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The Potential of Natural products in the Management of COVID-19: Opportunities and Challenges

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The severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) or coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) was first detected in Wuhan, China, in December 2019, as the cause of a pneumonia of unknown etiology. The SARS-CoV-2 rapidly spread all over the globe and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. As of 3 September 2022, over 604 million cases of COVID-19 have been reported globally, with more than 6.5 million deaths. Due to the rapid spread of the virus through these events and the lack of effective pharmaceutical treatments for the disease, important control measures have been implemented worldwide. Natural products have been playing a significant role in disease control since ancient days. Natural products are in extensive use arbitrarily as antiviral agents and immune boosters. Experimental studies (*in vitro*, *in vivo* and *in silico*) and some clinical trials have demonstrated the beneficial effects of some compounds of natural sources against COVID-19 infections. New drug discovery for the COVID-19 pandemic can encompass both prevention and disease management strategies. Exploitation of bioactive compounds from natural sources and promising targets for drug development against SARS-CoV-2 and antiviral activities of some of the known natural products will be presented. The available data can encourage carrying out clinical studies that may help in the discovery of herbal leads that can be feasibly used to alleviate, prevent or treat COVID-19 infection.

Keywords: COVID-18, COVID-19, Natural products, prevention and treatment.



Conférences