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Ethno-pharmacology

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Ethno-pharmacology is the scientific study correlating ethnic groups, their health and how it relates physical habits and methodology in creating and using medicines. It can be defined as a multidisciplinary study of biologically active agents used in traditional medicine. As there are many disciplines that contribute to this branch, the research methodologies are diverse. Plants and plant based remedies constitute a complex mixture of compounds and identifying the active principles that are relevant for the pharmacological properties is not an easy task. Nevertheless the interest in identifying these compounds with therapeutic effects is on a rise, as they form the lead compounds for developing new drugs. The loss of language and traditional knowledge due to acculturation and plant habit destruction is a major concern especially among smaller tribes. Loss of indigenous knowledge has an impact on modern medicine. There is an imminent need of resurgence of ethno-pharmacology as the knowledge of the use of plants is disappearing faster. Researchers in many disciplines including pharmacology must accelerate the studies of ethno-medicine, for developing new drugs from natural products needed by humans.

Biography

Divya Bade has completed her MBBS from NTRUHS and currently pursuing MD Pharmacology at SS Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre. She has undertaken a study on 'Prescription pattern of drugs in upper respiratory tract infections.'

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