Oxidative Medicine and Cellular Longevity

Special Issue on

Antidepressant Potential of Natural Products: Correlation with Prevention of Oxidative Stress

CALL FOR PAPERS

Despite continued efforts, the development of an effective treatment for dementia remains elusive. The social and economic impact of the proposal is very straightforward: age-related brain disorders (AD) represent a major global health problem. AD is expected to affect more than 22 million people worldwide by 2025, causing devastating suffering and enormous costs to families and society. For example, today, over 5 million Americans are living with AD, including an estimated 200,000 under the age of 65. Current therapeutic strategies are limited to those that attenuate AD symptomatology without deterring the progress of the disease itself and thus only postpone the inevitable deterioration of the affected individual. Unfortunately, xenobiotic medication has a major impact on AD patients due high number of side effects.

In recent years, anxiety and depression became two major health problems for younger active population (25–45 years old). Depressive disorders are a group of pathologies with high and growing prevalence in the population. It is a common illness worldwide, with about 350 million people affected (WHO, 2015). It is estimated that there will be a dramatic change in the health needs of the population. Illnesses such as depression are replacing the traditional problems of infectious diseases and malnutrition (Bahls, 2002). Loss of interest or persistent sadness are symptoms found in serious depression and can lead to a range of emotional and physical disturbances, such as inability to sleep or concentration tasks, changes in appetite, and suicidal thoughts.

Some studies show that antidepressant treatment results in increased antioxidant capacity and a decrease in circulating free radicals (Chang, 2015), including the involvement of the antioxidant defense system modulation (Lenzi, 2015). In this context, there is considerable interest in natural antioxidants as a safe alternative or complementary therapy to conventional medicine. Consequently, natural products, additionally antioxidants, could hopefully offer alternative or complementary possibilities to improve/treat diseases. Therefore, replacing synthetic antioxidants with natural alternatives, or simply replacing all synthetic food additives with natural choices, has attracted great interest.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Plants with antidepressant activity
- Antidepressant natural products
- Relationship of antioxidant and antidepressant activity of natural products
- Identification of antidepressant compounds isolated from medicinal plants
- Antidepressant natural products and their antioxidant metabolism
- Current treatment and future perspectives using natural products

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