Alternative Approaches for Rheumatoid Arthritis Management: Future Perspective, Herbal, Dietary, Lifestyle, Psychological, Nutritional Intervention and Healthcare

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Authors’ contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

Rheumatoid arthritis is an inflammatory disease autoimmune disorder that develops when our immune system attacks the tissues near joints due to the release of chemicals and enzymes. Although the exact pathogenesis of the disease has yet to be determined, studies indicate that cellular proliferation of synoviocytes results in pannus formation, which damages cartilages and bones. Recent research also supports the role of free radicals in the disease's pathogenesis. For rheumatoid arthritis treatment, a variety of anti-inflammatory and other types of drugs are available. However, long-term use of such types of pharmacological drugs is associated with serious side effects. As a result, herbal remedies, lifestyle, nutritional, probiotics, dietary and psychological interventions provide a rich source of anti-arthritic agents along with management of rheumatoid arthritis. This review focused on pathogenesis, treatments approaches for RA, mechanism of action, patents of marketed products. Tailored made approaches for arthritis management helps the scientists and researchers for finding newer leads, promotes growth and development of herbal industries, significantly improving health.

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ABBREVIATIONS

RA : Rheumatoid Arthritis;
Ig : Immunoglobulins;
IL : Interleukin;
TNF : Tumor Necrosis Factor;
MMP : Matrix Metalloproteinase;
TGF : Transforming Growth Factor;
PGF : Platelet Growth Factor;
IF : Interferon;
GMCSF : Granulocyte-Macrophage Colony-Stimulating Factor;
VEGF : Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor;
FGF : Fibroblast Growth Factor;
ESR : Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate;
CRP : C-Reactive Protein;
Anti-CCP : Anti-Circulating Citrulline Peptides;
NSAIDs : Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs;
DMRADS : Disease-Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Medications;
RBC : Red Blood Cells;
WBC : White Blood Cells;
LTB4 : Leukotrienes B4;
PG : Prostaglandins;
COX : Cyclo-Oxygenase;
NO : Nitric oxide;
TPA : Type Plasminogen Activator,
ALT : Alanine Aminotransferase;
ROM : Range of Motion;
ALA : Alpha-Linolenic Acid;
DHA : Docosahexaenoic Acid;
EPA : Eicosapentaenoic Acid.

1. INTRODUCTION

Arthritis is a widespread health problem that affects millions of people in the United States. It is a condition characterized by chronic joint pain and inflammation. There are about 200 rheumatic diseases or serious ailments related to tissues, joints, and other connective tissues. Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) develops when immune system targets the tissues near our joints, resulting in the release of specific chemicals and enzymes that begin to eat away at the cartilage and bone [1,2]. Although the etiology of RA is uncertain and thought to be caused by a dysfunctional immune system [3]. The fundamental aspect of arthritis is a continuous discomfort that gets localized in the damaged joint. The pain worsens with daily wear and tear on the joints, muscle tension from vigorous motions against stiff, painful joints, and exhaustion [4-6]. Patients with arthritis have significant joint pain and approximately half of all people with arthritis experience chronic pain [7]. There are over 100 different forms of arthritis. Osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis are two of the most frequent forms [8]. Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is an inflammatory illness that mostly disturbs the body's junctions coated with synovium (specific tissue responsible for sustaining the nutrition and lubrication of the joint). The distribution of afflicted joints (synovial joints) is typical [9]. According to the WHO, Rheumatoid arthritis affects 0.3-1 % of the global residents, with females three times more than males [10]. RA is a systemic autoimmune disease that results in chronic inflammation. The foremost symptoms of RA include pain, swelling, cartilage, and bone degeneration, resulting in permanent disability [11]. Although the actual cause is unknown, various studies suggest, that is caused by a combination of hereditary tendencies and exposure to environmental factors such as viruses [12]. Inflammation of the joints causes pain, edema, and joint deterioration, as well as deformity. Other internal organs, such as the eyes, lungs, heart, and nerves, can be affected on rare occasions. The symptoms fluctuate significantly from individual to individual. In various situations, RA begins by infecting a few joints and then spreads to other joints all over the body over the development of a few weethks or months. RA, on the other hand, can proceed exceedingly quickly; non-specific indications of RA include weariness, discomfort in and around the joints, fever, and weight loss/poor appetite. RA can expand to more and more joints on both sides of the body over time, generally in a symmetrical pattern [13].

The goal of rheumatoid arthritis treatment is to alleviate indications, halt disease development, and improve value of life. Before beginning RA treatment, consider the conditions such as analgesia relief, inflammation reduction, articular structure protection, function maintenance, and systemic involvement control [14].
1.1 Rheumatoid Arthritis Versus Osteoarthritis

The development of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis and the differences between them are shown in Figs. 1-3 and Table 1.

Plate 1. Symmetrical pattern

2. PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Immune complexes and the complement system initiate RA, supported by cytokines, and rely on metalloproteinases. Antigen-activated CD4+ T cells stimulate monocytes, macrophages, and synovial fibroblasts to produce the cytokines interleukin 1 (IL-1), interleukin 6 (IL-6), and Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF), as well as matrix metalloproteinases, via cell surface signaling. In the early stages of RA, the synovial fluid contains a high concentration of neutrophils. Protrusions in the joint capsule form as a result of chronic hypertrophy and hyperplasia. Immunoglobulin G (IgG)/antigen-antibody complexes found in synovial fluid. In RA, cartilage dissolved results in erosion caused by osteoclasts and proteolytic enzymes. Immunoglobulins M and A (IgM and IgA) are significant pathogenic markers in RA [16,17]. Molecular mechanism involved in rheumatoid arthritis, is shown in Fig. 4.

3. PROCESS OF TARGETING STAGE TO FULMINANT DISEASE

Many cells and their cytokines play vital roles in the development of RA. Leukocytes infiltrate the synovial section and the synovial fluid flood with pro-inflammatory mediators. It starts an inflammatory cascade that involves fibroblasts like synoviocytes interacting with innate immune system cells like monocytes, macrophages, mast cells, dendritic cells, and adaptive immune system cells (T and B cells). Endothelial cells play an essential role in angiogenesis. The hyperplastic synovial membrane, cartilage damage, bone erosion, and systemic consequences are all in the fulminant stage. Bone resorption causes bone erosion, usually found where the synovial membrane is introduced into the periosteum and referred to as an area bare by certain anatomical features. Degeneration of articular cartilage can occur due to the destruction of subchondral bone, reduction in osteoblasts and an increase in osteoclasts and synovial cells. TNF, matrix metalloproteinase (MMP), transforming growth factor (TGF), platelet growth factor (PGF), interferon (IFN), granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GMCSF), vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and fibroblast growth factor (FGF) are involved in fulminant disease [9,18].

Fig. 1. Difference between formation of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis
Fig. 2. Comparison between normal joints and joints having osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis

Fig. 3. Difference between normal joint and joint having rheumatoid arthritis

Table 1. Difference between rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis [15]

| Rheumatoid arthritis | Osteoarthritis | Characteristics |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Begin at any time in life | Leggings later | Age at which it starts |
| Rapid, weeks to months | Slow, over years | Onset speed |
| Swollen and stiff | Ache but no swelling | Symptoms of joints |
| Longer than 1 hour | Less than 1 hour | Duration of stiffness |
| Frequent fatigue | Whole-body symptoms are not present | Presence of symptoms |
| Positive rheumatoid factor | Negative rheumatoid factor | Laboratory findings |

4. STAGES/ CAUSES OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

RA happens when the immune system attacks the synovial membrane, the lining of the membranes, surrounding the joints; the resulting tenderness thickens the synovial membrane, ultimately abolishing the cartilage and bone inside the joint. The tendons and ligaments holding the joint together, deteriorate and stretch. Gradually, the joint loses the figure and arrangement [19].
Fig. 4. Molecular mechanism of rheumatoid arthritis

Fig. 5. Process of targeting stage to formation of fulminant disease
Fig. 6. Stages of rheumatoid arthritis

Fig. 7. Steps involved in rheumatoid arthritis

5. SYMPTOMS

Symptoms include joint swelling, discomfort, morning joint stiffness, lack of sleep, exhaustion, weight loss, and the sensation of having flu symptoms. Rheumatoid factors, antibodies (IgG) found in the blood, are used to diagnose rheumatoid arthritis. These bind to the antigen and create an antigen-antibody complex, causing discomfort and inflammation of the synovial membrane. The American College of Rheumatology requires at least four out of the seven criteria listed below to confirm the diagnosis [20].
• Morning joint stiffness lasts at least one hour.
• Three or more joints have been arthritic for at least six weeks.
• Hand joints have been arthritic for at least six weeks.
• At least six weeks of arthritis on both sides of the body.
• Under-the-skin rheumatoid nodules.
• Rheumatoid factor detected in blood tests.
• X-rays show evidence of RA [21].

6. DIAGNOSIS

Rheumatoid arthritis is problematic to diagnose in its early phases because the symptoms are parallel to those of other diseases. There are no results from blood tests or physical checkups to back up the analysis. During the physical examination, look for swelling, redness, and hotness in the joints. You can also put your responses and strength to the test [22].

6.1 Blood Tests

People with RA have a higher rate of red blood cell sedimentation. Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) or C-reactive protein (CRP), signifying an inflammatory process in the body. Other standard blood tests look for rheumatoid factor antibody levels and anti-circulating citrulline peptides (anti-CCP).

6.2 Visual Examination

X-rays can aid in tracking the development of rheumatoid joint arthritis over time. In addition, MRI and ultrasound scans help assess the severity of the disease.

7. ALLOPATHIC TREATMENT FOR RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS AND ITS LIMITATIONS

7.1 Treatment

Treatment aims to reduce the inflammatory state with some relief, minimize joint damage, and ultimately improve physical condition and quality of life. If you change your lifestyle, medications may be prescribed. There are medications available to treat rheumatoid arthritis [22]. Based on the severity of symptoms and the length of time, various drugs are used in the treatment of RA.

7.1.1 Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are medications that are used to treat pain and inflammation. Over-the-counter NSAIDs include ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin IB, and others) and naproxen sodium (Aleve). Possible side effects include stomach upset, heart problems, and kidney damage [23].

7.1.2 Steroids

Prednisone and other corticosteroid drugs relieve inflammation and pain while also reducing joint deterioration. Bone deterioration, weight gain, and diabetes are all possible side effects. Doctors frequently prescribe corticosteroids to relieve symptoms quickly and gradually wean patients off the medication [20].

7.1.3 Traditional Disease-modifying anti-rheumatic medications (DMARDs)

These drugs may reduce the development of rheumatoid arthritis and avoid permanent damage to joints and other tissues. Methotrexate (Trexall, Otrexup, etc.), leflunomide (Arava), hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil), and sulfasalazine are examples of common DMARDs (Azulfidine). Side effects can range from mild to severe but can include liver damage and severe lung infections [5,16].

7.1.4 Biologic agents

This new class of DMARDs, known as biologic response modifiers, includes abatacept (Orencia), adalimumab (Humira), anakinra (Kineret), certolizumab (Cimzia), etanercept (Enbrel), golimumab (Simponi), infliximab (Remicade), rituximab (Rituxan), sariluma (Actemra) [24].

7.1.5 Surgery for rheumatoid arthritis

Some people require joint replacement surgery if joint pain and inflammation become unbearable or significantly injured joints. The hips and knees and the shoulders, on occasion, are the most commonly replaced joints. The pain and mobility are significantly improved with surgery. Most people wait until they are over 50 since prosthetic joints wear out after 15 to 20 years [5,25].
7.2 Limitations of Rheumatoid Arthritis Treatment

The management of pain, avoiding long-term joint damage, and reducing inflammation are critical issues when treating RA. DMARDs and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines (NSAIDs) have been the primary treatments utilized to treat the disease's symptoms and after-effects. [26] Corticosteroids, an anti-inflammatory hormone generated by the adrenal glands, are another steroidal medication used to treat RA inflammation [27]. An optimal steroid should meet the requirements at a low dose while avoiding adverse effects. Both steroidal and non-steroidal medications reduce symptoms but cannot cure or prevent disease in the long run [28].

Aside from that, patients may experience severe side effects, such as impacts on the kidney, liver, and heart, resulting from long-term usage of such medications. Short-term adverse effects include shortness of breath, nausea, infections, and allergic reactions, result in fundamental constraints and issues, dealing with steroidal medicines for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis [29].

8. MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT APPROACHES OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

8.1 Herbal Intervention for Rheumatoid Arthritis

Traditional treatments have been used successfully to treat inflammatory and arthritic disorders. Chronic inflammatory illnesses, such as rheumatoid arthritis, remain one of the world's major health concerns. Although various medications are used to treat it, long-term use results in unfavorable severe side effects, the most prevalent being gastrointestinal bleeding and peptic ulcers. As a result, new anti-inflammatory medicines with negligible side effects. It is worth noting that most of today's analgesic medicines have an extensive variety of adverse properties [30].

Most ethnic people still rely on native medicinal plants to heal various diseases, employing knowledge of herbal treatment passed down from their forefathers as summarized in Table 2. However, due to the accessibility of recent medical facilities and other socioeconomic circumstances, this ethno-therapeutic knowledge and medicinal plants are decreasing at a distressing rate. On the other hand, the command is helpful in the quest for novel medicines to improve human health. Herbal medicines have gained popularity in recent years, both at home and abroad, because of less hazardous than synthetic medicines [30,31]. The Inflammation pathway in RA and mechanism of action of herbs are depicted in Fig. 8.

8.2 Lifestyle Intervention for RA Management

Rheumatoid arthritis is a chronic disease and may be exacerbated in patients due to unhealthy lifestyle, nutrition and exercise. There are certain evidences and facts that are proven beneficial for management of arthritic pain. Regular exercise, along with healthy eating habits reduces stiffness in joint and helps in weight management, thus reduces stress on the hips and knees and lower back. The consumption of omega 3 fatty acids, nuts, vegetables and fruits further helps in weight management, reduces inflammation and promotes well-being [80-83].

Regular exercise reduces pain and swelling of joint and improves endurance capacity and muscle strengthening around joints. Walking and swimming are non-impacted exercises found beneficial for management of arthritic patients. Exercising 30 minutes at moderate intensity for 5 times a week are recommended for arthritic patients [84-85].

Other lifestyle interventions for arthritic pain are education, dietary management, smoking cessation, massaging and psychological intervention. The exercise goals for RA patients are explained in Table 3 [81-85].

8.3 Nutritional intervention

Nutrition helps in improvement of arthritic condition where modern medicine fails to provide permanent cure. Dieticians play important role in educating patients about safety and effectiveness of healthy eating. This further controls comorbidities like hypertension, diabetes and obesity. Dietary intervention like grains, omega 3 fatty acids, fruits and leafy vegetables are successful medium for management of arthritic patient through weight control. Healthy nutrition helps in improving joint pain and increases endurance capacity. Nutritional
interventions are discussed in Table 4 [83, 85-89].

8.4 Psychological Intervention

Psychological stress is very common in arthritic patients due to pain discomfort. The chronic pain disturbs the mental psychology and affects patients’ behavior. This results in treatment withdrawal symptoms and avoidance from therapy by patients and causes feeling of fear, anger and stress. Medical intervention for improving mental well-being plays significant role in improving psychological stress through self-regulation and regular follow-ups [81-82, 85].

8.5 Educational Intervention

Education programmes of right information in appropriate manner should be shared and delivered for management of chronic patients. The following points for educating the patients are discussed below [82-85].

- Understanding disease pharmacology and patient mind-set.
- Make patient aware about movements of joints.
- Focuses on lifestyle intervention.
- Educating patients how to cope with disease with pain.
- Involvement of family members, positive impact on patient.
- Other intervention are low-laser therapy and electro therapy.

9. FUTURE PERSPECTIVE

Alternative medications are way forward for management of arthritis pain. The drug therapy is complicated and troublesome due to risk of adverse effects, patient withdrawal and cost of medication. The various herbs such as Devil’s claw, Boswellia, Rosehip used for management of RA results in side effects like insomnia, stomach upset and some interact with prescribed medicines but are not so significant [86]. Natural remedies patents for management of RA are discussed in Table 5.

10. HERBAL MARKETED PRODUCTS FOR ARTHRITIS

The various marketed herbal products used in the management of arthritis shown in the (Table 6).

Fig. 8. Inflammation pathway in RA and mechanism of action of herbs
| Plant name                      | Family          | Part used       | Chemical constituents                                                                 | Extract              | Mechanism of action                                                                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Acyranthus aspera Linn.        | Amaranthaceae   | Root, Stem      | n-hexacos-14-enioic acid                                                               | Alcoholic            | Inhibition of secondary lesions [30,32].                                             |
| Aconitum vilmorinianum Kom     | Ranunculaceae   | Root            | Vilmorrianines E-G                                                                     | Ethanolic            | Improvement of joint allodynia, swelling, hyperaemia and vascular permeability [33]. |
| Alstonia scholaris Linn. R.Br. | Apocynaceae     | Leaf            | Alstonine, Echitamine                                                                  | Ethanolic            | Total leukocyte migration, as well as lymphocytes and monocytes/macrophages migration, are reduced [34]. |
| Ammania bracifera              | Lythraceae      | Leaf            | 4-hydroxy-a-tetralone, tetralone-4-O-B-D-glucopyranosid, ellagic acid                  | Aqueous alcoholic    | ESR and WBC count decreases [35].                                                   |
| Argyreia speciosa Sweet        | Convulvulaceae  | Root            | Ergometrine                                                                            | Ethanolic            | Prevents recruitment of erythrocytes [36,37].                                         |
| Artocarpus tonkinensis A. Cheval| Moraceae        | Leaf            | Alphitonin-4-O-b-D-glucopyra noside                                                     | Ethyl acetate extract| T-cells apoptosis induction [38].                                                     |
| Asystasia dalzelliana Santapau.| Acanthaceae     | Leaf            | Aesculetin                                                                             | Ethanolic            | Decrease synthesis if T-cells generation [39].                                        |
| Arnebia euchroma Johnst.       | Boraginaceae    | Root            | β,β'-dimethylacylshikonii                                                               | 95% Ethanolic        | Suppress level of TNF-α and IL-1β [40].                                              |
| Bacopa monniera Penell.        | Scrophulariaceae| Whole plant     | Jujubogenin or pseudo-jujubogenin                                                       | Methanolic           | Stabilize the action of lysosomal membrane [41].                                     |
| Barleria lupilina Lindl.       | Acanthaceae     | Leaf            | Hexadecanoic acid, ethyl 9,12,15-octadecatrienoate                                     | Methanolic           | Assist cell mediate immune response [42].                                            |
| Barleria prionitis Linn.       | Acanthaceae     | Whole plant     | 7-methoxy dideurosides, lupulinoside                                                    | Hydro-alcoholic      | It lowers the ESR level [43].                                                        |
| Bauhinia variegata             | Caesalpinaceae  | Stem            | 5,7-dimethoxy-30, 40-methylene dioxy flavone                                           | Ethanolic            | Superoxide dismutase, catalase, glutathione Peroxidase, lipid peroxide [44].         |
| Bergenia stracheyi             | Saxifragaceae   | Rhizome         | β-Sitosterol, Stigmester                                                               | Pet-ether and Methanol extract | Potential Th1/Th2 cytokine balancing activity [45].                                    |
| Boerhaavia diffusa             | Nyctaginaceae   | Root            | b-Sitosterol, a-2-                                                                     | Pet-ether extract    | Inhibit inflammatory 7 inhibitor [30].                                                |
| Plant name             | Family          | Part used  | Chemical constituents                                      | Extract            | Mechanism of action                                                                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| *Boswellia carterii*  | Burseraceae     | Root       | sitosterol, palmitic acid, β, 11β-dihydroxy boswellic acid | 70% aqueous acetone extract | Decrease the formation of leukotriene LTB4 and reduce the infiltration of leucocytes. [46] levels of WBC, ESR were suppressed [47]. |
| *Butea monosperma*    | Fabaceae        | Whole plant| Palasonin, d-mecantheridin proteolytic                     | Pet-ether extract  | Inhibited the expression of pro-inflammatory cytokines IL-1β and TNF-α [48].        |
| *Caesalpinia sappan*  | Leguminosae     | Whole plant| Heamatin                                                 | Ethanolic extract  | Decreasing the levels of IL-1β, IL-6, TNF-α and PGE2 in serum and the expression of COX-2 and transcription factor NF-Kb [49]. Counteract the effects of IL-1 [50]. |
| *Caesalpinia sappan*  | Leguminosae     | Whole plant| 11b-dihydrobenz, B razilin                               | Ethanolic extract  |                                                                                     |
| *Capparis spinosa*    | Capparaceae     | Fruit      | Bis(5-formyl furfuryl) ether, α-D-fructofuran osides methyl | Hydroalcoholic extract | Reduction of RF and CRP levels in the serum [51].                                  |
| *Cardiospermum*       | Spindaceae      | Leaf       | Cyclohexane-1, 4, neophytadiene                          | Ethanolic extract  | Inhibit prostaglandin and histamine synthesis [30].                                |
| *Cassia uniflora*     | Caesalpiniacae  | Leaf       | Alatinone, Aloe-emodin                                    | Methanolic extract | Inhibition of protein denaturation membrane stabilization and proteinase inhibitory [52]. |
| *Centella asiatica*   | Mackinlayaceae  | Leaf       | Asiatic acid, asiaticoside                               | Methanolic extract | Levels of acid phosphatase and N-acetyl glucosaminidase were reduced and hexose, sialic acid increased [53]. |
| *Cissampelos pareira* | Menispermacae   | Root       | Dihydrodicletrine, cycleanine                           | Ethanolic extract  |                                                                                     |
| *Chelidonium majus*   | Papaveraceae    | WholePlant | Sparteine, coptisine                                     | Methanolic extract | Lower the absolute number of CD4+T cells in spleen and lymph node, induce Immunesuppressive response by lowering the CD4+T-cells & enhancing CD8+T-cells [54]. Modifying the lysosomal membrane or inhibiting the release of lysosomal enzymes [55]. Decrease the latency time to explore [56]. |
| *Cleome gyandra*      | Cleomaceae      | Leaf       | β-carotene                                              | Ethanolic extract  |                                                                                     |
| *Curcuma zeodaria*    | Zingiberaceae   | Root       | α-terpinyl acetate, dehydrocurdione                     | Pet-ether extract  | mRNA expressions of TNF-α and IL-6 genes restored to normal levels [57].            |
| *Ephedra sinica*      | Ephedraceae     | Leaf       | 6-methoxy kynurenic acid, methylephedrine              | Aqueous extract    |                                                                                     |
| Plant name               | Family          | Part used       | Chemical constituents            | Extract          | Mechanism of action                                                                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| *Staph.*                |                 |                 |                                   |                  | Inhibition of early phase of inflammation [58].                                       |
| *Ficus bengalensis* Linn. | Moraceae        | Stem, Bark      | Quercetin-3-galactoside          | Methanolic       | Inhibition of NO production from the macrophages that infiltrated to the inflamed site [59]. |
| *Ginkgo biloba* Linn.   | Ginkgoaceae     | Leaf            | Protocatechuic acid              | Methanolic       | Significant improvement of the hematological parameters like RBC count, Hb level and the ESR [60]. |
| *Glycosmis pentaphylla* Linn. | Rutaceae       | Bark            | 5,7,4’-trihydroxydihydroflavonol | Ethanolic        | Lysosomal membrane stability modulating effect, inhibiting leukocyte migration, controlling the production of auto antigens [61]. |
| *Glycyrrhiza glabra* Linn. | Fabaceae        | Rhizome         | Glycyrrhetic acid                | Methanolic       | Lipoxygenase and/or cyclooxygenase Inhibition [65].                                   |
| *Hemidesmus indicus* R.Br. | Asclepiadaceae | Root            | Lupeol, α-amyrin                 | Hydroalcoholic   | Inhibition of inflammation induced by carrageenin, bradykinin and serotonin [62]. |
| *Hybanthus Enneaspermus Muell.* | Violaceae  | Whole Plant     | Cedarm-diol, D-mannitol          | Hydroalcoholic   | Inhibits the release of mediators like cytokines (IL-1β and TNF-α), GM-CSF, IFN and PGDF [63]. |
| *Justica gendarussa* Linn. | Acanthaceae    | Leaf            | Friedelin, lupeol                | Ethanolic        | Lipoxygenase and/or cyclooxygenase Inhibition [65].                                   |
| *Lantana camara* Linn.  | Verbinaceae     | Leaf            | 11-trimethyl-1,6,10-dodecatriene | Ethanolic        | Inhibitory effect on arachidonate metabolism[66]                                     |
| *Linum usitatissimum*   | Caprifoliaceae  | Leaf            | Flavoyadorinin-B                 | Methanolic       | Suppress T-cell proliferation [67].                                                   |
| *Lonicera japonica* Thumb. | Euphorbeaceae  | Leaf            | Coumarins, cardenolides          | Methanolic       | Anti-proliferative activity [68].                                                     |
| *Mallotus oppositifolium* Mull. | Convulvulaceae | Whole Plant     | Luteolin                         | Ethanolic        | Inhibition of second phase of inflammation and release of kinins and PG’s [69].      |
| *Merremia tridentate* Hall. | Araliaceae     | Root            | Etulinic acid                    | Ethanolic        | Inhibit the denaturation of proteins [70].                                            |
| *Phyllanthus amarus*    | Euphorbeaceae   | Whole Plant     | Quercetin                        | Aqueous extract  | Suppressed TPA-induced acute inflammation [71]                                      |

ALT and 1T levels were reduced [72].
| Plant name                  | Family      | Part used | Chemical constituents            | Extract     | Mechanism of action                                                                 |
|----------------------------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Physalis angulate Linn.    | Solanaceae  | Leaf      | Physalins, Carotenoids           | Methanolic extract | Inhibit the denaturation of proteins [73].                                           |
| Pinus maritime Roxb.       | Pinaceae    | Bark      | Catechins, taxifolin,            | Hydroalcoholic extract | Inhibiting acute and chronic inflammatory lesions and production of NO [74].         |
| Piper betle Linn.          | Piperaceae  | Leaf      | γ-lactone, allyl catechol        | Hydroalcoholic extract | Elevated level of CD4+T cell specific IFN-c in splenocytes is reduced [75].          |
| Pisonia grandis R.Br.      | Nyctaginaceae | Leaf    | Allantoin                        | Ethanolic   | Release of mediators like cytokines, GM-CSF, interferons and PGDF are suppressed [30].|
| Pistia stratiotes Linn.    | Araceae     | Leaf      | Stigmasteryl stearate, Palmitic acid. | Hydroalcoholic extract | Low levels of C-reactive proteins and ESR [76].                                    |
| Ruta graveolens Linn.      | Rutaceae    | WholePlant | Undecan-2-one                    | Aqueous extract | Reduces cell influx, release of mediators, lipid peroxidation and oxidative stress [77,78]. |
| Salix nigra Linn.          | Saliaceae   | Bark      | Salicin                          | Methanolic  | Inhibition of pro inflammatory inhibitors [79].                                     |
Table 3. Lifestyle intervention for management of rheumatoid arthritis

| Exercise                                      | Recommendation and Implementation                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| General exercise                              | Active warm up and cooling session before and after exercise.                                     |
|                                               | Variation to increase compliance of patients.                                                     |
|                                               | Use joint protection devices or splints.                                                          |
| Improving range of motion (ROM) of joints     | ROM perform after hot bath or shower.                                                             |
|                                               | Perform 2-3 times, gradually increase.                                                            |
|                                               | Muscles around joints must go under flexibility test.                                             |
| Muscle strengthening and improving endurance capacity | ROM performed 3-4 times a day, improves muscle strength, increase contraction 6-7 times.           |
| Special consideration for pains               | Cycling, swimming, aerobic exercise, training session lasts for 30 min, improves breathing and heart rate. |
|                                               | Wear soft footwear and pressure points should be monitored.                                      |

Table 4. Nutrients used in the management of rheumatoid arthritis

| Nutrition requirement                         | Recommendation and Implementation                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Overall nutrition status                      | Over all nutrition is affected during pain, must be considered effectively to cope and provide proper counselling |
| Omega 3 fatty acids                           | EPA, DHA, ALA rich foods like soya, walnuts, beans, canola, flaxseed, increase inflammatory mediators, reduce pain |
| Antioxidant, mineral and vitamins consumption | In arthritic patients, bone demineralization occurs, Vitamin D, E, Folic acid and Calcium supplements improve bone strength |
Table 5. Patents on herbal drugs used in rheumatoid arthritis

| Patent no. & Date     | Plant name                  | Patent title                                                                 | inventor                                                                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EP2952201A1, 09/12/2015| Alpinia galangal (A. galangal) linn. | A. galangal or A. conchigera compositions with a high content of 1'S-1'-acetoxycavicol acetate suitable for pharmaceutical processing | Giversen, Ina 2720 Vanløse (DK)Jakobsen, Henrik Byrial 4320 Lejre (DK) [87] |
| US6589516B1, 08/07/2003 | Boswellia serrate          | Compositions containing Boswellia extracts                                    | Heather Eyre, Kent (GB); Maxine Jayne Hills, Kent (GB); Stephen David Watkins, Kent (GB) [88] |
| US8192768B2, 05/06/2012 | Boswellia serrate          | Synergistic anti-inflammatory and antioxidant dietary supplement compositions | Ganga Raju Gokaraju, Rama Raju Gokaraju, Trimurtul Golakoti, Vendateswarlu Somepalli, [89] |
| US7205011B2, 17/04/2007 | Turmeric                   | Anti-inflammatory activity of a specific turmeric extract                     | Guan Jie Chen, Robert Clark Lantz, Aniko M Solyom, Barbara N. Timmermann, Shivanand D. Jolad [90] |
| CN102697887A26/06/2012 | Zingiber officinale        | Composition of Traditional medicine for treatment of RA                       | Chang Ruixue, Fan Ming, Hu Xionglin, Tang Meichun [91] |
| WO2007056811A1, 24/05/2007 | Zingiber officinale        | Zingiber plant extract                                                      | Hawkins, Clifford [92] |
| US5494668A, 27/2/1996  | Black pepper               | Method of treating musculoskeletal disease and a novel composition thereof     | Bhushan 356 aifeng356356n [93] |
| KR101055172B1, 02/08/2011 | Black pepper               | Pharmaceutical composition for inhibiting or treating arthritis, containing piperine or a plant extract containing the same as an active ingredient | Kim kyoungsoo, Bang junsu, Yang hyung in, Oh dahee yumyeongcheol, Hyunmi choi, Daehyun ham [94] |
| EP0935964A1, 18/08/1999 | Black pepper               | Pharmaceutical compositions containing NSAIDs and piperine                   | Rajesh jain,356aifeng singh [95] |
| US7943184B2, 17/05/2011 | Hedera helix Linn          | Process for preparing an extract from ivy leaves                             | Frank Runkel, Wolfgang Schneider, Oliver Schmidt, Georg Maximilian Engelhard [96] |
| CA2744514C, 08/05/2018  | Capparis spinosa Linn.     | Method for obtaining refined extract from Capparis spinosa and application of extract | Wo tong, Li yan, Liu quanhai, Zhog 356aifeng, Huang akira, Tan quiong, Yu mejing, Zhang lele, Liu minyu, Yang fang, Jiang renji, Yan zaofeng, [97] |
| US20020136784A1, 26/09/2002 | Paeania albiflora pall    | Selective COX-2 inhibition from plant extracts                              | Mark G. Obukowicz, Susan L. Hummert, [98] |
| CA2744514C, 08/05/2018  | Vitis vinifera             | Vinifera plant extract for use as a phytochemical                          | Francois mairel [99] |
| US20100173028A1, 08/07/2010 | Vitis vinifera             | Process for preparing vitis vinifera pip extract and pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating rheumatoid arthritis comprising the same | Jun-Ki Min, Mi-La Cho, Ho-Youn Kim, Seoul Jong-Hyeon Hyun-Gyu Kim, Geun-Hyeog Lee [100] |
Table 6. Herbal marketed products used in arthritis

| Brand Name                  | Manufacturer                      | Herb                  | Uses                                                                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Boswellia                   | The Himalaya drug company         | *Boswellia serrata*   | It supports normal joint fluid function.                             |
| Cassia fistula              | Dr. Wakde’s                       | *Cassia fistula*      | Controls the symptoms of Rheumatoid Arthritis.                       |
| Turmeric 95                 | The Himalayan drug company        | *Turmeric/curcum*     | Improves circulation and immune activity in the area around your     |
|                             |                                   |                       | joints and muscles. Supports cellular health and reduces            |
|                             |                                   |                       | inflammation caused by strenuous exercise overexertion.             |
| Black pepper essential oil  | India essential oils              | *Black pepper*        | Arthritis and rheumatism                                             |
| Arniflora arnica gel        | Boirockae and tafel                | *Arnica montana*      | Relieves muscle pain.                                                |
|                             |                                   |                       | Topical pain relieving gel.                                          |
|                             |                                   |                       | Relieve after effects of injury, and overexcretion.                  |
| Yuvika Khurasani Ajwain     | DKC agrotech pvt.ltd              | *Hyosyamus niger linn.*| Arthritis                                                            |
| RADINEX                     | Bio resource inc.                 | *Arctium lappa*       | For relief of occasional tiredness due to environmental stresses.    |
| Arthrohills                 | Isha Agro Developers Pvt. Ltd      | *Vitex negundo*       | Anti-inflammatory, anti-arthritic & analgesic properties.            |
| Dolonil Herbal Pain Relief Oil | Atharva herbals pvt. Ltd.      | *Commiphora wightii*  | Chronic pain in disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis.             |
|                             |                                   | *Oroxylum indicum*    |                                                                       |

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11. CONCLUSION

In today’s scenario arthritis affect a large population of the world. The main problem of arthritis is our lifestyle. RA is a chronic inflammatory disease affecting humans and there are many drugs and therapies available in the market for its management. These medications are expensive and have adverse effects, so alternative therapy can be considered as a primitive stone for the management. Nature has bestowed us with very rich botanical treasure. There are many shreds of evidence that tell the use of herbs in various diseases. Appropriate treatment with herbal remedies, lifestyle, dietary and nutritional intervention is the need of hour, help in improving medication response of patients. Tailor made approaches of omega fatty acids, physical activity programme, reduction of sedentary lifestyle, and breathing exercise together improve mental well-being and reduce co-morbidities in cardiovascular, diabetic and obese patients. Therefore, further findings are necessary for improving the safety and efficacy of herbal approach. This helps in disease management and building confidence among patients.

CONSENT

It is not applicable.

ETHICAL APPROVAL

It is not applicable.

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COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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