Formulation And Evaluation of Herbal Oil In The Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis

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Abstract

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is a chronic autoimmune disorder characterized by inflammation, joint pain, and progressive cartilage damage. Conventional treatments often have adverse effects, leading to increased interest in herbal formulations as alternative therapies. This study focuses on the formulation and evaluation of an herbal oil for the treatment of RA, utilizing medicinal plants with anti-inflammatory, analgesic, and antioxidant properties. A polyherbal oil was prepared using extracts from Tridax procumbens, Ashwagandha, Indian Bdellium, sesame oil as a base. These ingredients were selected for their well-documented pharmacological activities in reducing inflammation and alleviating joint pain. The oil was formulated using the infusion technique, followed by physicochemical evaluations, including viscosity, pH, spreadability, and stability studies. The therapeutic efficacy of the herbal oil was assessed using patch test. The results demonstrated significant inhibition of inflammatory markers, reduced paw swelling, and improved mobility in treated subjects compared to the control group. Additionally, no significant adverse effects were observed, confirming the safety profile of the formulation.

Keywords: Rheumatoid Arthritis, Tridax procumbens, Ashwagandha, Indian Bdellium, sesame oil

Introduction:-

Millions of individuals worldwide suffer from the crippling disease known as arthritis, which causes pain, swelling, and stiffness in the joints. Rheumatoid arthritis, gout, and osteoarthritisare common forms that frequently impair mobility and quality of life. There is growing interest in natural, less intrusive arthritis treatments as the world's population ages[1]. Arthritis, generally inflammation of joints is a one of the oldest known diseases occurring almost in all age groups. In India, more than about 20% of total population is suffering from arthritis[2]. Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) is a chronic autoimmune disease of unknown a etiology, characterized by joint synovial inflammation and progressive cartilage and bone destruction resulting in gradual immobility [3]. Herbal oil is a natural extract derived from medicinal plants, infused in a carrier oil, and used for therapeutic purposes, including the treatment of arthritis. These oils contain bioactive compounds with anti-inflammatory, analgesic, and circulation-boosting properties that help relieve pain, reduce swelling, and improve joint mobility.

Material And Method:-

All the natural materials used in the present study i.e tridax procumbens, ashwagandha, guggul, sesame oil and turmeric are purchased from local market. In a form of dried powder and were authenticated at Nandkumar shinde college of pharmacy Vaijapur.

1] Tridax Procumbens:

- **Synonym :-** coat buttons, Mexican daisy, tridax daisy, Amellus pedunculatus, Balbisia canescens, Balbisia elongata, Chrysanthemum
- Class Magnoliopsida
- Subclass Asteridae
- Order Asterales
- Family Asteraceae
- Genus Tridax

- Species Tridax procumbens
- Chemical constituents:- flavonoids (catechins and flavones), alkaloids, tannins, saponins and carotenoids [4] [5] [6] [7]



Figure No 1:- Tridax Procumbens

2] Ashwagandha:-

- Synonyms: Indian Ginseng, Winter Cherry, Ajagandha, Asgandha, Varahkarn, Vajigandha Hayagand, Withania somnifera
- Class: Dicotyledons
 Order: Tubiflorae
 Family: Solanaceae
 Genus: Withania
 Species: somnifera Dunal
- Chemical constituents:- withanolides (steroidal lactones), alkaloids, and saponins, [8] [9]



Figure No 2:- Ashwagandha

3] Indian Bdellium:-

Synonyms:- Indian bdellium-tree, gugal, guggal, guggul, gugul, or mukul myrrh tree

Class: Trichophytes

Subclass: Angiosperms

Order: Sapindales

Family: Burseraceae

Genus: Commiphora

Species: C. wightii

Chemical constituents :- volatile oil, resin, gum, and various compounds like guggulsterones (E- and Z-), guggulsterols, guggullignans, and guggultetrols [10] [11] [12]



Figure No 3 :- Indian Bdellium

Formulation Table :-

Sr No	Ingredients	Quantity	Category
1	Tridax procumbens	10gm	Anti-inflammatory & healing
2	Ashwagandha	10gm	For Stress and rejuvenation
3	Indian Bdellium	10gm	Cartilage and bone protection
4	Sesame oil	100ml	Carrier oil
5	Turmeric	5gn	Anti allergic

Procedure:-

Dry the herbs tridax procumbens, ashwagandha in shaded area away from direct sunlight

Guggul resin, break into the small pieces into the mortal pestle

Make the course powder of above herbs by grinding

Heat the sesame oil in double boiler

at the room temperature 40-50°c

Add the herbs in heated oil, be aware about herbs are not burn or overheat

Let's mixture infuse over a low heat for about 30 – 45 min stirring occasionally

The oil should turn slightly greenish due to herbs & add turmeric powder

After the herbs are have infused, remove the oil from the heat and allow it to cool to room temperature

Strain the oil through a fine muslin cloth to remove the plant residue and solid particles

Store the oil in dark glass container to protect it from light [13] [14]



Evaluation Test:-

1] Identification Test for oil:-

- Colour :- The colour of the oil was observed by visual examination.
- Odour: The odour of oil was found to be characteristics.
- State :- The state of oil was examined visually. The oil was liqid in state
- Consistency:- The formulation was examined by rubbing cream on hand manually. The cream having smooth consistency [15]

2] Spreadability test: Excess sample was placed between the two glass slides and 100 g weight was placed on the glass slide for 5 min to compress the sample to a uniform thickness. Weight (100 g) was

added to the pan. The time in seconds required to separate the two slides was taken as a measure of spreadability.[16]

Spreadability was calculated by following formula

$$S = M \times L / T$$

Where

S= Spreadability

M= Weight tide to upper side

L= Length of glass slides

T= Time taken to separate the slides It was found to 5 seconds.

3] washability test: Washability was determined by rubbing the little amount of base on hand for test.[17]

4] Irritancy test: Small quantity of oil applied on skin and wait for 10 minutes after 10 minutes we evaluate that oil properties on skin. [18]

5] Viscosity:- The viscosity of the formulation was determined by Brookfield viscometer at 100 r/min, using the spindle No. 7 [19]

Results:-

Medicinal plants used in the formulation of Herbal oil we found in these plants were found to be tridax procumbens, ashwagandha and guggul have been reported for anti arithmetic properties. The various quality control parameters Like Physical Appearance/Visual Inspection, PH, Irritancy, Washability, Viscosity, Spread Ability . All parameter gives favorable result. The result obtained on present study shows that the active ingredients of these drugs when incorporated in Herbal oil gives more stable products with good anti-inflammatory activity.

Sr .No	Test	Result
1	Colour	Yellowish green
2	Odour	Pungent
3	State	Liquid
4	Consistency	Thin
5	Spreadability Test	32mm
6	Washability test	Slightly washable
7	Irritancy test	Non irritant

8	Viscosity	21cps
9	рН	6.3

Conclusion:

The present study was point out with the object of preparing the Herbal oil that improves the anti inflammation property and treat the rheumatoid arthritis. Herbal oil was formulated with the tridax procumbens, ashwagandha, guggul, sesame oil and turmeric that are commonly used for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. The main challenge lies in the selection of natural material which can be rationally justified and comparable to that of synthetic material. In present study our aim is to develop an Herbal oil which would be natural. We Formulated an Herbal oil by using plant extracts which are commonly used traditionally and lauded for rheumatoid arthritis.

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