^[105] The mode of action is the activation of factor X that converts prothrombin into thrombin in the presence of phospholipid and factor V. Contortrostatin is a snake venom disintegrin. Recently, it has been found that the disintegrin has antitumor and antiangiogenic activities.^[106]

Captopril is the earliest FDA-approved drug which was derived from snake venom. This drug is being used for hypertension and cardiac disorders [Figure 13]. This also shows mood elevation in certain patients.^[107]

Snake venoms are known to possess anticoagulant activities. For example, Eptifibatid – an approved antiplatelet drug under the glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitor class [Figure 14].^[108] This drug is a closed-ring heptapeptide produced from a protein, present in the venom of the rattlesnakes. It belongs to the class of peptides that mimics the arginin–glycin–aspartat and reversibly binds to the platelets.

Considering the cytotoxic effect of the snake venoms, their potential as antitumor agents is quite promising. Even though snake venoms' composition are extremely complex, the antitumor activities of the venoms are majorly due to the presence of metalloproteases, serine proteases, phospholipases A₂, L-amino acid oxidases, disintegrins and lectins.^[106,109-111] Hannalgesin, obtained as the neurotoxin, shows strong analgesic effect without permanent adverse muscular and neurological effect.^[112] Snake venom also shows antibacterial effects.^[113]

SPIDER

Homoeopathic use

There are many spiders-based drugs which have been used in Homoeopathy. *Tarentula hispana* prepared from *Lycosa tarantula* Linn. (Family: *Lycosidae*) is used in mostly mental disorders. It is also used in physiological disorders, for example, hyperactivity, ADHD, problem children, headaches, restless leg syndrome, restlessness, ADD, migraines, autism, Parkinson's disease, abscesses and has also shown beneficial effects in a case of anorexia.^[114] The medical usages of *Tarentula cubensis* (Family: *Lycosidae*) include treatment of carbuncle, gangrene, intermittent fever of evening exacerbation, diarrhoea, severe stinging and burning pain.^[115] Homoeopathic drug, Mygale prepared from *Mygale lasiodora* Linn. (Family: *Antrodiaetidae*), is used in nervousness, prostration and palpitation. It is used to prevent twitching of the facial muscles. It is also used in agitation and involuntary motion of the body. Recent study shows activities against acute aching pain, difficult breathing, bad dream, etc.^[116] Recent studies show that spider venoms possess analgesic effects.^[117] The venom could potentially be used in stroke treatment.^[118]

Research in modern biomedicine

Furthermore, spider venom contains HF-7.^[119] This active

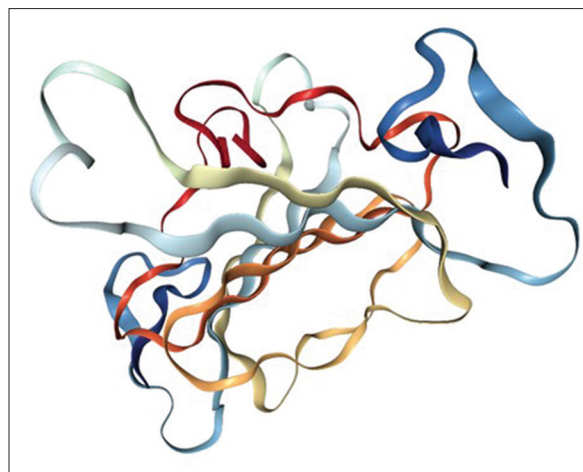


Figure 11: Structure of cobratoxin

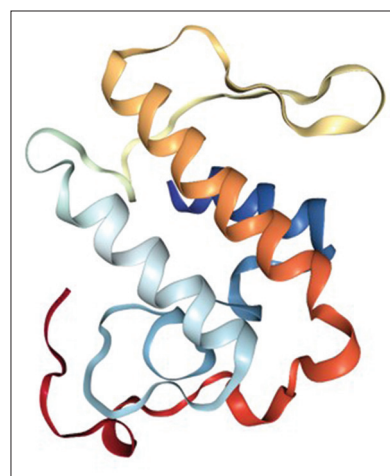


Figure 12: Structure of phospholipase a₂ from *Daboia russelii pulchella*

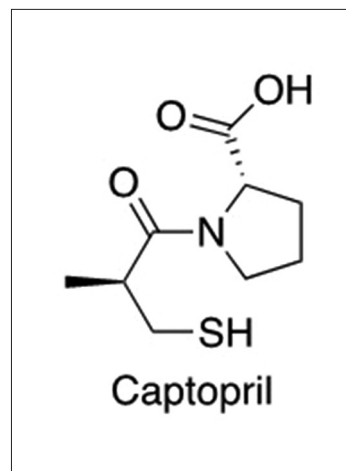


Figure 13: Structure of captopril

ingredient blocks receptors on the nerve cell membranes preventing glutamate production. The arrest of glutamate product ceases the cell death due to oxygen unavailability. It also prevents atrial fibrillation. This is performed by the active protein GsMtx-4.

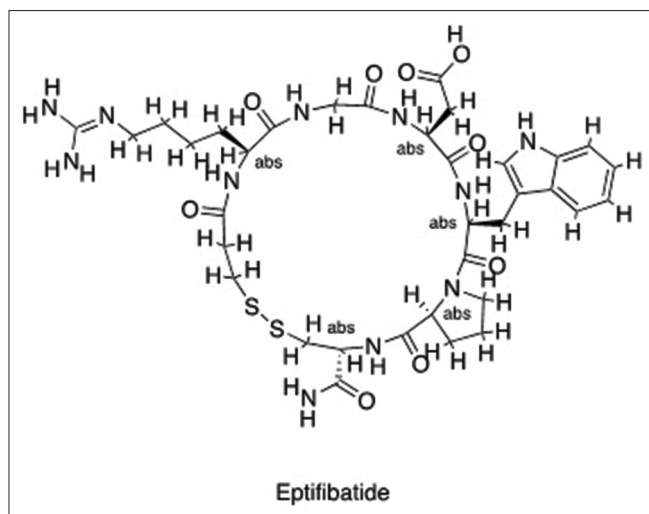


Figure 14: Eptifibatide, an approved antiplatelet drug

CARBO ANIMALIS

Homoeopathic use

The medicine was introduced by Hahnemann. It has been primarily prescribed by him for chronic diseases. He also provided the detailed method of preparation of the drug. The drug was prepared by him by placing a thick piece of ox-hide in-between two hot charcoals burning without flames. The hide was burned till the flame coming out from the hide extinguished. Then, the red hot charred mass was extinguished by pressing with stones from both of the sides. Charred hide contains many chemicals. However, the two principal constituents are carbon and calcium phosphate. Fueter and Schweizer Zeitschrift successfully used it for burnt mole, glandular indurations, goitre and scirrhous. Dürr used human-bone coal for mesenteric atrophy. According to C. Hering, it has effects on mind.^[120] Especially, it can be used to treat depressive mood and nervousness in general. It has also been used for ear, nose, eye and throat infections and/or ailments. James Tyler Kent in Homoeopathic Lectures on Materia Medica provided detail regarding the efficacy of the drug.^[121] He prescribed the medicine for weakness and anaemia. Interestingly, he mentioned the use of this medicine for cancerous ulcers. His observations regarding treatment of cancerous ulcer is in agreement with the observations by Fueter and Schweizer Zeitschrift. Willam Boericke reported the use of the medicine in a wide variety of ailments, for example, headache, respiratory, skin diseases and uterine cancer. Overall, his observations are in agreement with the observation of Hering and Kent.^[122]

RESEARCH IN MODERN BIOMEDICINE

Activated charcoal is used in modern medical practice. The key use of the material is to absorb toxins present in the body. It is particularly helpful for preventing toxic effects due to overdose.^[123] Orally administered activated charcoal has been found to be clinically active for not only controlling the cholesterol but also beneficial balancing of LDL and HDL.

In the study, seven patients with hypercholesterolaemia were treated and monitored for 4 weeks while administering activated charcoal at a dose of 8 g three times a day. The pathological results found that in plasma, total cholesterol was decreased by 25%. Furthermore, LDL was decreased by 25% while HDL was increased by 8%.^[124] Beside these, activated charcoal has been found to reduce phosphate ions in serum during dialysis, in cholestasis treatment, etc.^[125]

FORMICA RUFA

Homoeopathic use

It is prepared from European red wood ants. Homoeopathy medicine Formica Rufa has been described in homoeopathic materia medica of William Boericke.^[126] He reports the medicine for wide variety of physiological and psychological effects. It is indicated in conditions like vertigo, headache, nasal polyp, rheumatic iritis, heartburn, nausea, irregular bowel, bloody or albuminous urination, skin itching, sexual weakness and respiratory ailments. It is described as an arthritic medicine. Dr. Sylwestrowicz of the Hering Research Laboratory of Hahnemann College, Philadelphia indicated that the primary use of the medicine is in gout, especially in case of acute condition. He also indicated its use in psoriasis, loss of hair, chronic eczema, kidney ailments, nephritis, Dupuytren's contraction and bone swelling. He also prescribed the drug in rheumatic fever.^[127] Hering also reported the medicines. According to him, it can be used to treat forgetfulness. Also, he prescribed the medicine for throat infection, dizziness and ear pain. Similar to other authors, he also prescribed the medicine for gout and limb stiffness.^[128]

Research in modern biomedicine

Ant-based compounds show promising bioactivities. Terpenoid bioactive compound isolated from Papua ant nest contains terpenoids. Those terpenoids were found to be cytotoxic and induced apoptosis in human ovarian cell lines (SKOV-3) and increased Caspase-9 activity.^[129] Indian tree ant, *Oecophylla smaragdina*, Fabricius's larvae and pupae contain bioactive proteins. These peptides show anti-angiotensin I-converting enzyme (ACE) and antioxidative bioactivities.^[130] In general, many insect-derived pheromone show promising bioactivity.^[131]

MILK

Homoeopathic use

Even though many milk-based homoeopathic medicines are reported, here we are going to discuss only *Lac defloratum* and *Lac caninum* as these are only two in the EDL. *Lac defloratum* is prepared from skimmed cow milk. Donkin successfully treated diabetes and Bright's disease with skimmed milk. Later, the work was further extended by Dr Swan who potentised and proved the medicine. It had shown results in nerve-related issues. It also shows efficacy against despondence, American sick headache, nausea, intense throbbing, constipation, copious and pale urine.^[132] It is indicated for conditions like

psychological problems, vertigo, fever, insomnia, photophobia and kidney ailments.^[133] It can also be used for diarrhoea in infants.^[134] Lac caninum is prepared from dog (bitch) milk. It is a psychotic drug.^[135] It is used in persons with low confidence, inferiority complex etc. It has also been used to treat Diphtheria.^[136]

Research in modern biomedicine

The beneficial effects of milk are numerous. Thus it may not be possible to include all of them here. Here we will discuss shortly about the new findings. Bioactive peptides have been identified within the amino acid sequences of native milk proteins. As the peptide sequencing of short peptides are challenging further study in the area is required to unravel the bioactivities components chemically.^[137] In general the native proteins in milk do not show bioactivities. However, proteolytic digestion leads to the release of encrypted bioactive peptides present in the milk. Due to their physiological and physicochemical versatility, milk peptides are regarded as greatly important components for health promoting foods or pharmaceutical applications. Milk is known to contain antihypertensive peptides. *In vitro* enzymatic digestion of milk proteins, several ACE-inhibitory peptides were identified.^[138] Peptides derived from α s-casein has been found to scavenge free radicals and lipid peroxidation.^[139,140] Iwami reported the existence of hypocholesterolemic peptides in milk.^[141] Among antimicrobial peptides, the lactoferricins are studied the most, which are derived from bovine and human lactoferrin. Lactoferricins, originated from milk have shown to have antimicrobial activities against yeasts, filamentous fungi and many Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria.^[142]

MEPHITIS

Homoeopathic use

The homoeopathic formulation has been prepared from Skunk's anal secretion. Hering proved the medicine in 30C. It is reported to be indicated in clinical conditions like vertigo, asthma, tooth and gum pain and discharge from the ears, whooping cough etc.^[143-145]

Research in modern biomedicine

Chemical constituents: Majorly, there are two kinds of compounds which are present in the secretion: (a) thiols and (b) acetate derivatives of the thiols, e.g. (*E*)-2-butene-1-thiol and 3-methyl-1-butanethiol and 2-quinoline-methanethiol. Among them, first two are the primary cause for the unpleasant smell of the secretion. The acetate derivatives of the thiols are less odoriferous. It also contains 2-methylquinoline.^[146,147] Quinolines have been studied extensively for bioactivities. Among them, anticancer activities are the most prominent ones.^[148] In fact, one of the components – 2-methylquinoline shows antiprion activities.^[149]

TROMBIDIUM

Homoeopathic use

This medicine is prepared from the whole mite. In

general, this medicine is anti-inflammatory. According to Allen, it can act on head, eye, ear, stomach, throat and mouth.^[150] William Boericke reported the use of this medicine in abdominal pain.^[151] Hering also reported its use in various inflammation.^[152] Douglass indicated its use in abdominal pain and diarrhoea.^[153]

THYROIDINUM

Homoeopathic use

It is being prepared from dried whole thyroid glands of domestic sheep. Clark indicated its use in acromegaly, abscess, albuminuria, amblyopia, amenorrhoea, anaemia, backache, constipation, fibroma, convulsions, optic neuritis, paralysis and tetanus.^[154] Lippe reported its usage in muscle weakness, rickets, cretinism and arrested development of children etc.^[155] Allen reported its use to cure palpitation, hysteria and different kinds of pain.^[156]

Research in modern biomedicine

Thyroid gland is extremely important gland-secreting hormones. The thyroid gland is an endocrine gland near the neck. It consists of two lobes which connected to each other by isthmus. The thyroid gland secretes three hormones of two types. (a) the two thyroid hormones (thyroxine/T4 and triiodothyronine/T3) and (b) calcitonin. The thyroid hormones chiefly regulate the metabolic rate and protein synthesis. However, besides these, it also influences developments. Calcitonin is associated with calcium homeostasis.^[157]

CONCLUSION

There are many animal-based drugs which are available in Homoeopathy showing diverse pharmacological effects. Interestingly, the recent biomedical studies also support the proving reported in Homoeopathic literature. However, recent development of analytical and biochemical field enables us to unravel the origin of the bioactivities. With the new discoveries, it is now possible to detect the active pharmaceutical ingredients. Thus, it is possible to undertake SAR (Structure Activity Relationship) study using structurally simple analogues. Overall, it could be inferred from the available literature that today's biochemical research related to animal-based drugs is considerably based on the findings of early homoeopathic practitioners. In future investigations, medical science can rely on the homoeopathic literature for drug discovery in the field of the animal-based therapeutics.

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Conflicts of interest

None declared.

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पशु-आधारित होम्योपैथिक दवा और जैव-चिकित्सा में उनके अनुप्रयोगों की समीक्षा

होम्योपैथी विश्व में चिकित्सा प्रदान करने वाली प्रणालियों में से एक है। होम्योपैथी में, अन्य सभी प्राकृतिक स्रोतों की तरह पशु और उनके स्राव का व्यापक रूप से उपयोग किया गया है। हालांकि, होम्योपैथिक दवाओं के अन्य प्राकृतिक स्रोतों के विपरीत, उदाहरण के लिए पौधों और रसायनों का संग्रह और जानवरों पर आधारित दवाओं की तैयारी, विशेष रूप से विदेशी जानवरों से दवाओं के लिए बेहद चुनौतीपूर्ण है। इस विचार से, जानवरों पर आधारित दवाओं से संबंधित अनुसंधान से जुड़ी चुनौतियों को यहां हम उन दवाओं की जैव-उत्पत्ति की रासायनिक उत्पत्ति के बारे में अनुसंधान की समीक्षा करते हैं। हमारी समीक्षा में लगातार पाया गया है कि आधुनिक जैव-चिकित्सा अनुसंधान की खोज होम्योपैथिक साहित्य की रिपोर्टों के अनुरूप है। कई मामलों में, हाल ही में जैव-चिकित्सा और औषधीय रसायन विज्ञान अनुसंधान ने पुराने होम्योपैथी साहित्य के निष्कर्षों को उचित ठहराया है। हमारा मानना है कि यह लेख न केवल होम्योपैथिक समुदाय के लिए फायदेमंद होगा, बल्कि भविष्य के जैव-चिकित्सा अनुसंधान के लिए होम्योपैथिक निष्कर्षों के बारे में आवश्यक जानकारी भी प्रदान करेगा।

Une étude des médicaments homéopathiques à base d'animaux et leurs applications en biomédecine

L'homéopathie est l'un des systèmes médicaux les plus pratiqués au monde. En homéopathie les animaux et leurs sécrétions, comme toutes les autres sources naturelles, ont beaucoup été utilisés. Cependant, contrairement aux autres sources naturelles des médicaments homéopathiques, tels que les plantes et les produits chimiques, la collecte et la préparation de médicaments à base d'animaux sont extrêmement difficiles, en particulier pour les médicaments provenant d'animaux exotiques. Vu les défis associés à la recherche portant sur les médicaments à base d'animaux, nous passons ici en revue les recherches sur l'origine chimique de la bio-activité de ces médicaments. Notre revue a constamment montré que les découvertes de la recherche biomédicale moderne correspondent à ce qui est trouvé dans la littérature homéopathique. Dans de nombreux cas, les recherches récentes en chimie biomédicale et médicinale justifient à juste titre les découvertes de la littérature homéopathique ancienne. Nous pensons que cet article sera non seulement bénéfique pour la communauté homéopathique mais pourra également fournir les informations nécessaires concernant les découvertes homéopathiques pour la recherche biomédicale future.

Revisión de los medicamentos homeopáticos animales y sus aplicaciones en biomedicina

La homeopatía es uno de los sistemas de medicina mejor practicado en el mundo. En homeopatía, se han utilizado ampliamente animales y sus secreciones, al igual que otras las otras fuentes naturales. Sin embargo, a diferencia de las otras fuentes naturales en homeopatía, como las plantas y los productos químicos, la recogida y preparación de los medicamentos de animales resultan sumamente complicadas, en especial cuando se trata de animales exóticos. Teniendo los problemas asociados a la investigación de medicamentos basados en animales, se ha revisado la investigación sobre el origen químico de las bioactividades de estos medicamentos. En esta revisión, se ha observado uniformemente que los descubrimientos de la investigación biomédica moderna coinciden con los informes de la bibliografía homeopática. En muchos casos, las investigación químicas biomédicas y médica modernas justifican coherentemente los hallazgos de la bibliografía homeopática antigua. En muchos casos, la investigación reciente en química biomédica y medicinal justifica acertadamente los hallazgos de la antigua literatura homeopática. En nuestra opinión, este artículo no solo será beneficioso para la comunidad homeopática sino que también proporcionará la información necesaria sobre los hallazgos homeopáticos para futuras investigaciones biomédicas.

Eine Übersicht über homöopathische Arzneimittel auf tierischer Basis und ihre Anwendungen in der Biomedizin

Die Homöopathie ist eines der am besten praktizierten medizinischen Systeme der Welt. In der Homöopathie sind wie bei allen anderen natürlichen Quellen Tiere und deren Sekrete weit verbreitet. Im Gegensatz zu anderen natürlichen Quellen homöopathischer Arzneimittel, z. pflanzen und chemikalien das sammeln und aufbereiten von arzneimitteln auf tierischer basis ist eine große herausforderung, insbesondere für arzneimittel von exotischen tieren. In Anbetracht der Herausforderungen, die mit der Erforschung von Arzneimitteln auf tierischer Basis verbunden sind, überprüfen wir hier die Erforschung der chemischen Herkunft der Bioaktivität dieser Arzneimittel. Unsere Überprüfung hat durchweg ergeben, dass die Entdeckungen der modernen biomedizinischen Forschung mit den Berichten aus der homöopathischen Literatur übereinstimmen. In vielen Fällen rechtfertigen die jüngsten Forschungsergebnisse der biomedizinischen und medizinischen Chemie die Ergebnisse der alten homöopathischen Literatur. Wir glauben, dass dieser Artikel nicht nur der homöopathischen Gemeinschaft zugute kommt, sondern auch die erforderlichen Informationen zu homöopathischen Befunden für die künftige biomedizinische Forschung liefert.

動物性來源的順勢療法藥物及其在生物醫學中的應用綜述

順勢療法是世界上其中一種最好的醫療系統。在順勢療法中，像所有其他天然來源一樣，動物及其分泌物已被廣泛使用。然而，與其他天然來源的順勢療法藥物不同，例如，植物和化學物以及動物性來源藥物的收集和製備都極具挑戰性，特別是對於非本地動物的藥物。考慮到與動物性來源藥物研究相關的挑戰，我們在此回顧了有關這些藥物生物活性化學來源的研究。在我們的綜述一致發現，現代生物醫學研究的發現與順勢療法文獻的報告一致。在許多情況下，最近的生物醫學和藥物化學研究恰當地證明了過往順勢療法文獻的發現。我們相信這篇文章不僅有益於順勢療法社區，而且可能為未來的生物醫學研究提供有關順勢療法發現的必要資訊。