

## Review of: "Traditional soap plants used in hand hygiene, can play an important role in curbing infectious diseases including COVID-19. So why is there so little research?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article is very interesting because it focuses on two very important issues in the field of public health:

- The unavailability of basic pharmaceutical products for certain populations living in remote or isolated regions;
- The lack of interest from researchers for certain categories of natural products which do not have a significant economic interest but which could solve basic public health issues such as access to soap which is a basic ingredient for minimum hygiene.

I appreciated the chapter about saponin-bearing plants and pharmacolological activities of saponins. However, the author has only raised the issue and quickly jumped to the conclusion without giving concrete proposals or recommandations for health authorities.

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