

Traditional Medicine for Asthma

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INTRODUCTION

Bronchial asthma is a common disease affecting almost 300 million people in the world and the prevalence of the disease is steadily increasing. The use of natural products with therapeutic properties is as ancient as human civilization and for a long time, mineral, plant and animal products were the main sources of drugs. Each tribal group has two to three well-reputed traditional healers locally known as. They have a number of superstitious beliefs related to different types of diseases and possess good knowledge in using herbal drugs [1-3]. Traditional medicines, including medicinal herbs and their preparations, are used as part of the primary health care for 70–95% of the population in the developing world, while over 70% of the population in developed nations uses some form of complementary/alternative medicines. The lack of harmonized international regulatory guidelines in regard to the manufacturing of herbal medicines represents a major obstacle in achieving quality assurance of raw materials worldwide [4-6]. Traditional Chinese medicine has a long history of human use. In China, Traditional Chinese medicine is routinely used as either mono agent immunotherapy or complementary therapy to conventional Western therapy for a variety of chronic disorders. It has been demonstrated that safely and effectively treatment in asthma through several randomized controlled trials did not describe in the Traditional Chinese medicine literature. Given the reputed safety and efficacy of Traditional Chinese medicine to treat disorders such as asthma, the possibility of using a Traditional Chinese medicine herbal formula to treat food allergies is being explored [7-9].

Medicinal herbs are processed and extracted in different countries and extensively manufactured by the herbal medicine industry. Qualifying herbal extracts as authentic and devoid of contaminants and adulterants in

every point of the supply chain has become important due to material changing hands often in the global trade. Preparation of herbal extracts from authentic and homogeneous starting materials is the first step in generating extract references [10,11]. About some traditional plants, the side effects of the plants used are also not known. Plants are used as simple and in some cases, as combinations of several plants. The traditional knowledge on the properties of these plants and on their use to treat asthma are increasingly being put to the practice of medicine [12,13]. Controller medications are essential for the treatment of persistent asthma to control and maintain symptoms. Immunomodulation is an attractive strategy for the development of a new controller for allergic asthma and herbal medicine is a good way for this approach and imbalance of the Th1 and Th2 immune response is the primary strategy for immunomodulation as a therapeutic approach. In addition to the immunological approach, anti-inflammatory therapy using new agents besides herbs is desired. The evaluation of efficacy and safety of herbal medicine remedies is now being approached with the methodologies and clinical trial protocols standard in medicine [14,15]. These medicines have been used from many thousand years ago for cure of cough and breath failure (asthma). This is a suitable for allergic asthma and using is easy for every patient

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