

Natural Products as a Potential Source of Anti- SARS-CoV-2 Agents

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ABSTRACT

In the year 2020, the world witnessed a global pandemic, coronavirus disease (COVID-19) caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. This pandemic led to the death of millions of people globally. This viral disease like any other viral infection posed a great health challenge to the world. Currently, vaccines have been developed and approved for use by the World Health Organization (WHO), but acceptance by most people is the limiting factor. Various combinations of conventional drugs like remdesivir, chloroquine/hydroxychloroquine, dexamethasone, zinc tablets, and vitamin C are currently being used for clinical trials but have not been accepted by the World Health Organization (WHO). To this end, a search for alternative and effective drugs of natural origin for the management of COVID-19 diseases is needed. Natural products have been proved to be a source of anti-viral drugs with high potency and few adverse effects. Drugs of natural origin like chloroquine an anti-malaria drug, isolated from *Cinchona Officinalis* have been effective in the management of the disease. Also, drugs of natural origin isolated from Endophytes fungi have been used in the management of viral infections. In conclusion, natural products remain the last hope for the discovery of new drugs for the management of Coronavirus diseases.

Keywords: COVID-19, Pandemic, Natural products

Abbreviations: SARS-CoV-2: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Corona virus 2; COVID-19: Corona Virus Disease

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