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Phytochemistry and Pharmacological Properties of Medicinal Plants

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Several secondary metabolites from medicinal plants have been used by mankind for centuries as therapeutic agents. These secondary metabolites, often called phytomedicines, contain chemical compounds that act on the animal body to prevent disorders and to restore or maintain health. Secondary metabolites or phytomedicines are usually multifunctional compounds in nature, capable of exhibiting several pharmacological properties. Hence, extracts of medicinal plants often interfere with several animal organs, tissues, cells, and molecular targets, resulting in restoration of health or relieving symptoms of ailments or diseases. Researchers around the world are therefore evaluating the concentration of phytochemicals in medicinal plants, the appropriate dosages and frequency, and the most effective method of administration of traditional medicines. Exploration of the phytochemistry and pharmacological properties of medicinal plants may lead to the discovery of new remedies, health-promoting products, or pharmaceutical drugs. The published research manuscripts and reviews in this Reprint focused on medicinal plants, phytochemistry and pharmacological properties of medicinal plants, clinical trials, quality control, safety, toxicity and efficacy evaluations of crude extracts and phytochemical compounds isolated from medicinal plants.



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