

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.

The manuscript entitled "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?", is an interesting call to consider natural resources for hand sanitizing, particularly for SARS-CoV-2 infection. The argument of the author is the lack of formal research focused on the wild plants with soap-effect properties. Noticeably, the properly widespread information among rural communities in the worldwide could be useful, not only to avoid COVID-19 disease, but also for much more infectious agents (bacteria, fungus, parasites, etc.) that affect the poorest regions of the world, as well as societies with poor hygiene.

Despite the important issue handled by the author, in the opinion of this reviewer the manuscript needs extra work to fulfill with a scientific review or a scientific dissemination paper. Below you can find some considerations that author should fulfill to improve her manuscript, in order to be appropriately published by Qeios.

1. Since the manuscript is focused on the COVID-19 pandemic experience, the author should modify the title in order to highlight that pathology, and if she would like to put in perspective other kind of infections, then use the sentence "including other infectious diseases".
2. Author should revise the whole manuscript, it should be written formally (please check dates, expressions, etc.).
3. In formal writing, authors avoid anecdotic or not sustained information (please check the first paragraph of the introduction, among others). Also, avoid to write in first person.
4. Please check reference format when indicated in the body of the text of the manuscript.
5. Please use italics to write gender and/or species.
6. It would be desirable that the review manuscript structure goes from the general information to particular topics. In this case the manuscript has a mixed structure, going from the problem to the solution, coming back to the problem and again the same solution. Author should organize the information, in order to make a more accessible reading and to maintain the interest of the readers.