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Plant-derived natural products for therapeutics and drug discovery: A phototherapeutic approach

Plant-derived natural products have long been used in therapeutic practices and drug discovery, offering significant contributions to modern medicine. Exploring the potentials of these natural compounds through a phytotherapeutic approach and emphasizing their role in treating and preventing diseases is of global interest. Moreover, the increasing prevalence of life-threatening conditions and the financial barriers to conventional treatments, plant-based therapies present a viable alternative to various diseases. The enormous availability of bioactive molecules in various parts of the plant—leaves, bark, flowers, fruits, seeds, and roots—and their effective pharmacological properties makes their use as extracts, fractions, and molecules towards drug discovery. Hence, natural products from varying sources can engage with multiple targets of human disorders. This article summarizes different approaches for phytochemical and pharmacological screening for drug discovery and development with in-vitro, in-vivo and in-silico approaches. These findings would support the further exploration of the effective herbal source and their targeted action for various diseases providing key insights for potential therapeutics.
Keywords: Phytotherapy, phytochemicals, pharmacology, drug discovery, diseases.

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