

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

As a reviewer, I find the paper's exploration of herbal treatments in medical practice to be intriguing and relevant. The recognition of the pharmacological activities present in many plants and the wealth of traditional knowledge surrounding their use in clinical situations is commendable. However, I believe it is crucial to address the concerns raised by most physicians regarding the lack of large-scale randomized controlled trials supporting the use of herbal preparations.

While the authors advocate for the cautious addition of herbal treatments to the medical armamentarium in specific situations where evidence-based approaches are lacking, the paper should emphasize the importance of conducting rigorous research and clinical trials to establish the efficacy and safety of these treatments. Highlighting cases where herbal treatments have shown promising results in COVID patients could serve as a starting point for further investigation, but it is essential to acknowledge the limitations of anecdotal evidence and the need for more robust studies.

Moreover, the paper should address potential challenges in implementing herbal treatments, such as standardization of dosages, variations in the composition of herbal products, and the potential for interactions with conventional medications. Proper regulation and quality control measures should also be emphasized to ensure patient safety.

Overall, while the idea of exploring herbal treatments in the absence of evidence-based approaches is intriguing, the paper should strike a balance between sharing knowledge and experience and promoting the need for rigorous scientific investigation. Encouraging further research in this area could pave the way for evidence-based integration of herbal treatments into medical practice, benefiting patients and healthcare providers alike.