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Manuscript title: The use of medicinal plants in oral candidiasis therapy: a scoping review

Article type: Review

Author: Miss Luthfina Zahidah

Journal: Drug, Healthcare and Patient Safety (Journal impact factor: 1.6) https://www.dovepress.com/drug-healthcare-and-patient-safety-journal

Abstract: Oral candidiasis, caused by Candida spp., is a prevalent opportunistic infection of the oral cavity. Conventional antifungal therapies are associated with adverse effects and the development of drug resistance, necessitating alternative treatments. Medicinal plants have demonstrated antifungal effects against Candida spp., making them potential candidates for oral candidiasis therapies. This review aimed to explore the extent of the literature and summarize the evidence on the use of various plants for oral candidiasis therapy. Searches were conducted until 2023 in Scopus, PubMed, EBSCOHost, Google Scholar, and through citation searching. Inclusion criteria were clinical studies examining the effects of plant extract preparations as a treatment for oral candidiasis, published in the English language between 2012 – 2023, and available in full text accessible to the author. Twelve randomized controlled trials (RCTs) met the criteria, investigating the effects of Camellia si

nensis, Cinnamomum zeylanicum, Uncaria tomentosa, Ricinus communis, Satureja hortensis, Zataria multiflora, Punica granatum, Zingiber officinale, Allium sativum, and Curcuma longa. The results revealed that these plant extracts significantly reduced the clinical symptoms and/or Candida colonies count in patients with oral candidiasis. However, due to some limitations, these findings are not enough to attest the efficacy of medicinal plants for oral candidiasis treatment. Further research, including well-designed clinical trials, is needed to confirm the effectiveness and safety of medicinal plants as a viable treatment option for oral candidiasis

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If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Ms Fiona Gilbertson
On behalf of Dr Rajender R Aparasu
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Dear Dr Murtiastutik

Thank you for agreeing to review the manuscript:

Manuscript title: The use of medicinal plants in oral candidiasis therapy: a scoping review

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Kind regards Ms Gilbertson On behalf of Dr Aparasu



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Peer Review

Note: Your review should provide an objective critical evaluation of the paper in the broadest terms. There is NO requirement to comment specifically on matters of style.

Title & Abstract

1. In your view, how effectively does the title and abstract capture the content and focus of the manuscript? Please provide any suggestions for improvement, if needed.

The title and abstract in this manuscript adequately explain the content and purpose of the writing. In the abstract, the author mentions that the research findings indicate clinical improvement in oral candidiasis after therapy with medicinal plants. However, it is also stated that there are some limitations, preventing the results from conclusively proving the effectiveness of the therapy. Perhaps briefly mentioning what these limitations are (small studies, not standard metodology, or small subjects, etc..) could be completed the abstract.

Introduction

2. Do you find the background and information provided adequate for understanding the research? Are there any additional aspects you would suggest incorporating?

Yes, the background in this manuscript effectively describes the writing's purpose

Review

3. Does the review present an unbiased summary of the current understanding of the topic?

Does the manuscript present a balanced view of recent work by active groups in the subject area?

Does the review make a valuable contribution to the field?

Yes, the review present an unbiased summary of the current understanding of the topic

Yes, the manuscript present a balanced view of recent work by active groups in the subject area

Yes, the review make a valuable contribution to the field by exploring the adjuvant and alternative treatment for oral candidiasis

But, I have some suggestions for the author:

The title and purpose of this manuscript aim to elucidate and demonstrate the effectiveness of medicinal plant therapy

Conclusion

4. Does the conclusion provide a clear summary of the main points? Does it present the significance of these points?

Yes, the conclusion provide a clear summary and significance of the main points

In the conclusion, the author should emphasize the reasons for concluding why clinical evidence alone is insufficient to support the effectiveness of medicinal plants as antifungals. The author may also explore the potential of medicinal plants as adjunctive therapy if they are not effective enough as standalone therapy.

Figures & Tables 5. If the author has provided figures and tables are the figures and tables clear and legible? Are the figures free from unnecessary modification? Yes, the author has provided figures and tables are the figures and tables clear and legible, There is no need for modification so far Please refer to our editorial polices for guidelines on image integrity and manipulation. If you have any concerns about duplication or manipulation of images, please provide detail in the box above 6. In your view, has the paper raised any ethical concerns, are the statistical analysis appropriate to the research and the references relevant to the study? Please refer to our editorial policies for guidelines on research ethics and consent, plagiarism, duplicate submission, textrecycling/self-plagiarism, authorship and data falsification/fabrication, reference style After reviewing the disclosed competing interests of the authors, I do not identify any ethical concerns. The statistical analysis appears appropriate for the research, and the references are relevant to the study. **Recommendations to the Editor** 9. Recommendations to Editors O Accept - without further changes Revise - with minor changes O Revise - with major changes O Reject - not suitable for revision O Reject - not sound/not suitable for publication 10. Would you be willing to review a revision of this manuscript? Yes Additional comments (If you have any further comments to make, please add them here) No Confidential comments for Editor (Confidential comments for the Editor-in-Chief only) No

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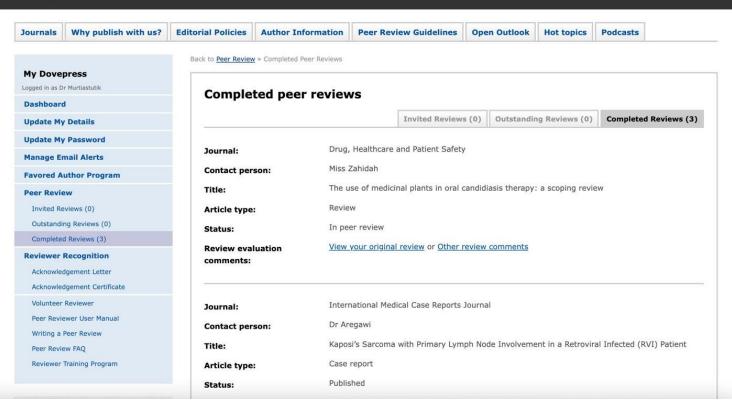
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If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards Ms Gilbertson [ID: 464973]



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Dr Murtiastutik

Journal Name: Drug, Healthcare and Patient Safety

Title: The use of medicinal plants in oral candidiasis therapy: a scoping review

Submission ID: 464973

On behalf of the author(s) and Dove Medical Press I would like to thank you for providing peer review comments for this manuscript.

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