

# Review of: "The pros and cons of utilizing crude herbal preparations as opposed to purified active ingredients, with emphasis on the COVID pandemic"

Kalachaveedu Mangathayaru

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

While totally agreeing with logic of the conclusion which in this case is based on some case studies, Health Care Regulators across the World face the issue of normalization of the practice of administering herbal preparations in a conventional clinical setting. Yes Integrating best herbal therapy practices into modern medical care is welcome, the bitter pill is 1. Quality control/ standardisation of the herbal drugs being proposed, 2. Concerns of accountability with regards safety/ toxicity issues, 3. Lack of benchmarks/ delineators of safe/ toxic doses vis a vis indication proposed for a particular herbal. For eg., several supposed toxic herbs were used in successful COVID management. What Norms decide which herb may be included/excluded for treatments henceforth is a big issue even in such emergency situations.

It would have been good if the clinician authors had proposed some basic criteria for inclusion of herbs into integrative medical practice