

PHARMACOGNOSY - I

Ques. 07. What is the definition, scope & development of pharmacognosy?

Pharmacognosy is defined as the scientific and systematic study of physical, chemical and biological characters of crude drugs including their history, cultivation, collection and preparation for the commerce.

Scope and development

Pharmacognosy is important not only as an academic exercise. It is the infrastructure on which evolution of novel medicines depends. Eighty percent of world population depends on crude drug and folklore medicine.

- (i) cultivation and domestication of medicinal plant.
- (ii) Analysis of phytochemicals.
- (iii) Preparation of general tonics and stimulants.
- (iv) In steroid industry.
- (v) Herbal preparation.
- (vi) Preparation of antibiotics.
- (vii) Flavouring agents and perfumes.
- (viii) Tissue culture.

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Q-2) write short note on classification of drug on the basis of chemical and pharmacological classification of drugs.

Chemical classification:-

The plants and animals synthesize a large number of chemicals like carbohydrates, proteins, fat, volatile oils etc.

In these system drugs are classified according to their main chemical category. This system is very useful for the study of crude drug because it gives logical reasoning for the biological activity. Here it is very difficult to place the drug containing two different types of chemicals

(a) ~~ex~~ cinchona contain both alkaloid and glycoside.

Chemical constituents	Drugs
(i) Alkaloid	(iii)
Amine	calcium, Ephedra
Purine	Coffee, Tea. (vi)
(ii) Carbohydrate	(iv)
Gum	Acacia, Guarigum
mucilage	Isabghulā. (vii)

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(B)

iii) Glycosides	Aldehyde	Vanilla
	Anthraquinone	Aloe, Senna ←
iv) Lipids	Fixed oil	Castor, Almond
	Eat	Theobroma, Lanolin
v) Steroids	Cardiac glycoside	Digitalis, Squill
	- dex	

Pharmacological classification

- In this system of classification, drugs are grouped according to pharmacological action of their most important constituent.
- Here drugs having similar action are kept together.
- This system does not give any indication about morphological and chemical nature of drugs.

Pharmacological action	Drugs
Anti-cancer	Vinca, Taxus
Antiasthmatic	Ephedra, Labelia
Antinflammatory	Calcium seed
Hallucinogens	Cannabis, Cocaine

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Q-4) write short note on any two - (1)

- (a) Umbelliferae (b) Rutaceae
- (c) Galanaceae

(a) Umbelliferae

→ The umbelliferous plants are annual biennial or perennial herbs.

→ Pinnate type leaves are found in this family which are alternate in arrangement.

→ The fruits belonging to this family is known as umbelliferous fruits.

→ The cremocarp splits into two dry partial fruits remain as mericarps.

→ These mericarps are attached by a stalk like structure known as carpophore.

Ex - Anise, Coriander, Cummin, Dill, Ajowan etc are important drug of this family.

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(b) - Rutaceae

Some Rutaceae are lemon oil and orange oil. They are used as flavouring agent and perfuming agent, known for their pleasant characteristic odour. They are also used as stimulant, carminative, stomachic and in ischaemia.

Ex. Lemon oil.

Synonym - Oleum limonis

Botanical source - Lemon oil is obtained from the peels of citrus limon (L.) Burm. F. It is a member of Rutaceae family.

Geographical distribution - Native to India, grows in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

Preparation of lemon oil.

1) Sponge method

2) Esselle a bigger process

Constituents - The lemon peels contain 2-4% volatile oil. The main constituents of volatile oil are terpenes 94% (limonene (90%), citronellal, pinene, limonene, camphene, citral (4%), geranyl acetate, etc.). The chief odour constituent of oil is citral, geranyl acetate.

(c) Solanaceae

Hyocyanus (Henbane) - Khusani jvayan in Hindi, Bazarban in Kashmir and Black Henbane in English. Obtain from Hyocyanus niger.
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Ann. It contain alkaloids than O.D.S. total 2-8
alkaloids.

→ Found in temperate western Himalayan from
Kashmir to Garhwal.

→ In India, cultivated in western region of
Himalayan.

→ It is characterised by greyish green colour.

→ Midrib is very broad with numerous hairs.

→ Flower is subsessile, unilateral, lower axillary,
solitary.

→ Used as mydriatic (atropine and hyoscyne)

→ Used as anti-spasmodic, laxative.

→ Atropin is a CNS stimulant.

→ Hyoscyamine has weaker parasympatholytic
action than Belladonna and Scopolamine.

→ Belladonna; sag-angus in Hindi, Yebraj in
Bengali and "Deadly nightshade" in English is
obtained from dried leaves and flowering
tops of *Atropa belladonna* Linn and
Atropa acuminata Loyle (India belladonna).

→ They are indigenous to England and countries
like Italy, Russia.

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Q-5) What is plant tissue culture?

- It is an important technique for maintaining a part of animal or plant tissue alive after their removal from the organism.
- Then, the tissue or cell kept usually in culture dishes and provide necessary environment in which cell can live and multiply over period of time.
- Different media containing mixture of salts, amino acids, vitamins etc are used for this purpose.
- This technique is now a days widely applicable for the production of secondary metabolites.
- People using this technique to increase the yield of bio-active molecules.

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