

Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge Vol. 19 (Suppl), December 2020, pp S 139-S 142



Oxidative stress and anti-obesity approach in behavior of COVID-19: A review

V K Yadav^a, R K Jha^a, C K Yadav^b, S K Singh^b, K D Yadav*, b,+ & I Dhaliwal^c

^aUniversity Department of Botany, Ranchi University, Ranchi, Jharkhand 834 001, India
^bGovernment Ayurvedic Hospital, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh 277 001, India
^cDepartment of Plant Breeding and Genetics, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana 141 004, India
E-mail: ⁺k.d.yadav1983@gmail.com

Received 09 August 2020; revised 21 August 2020

Chronic low grade inflammation and oxidative stress is major pathological process that takes part in obesity and it restrict ventilation, impairs immune responses. Oxidative stress may be liable for the alveolar harm, thrombosis and RBC dysregulation and leptin might be the connection high pervasiveness as a comorbidity of the SARS-CoV-2 contamination. In current situation, obesity with hyper leptin, is a perceived hazard factor for clinical results of SARS-CoV-2. Conventional spices from assorted topographical areas and different territories are considered as likely wellsprings of new medications for treatment of viral contaminations. Spices like *Curcuma longa, Shilajeet, Commiphora mukul* and *Plumbago zeylanica* independently and alongside its mix is useful in decrease of oxidative stress as well as leptin concentration. Thus, we can assume that might be useful in avoidance of corpulence and seriousness of SARS-CoV-2 contamination

Keywords: Leptin, Obesity, Oxidative stress, SARS-CoV-2

IPC Code: Int. Cl. ²⁰: A61K 38/00, A61K 45/06

Corona virus disease (COVID-19) which is almost unknown to world before December 2019 declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) within three months of its emergence¹. The variable seriousness of COVID-19 disease is probably going to be multifactorial and age, sex, extreme corpulence and diabetes are settled hazard factors for expanded horribleness and mortality². Obesity can limit ventilation by hindering stomach trip, weakens invulnerable reactions to viral contamination³. Weight expanded the hazard for creating extreme pneumonia in patients with COVID-19 contamination⁴ and BMI more prominent than 40 kg/m² have most grounded chance factor for hospitalization⁵. Besides, BMI more prominent than 35 kg/m² and more youthful than 60 years bound to be admitted to intense and basic consideration contrasted and patients in a similar age class and with BMI under 30 kg/m^{2(ref. 6)}.

Natural products and their derivatives are used in folk medicine to treat plentiful ailments such as obesity, viral infections etc.^{7,8}. The scope of herbal medicines in the context of nutraceuticals market is vast⁸ and the acceptability and, therefore, research on plant-based drugs are growing⁹ on a daily basis. Nature provides a vast library of chemicals to explore and develop drugs for treatment of various ailments

including viral diseases⁹. To date, a good number of herbal medicines or their constituents have shown potential antiviral and anti-obesity activity^{10,8}. The curcumin and plumbagin is major component of *Curcuma longa* and *Plumbago zeylanica* has been able to inhibit viral replication¹¹ and anti-oxidant properties has been used in obesity in *Ayurveda* and contemporary science¹²⁻¹⁴. Whereas, *Shilajit* and *Guggul* have potent anti-obesity activity^{15,16}. Apart from that in the classics of *Ayurveda* like *Charak Samhita* and *Sushrut Samhita*, *Shilajit* and *Guggul* has been indicated in *sthaulya*/obesity, respectively.

Obese persons are suspected to severe clinical features and bad prognosis when infected with corona virus¹⁷ and need special attention in this pandemic period¹⁸. Conventional spices from different topographical areas and different natural surroundings are considered as expected wellsprings of new medications for treatment of viral contaminations, including those brought about by SARS-CoV¹⁹.

COVID medication

Clinical trials have been conducted for various medicines like remdesivir, chloroquine, vitamin C, Vitamin D, glucocorticoids etc. but could not get licensed from WHO or any other agencies like U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), European Medicines Agency (EMA), Spanish Agency of

Medicines and Medical Devises (AEMPS) etc. and to the authors' knowledge, currently no antiviral drugs have been licensed against Covid-19. Further, hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, social distancing are three preventing measures for the COVID-19 whereas quarantine will check the transmission of corona virus to community.

Obesity and COVID-19

Separation and restriction of movements (quarantine) for the purpose of preventing transmission of diseases, is associated to the interruption of the work routine and stay in boredom that may be associated with a greater energy intake²⁰. Additionally, this pandemic might be stressful. Stress pushes people towards comfort foods²¹ and food craving, multidimensional idea including passionate (serious want to eat), social (looking for food), psychological (contemplations about food) and physiological (salivation) forms²².

COVID-19 patients with extreme stoutness were multiple times bound to require obtrusive mechanical ventilation with a typical BMI²³. Furthermore, metabolic syndrome seems may be related with a worse prognosis in patients of COVID-19. Although natural link between obesity, metabolic syndrome and covid-19 along with prevalence is unknown but it has been mentioned that obesity facilitates the infection of influenza virus²⁴ and reflected as negative prognostic factor for COVID-19^{25,26}. As there does not exists a definitive treatment for the viral infection in conventional medicine, the symptomatic management and empirical line of management is considered as the standard line of care. Preventive medicine being the core objective of Ayurveda by maintaining health of a healthy individual

Discussion

Antioxidant deprivation is crucial for viral replication and the subsequent virus-associated disease²⁷. Anti-oxidative therapy may be proposed to improve cardiogenic fatalities caused by COVID-19. It has been mentioned that plant extract having IC₅₀ 34 to 88 µg/mL able to inhibit covid virus^{28,19}, so that Guggul and Chitrak having IC₅₀ 20.56 and 67.71 µg/mL, respectively may also able to inhibit covid virus²⁹. Inexpensive medicinal antioxidants incorporate Vitamin C (ascorbic corrosive) and Vitamin E, in light of the fact that their reductive hydrogen particles can respond with ROS and afterward produce nontoxic water³⁰. Plant-derived

molecules such as Curcumin and Baicalin may have possible subterranean insect oxidative adequacy³¹. Further, zinc hindered serious intense respiratory disorder (SARS) coronavirus RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) template binding and elongation in Vero-E6 cells³².

Obesity is linked with impaired pulmonary function, resultant in reduced oxygen concentration³³. Furthermore, chronic low-grade inflammation and pro-inflammatory cytokines such as interleukin 6, tumor necrosis, leptin are associated with obesity that may impair immune response, thus contributing to the increased morbidity associated with obesity in COVID-19 infection. Obese individuals having constantly higher leptin and lower adiponectin concentration which is troublesome hormonal status that leads to dysregulation of immune response³⁴. So that, following interventions aimed at improving immune response, lose weight with caloric restriction; repetition mild-to-moderate physical exercise³⁵ may be effective in covid infection.

Oxidative stress is associated with maturing³⁶ and partakes in chronic pathologies, for example, diabetes mellitus, malignant growths, hypertension, coronary illness, and so forth³⁷ and certain contaminations, especially by the RNA viruses³⁸, belonging to corona virus family³⁹. Furthermore, it is set off by a wide assortment of viral contaminations 38,40 including HIV 1, viral hepatitis B,C,D infections, herpes viruses, respiratory viruses, most of the RNA viruses³⁹ probably also corona viruses belonging to this family. Oxidative stress may be accountable for the alveolar impairment, coagulation and RBC dysregulation in COVID-19^{41,42}. Furthermore, elevated leptin concentrations damage pulmonary protection⁴³ and induce oxidative stress⁴⁴ which influences them for inferior outcomes and casualty in covid⁴⁵. Thus, leptin may be the link higher pervasiveness as comorbidity to SARS-CoV-2 infection⁴⁶. It seems that oxidative stress plays significantly role in pathogenesis and severity of corona virus by providing antioxidant may be fruitful in covid management. The combination of C. longa, Guggul, Shilajeet, and Chitrak reduces the oxidative stress, thus it may be beneficial in covid management. (Fig. 1).

C. longa plays asignificant role to maintain harmony and nutritional requirement by influencing oxidative stress, adinopectin concentration¹³, *Shilajeet* contains, fulvic acid as major component along with 84 different elements like selenium, iron, copper, zinc³¹ and delivers the crucial elements⁴⁷. It amplifies

bio-availability of other herbs¹⁶, decreases stress and stimulates the immune system and reduces chronic fatigue¹⁴. *Guggul* and *Plumbago zeylanica* exhibited potent anti-oxidant activity and anti-obesity activity^{12,48,49}. Additionally, formulation prepared by *Curcuma longa*, *Shilajeet Commiphora mukul* and *Plumbago zeylanica* decreases oxidative stress and leptin concentration⁵⁰. Thus, we can assume that *Curcuma longa*, *Shilajeet*, *Commiphora mukul* and *Plumbago zeylanica* individually and along with its combination may be helpful in prevention as well as severity of covid.

Conclusion

Oxidative stress and leptin is one of the major causes of obesity and symbolizes a hazard for more severity and bad prognosis in patients with COVID-19 infection. Thus, reduction of oxidative stress and leptin is helpful in management of obesity and prevention as well as severity of covid. *Curcuma longa, Shilajeet, Commiphora mukul* and *Plumbago zeylanica* individually and along with its combination may be helpful in prevention as well as severity of SARS-CoV-2.

Acknowledgement

The authors are thankful to the anonymous reviewers for their careful reading and providing insightful suggestions

Conflict of Interest: Nil

Author Contribution Statement: Concepts and design of article by K D Yadav and V K Yadav and also written the article, R K Jha, S K Singh, C K Yadav, I Dhaliwal critically reviewed and put his/her suggestion for improvement of article. All authors read and approved the final manuscripts

References

- 1 https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novelcoronavirus-2019/events-as-they-happen. Retrieved on 19 May 2020
- 2 Francis M. Finucane and Colin Davenport. Coronavirus and obesity: Could insulin resistance mediate the severity of Covid-19 infection?, Front Public Health, 8 (2020)184. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2020.00184
- 3 Honce R, Schultz-Cherry S, Impact of obesity on influenza A virus pathogenesis, immune response and evolution, Front Immunol, 10 (2019) 107
- 4 Qingxian C, Fengjuan C, Fang L, *et al.*, Obesity and COVID-19 severity in a designated hospital in Shenzhen, China, *Lancet*, 43 (7) (2020) 1392-1398.
- 5 Petrilli C M, Jones S A, Yang J, et al., Factors associated with hospitalization and critical illness among 4,103 patients

- with COVID-19 disease in New York City, *BMJ*, 369 (2020) m1966. doi: https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m1966
- 6 Lighter J, Phillips M, Hochman S, et al., Obesity in patients younger than 60 years is a risk factor for Covid-19 hospital admission, Clin Infect Dis, 71 (15) 896-897.
- 7 Ganjhu R K, Mudgal P P, Maity H, *et al.*, Herbal plants and plant preparations as remedial approach for viral diseases, *Virusdisease*, 26 (4) (2015) 225–236.
- 8 Mohamed G A, Ibrahim S R, Elkhayat E S, *et al.*, Natural anti-obesity agents, *Bull Fac Pharm Cairo Univ*, 52 (2) (2014) 269-84.
- 9 Williamson E M, Liu X, & Izzo A A, Trends in use, pharmacology, and clinical applications of emerging herbal nutraceuticals, *Br J Pharmacol*, 177 (6) (2020) 1227–1240.
- 10 Denaro M, Smeriglio A, Barreca D, et al., Antiviral activity of plants and their isolated bioactive compounds: An update, Phytother Res, 34 (2019) 742-768. https://doi.org/ 10.1002/ptr.6575
- 11 Ting D, Dong N, Fang L, et al., Multisite inhibitors for enteric coronavirus: Antiviral cationic carbon dots based on curcumin, ACS Appl Nano Mater, 1 (10) (2018) 5451–5459.
- 12 Tilak J C, Adhikari S & Devasagayam T P, Antioxidant properties of *Plumbago zeylanica*, an Indian medicinal plant and its active ingredient, Plumbagin, *Redox Rep*, 9 (4) (2004) 219-27.
- 13 Yadav K D & Chaudhary A K, Anti obesity mechanism of Curcuma longa L.: An Over view, *Indian J Nat Prod Resour* 7 (2) (2016) 99-106.
- 14 Pattonder R K, Chandola H M & Vyas S N, Clinical efficacy of Shilajatu (Asphaltum) processed with Agnimantha (Clerodendrum phlomidis Linn.) in Sthaulya (obesity), AYU, 32 (4) (2011) 526.
- 15 Kunnumakkara A B, Banik K, Bordoloi D, et al., Googling the Guggul (Commiphora and Boswellia) for prevention of chronic diseases, Front Pharmacol, 9 (2018) 686.
- 16 Dash B, Materia Medica of Ayurveda, New Delhi: B Jain Publishers; 1991
- 17 Caci G, Albini A, Malerba M, *et al.*, COVID-19 and obesity: Dangerous liaisons, *J Clin Med*, 9 (8) 2020 2511.
- 18 Abbas A M, Fathy S K, Fawzy A T, et al., The mutual effects of COVID-19 and obesity, *Obes Med*, 19 (2020) 100250.
- 19 Islam M T, Sarkar C, Dina M, et al., Natural products and their derivatives against coronavirus: A review of the non-clinical and pre-clinical data, *Phytother Res*, 34 (2020) 2471-2492.
- 20 Moynihan A B, van Tilburg W A, Igou E R, et al., Eaten up by boredom: consuming food to escape awareness of the bored self, Front Psychol, 6 (2015) 369.
- 21 Yılmaz C & Gökmen V, Neuroactive compounds in foods: occurrence, mechanism and potential health effects, *Food Res Int*, 128 (2020) 108744.
- 22 Rodríguez-Martín B C & Meule A, Food craving: new contributions on its assessment, moderators, and consequences, *Front Psychol*, 6 (2015) 21.
- 23 Simonnet A, Chetboun M, Poissy J, et al., High prevalence of obesity in severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) requiring invasive mechanical ventilation, Obesity, 28 (7) (2020) 1195-1199. doi: 10.1002/oby.22831
- 24 Bhatraju P K, Ghassemieh B J, Nichols M, et al., COVID-19 in critically ill patients in the Seattle region- case series, N Engl J Med, 382 (2020) 2012-2022.

- 25 Luzi L & Radaelli M G, Influenza and obesity: its odd relationship and the lessons for COVID- 19 pandemic, *Acta Diabetol*, (2020) 1-6. doi: 10.1007/s00592-020-01522-8
- 26 Xu L, Yaqian M & Chen G, Risk factors for severe corona virus disease 2019 (COVID- 19) patients: a systematic review and meta analysis, medRxiv https://doi.org/ 10.1101/2020.03.30.20047415
- 27 Khomich O A, Kochetkov S N, Bartosch B, et al. Redox biology of respiratory viral infections, Viruses, 10 (8) 2018) 392
- 28 Li S Y, Chen C, Zhang H Q, et al., Identification of natural compounds with antiviral activities against SARS-associated coronavirus, Antiviral Res, 67 (1) (2005) 18-23.
- 29 Yadav K D, Dwivedy A K, Chaudhary A K, et al., A novel herbomineral formulation Sahaj Vati as shelf life enhancer of nutraceuticals based on aflatoxin inhibitory and antioxidant activity, *Indian J Pharm Sci*, 79 (1) 29-34.
- 30 Erol N, Saglam L, Saglam Y S, et al., The protection potential of antioxidant vitamins against acute respiratory distress syndrome: a rat trial, *Inflammation* 42 (2019) 1585–1594.
- 31 Wang J Z, Zhang R Y & Bai J, An anti-oxidative therapy for ameliorating cardiac injuries of critically ill COVID-19infected patients, *Int J Cardiol* 312 (2020) 137-138.
- 32 te Velthuis A J, van den Worm S H, Sims A C, *et al.*, Zn (2+) inhibits coronavirus and arterivirus RNA polymerase activity in vitro and zinc ionophores block the replication of these viruses in cell culture, *PLoS Pathog*, 6 (11) (2010) e1001176.
- 33 Dietz W & Santos-Burgoa C, Obesity and its implications for COVID-19 mortality, *Obesity* 28 (6) (2020) 1005.
- 34 Luzi L & Radaelli M G, Influenza and obesity: its odd relationship and the lessons for COVID-19 pandemic, *Acta Diabetol*, 57 (2020) 759–64.
- 35 Duthie G G & Brown K M, Reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease, in *Functional foods*, (Springer Boston, MA), 1994, p. 19-38.
- 36 Liguori I, Russo G, Curcio F, *et al.*, Oxidative stress, aging and diseases, *Clin Interv Aging*, 13 (2018) 757–772.
- 37 Yaribeygi H, Sathyapalan T, Atkin S L, et al., Molecular mechanisms linking oxidative stress and diabetes

- mellitus, *Oxid Med Cell Longev*, 2020. ttps://doi.org/ 10.1155/2020/8609213
- 38 Zhang Z, Rong L & Li Y, Flaviviridae viruses and oxidative stress: implications for viral pathogenesis, *Oxid Med Cell Longev*, 2019. https://doi.org/10.1155/2019/1409582
- 39 FMPMC-PS Chapter 8 Les virus respiratoires 2ème partie. Les virus des oreillons, de la rougeole, de la rubéole. Accessed on April 3rd 2020
- 40 Ivanov A V, Valuev-Elliston V T, Ivanova O N, et al., Oxidative stress during HIV infection: Mechanisms and consequences, Oxid Med Cell Longev, 2016: 8910396.
- 41 Laforge M, Elbim C, Frère C, et al., Tissue damage from neutrophil-induced oxidative stress in COVID-19, Nat Rev Immunol, 20 (2020) 515-516.
- 42 Delgado-Roche L & Mesta F, Oxidative stress as key player in severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV) infection, *Arch Med Res*, 51 (2020) 384-387.
- 43 Ubags N D & Stapleton R D, Vernooy J H, et al., Hyperleptinemia is associated with impaired pulmonary host defense, JCI Insight, 1 (2016) e82101.
- 44 Blanca A J, Ruiz-Armenta M V, Zambrano S, et al., Leptin induces oxidative stress through activation of nadph oxidase in renal tubular cells: antioxidant effect of L-Carnitine, J Cell Biochem, 117 (10) (2016) 2281-2288.
- 45 Banerjee M, Gupta S, Sharma P, et al., Obesity and COVID-19: A fatal alliance, *Indian J Clin Biochem*, 10 (2020) 1-8.
- 46 Rebello C J, Kirwan J P & Greenway F L, Obesity, the most common comorbidity in SARS-CoV-2: is leptin the link?, *Int J Obes*, 9 (2020) 1-8.
- 47 Tierra M, Planetary herbology, *Twin Lakes*, WI: Lotus Press, 1988, p. 17.
- 48 Pai S A, Martis E A, Joshi S G, et al., Plumbagin exerts antiobesity effects through inhibition of pancreatic lipase and adipocyte differentiation, *Phytother Res*, 32 (8) (2018) 1631-1635.
- 49 Kunnumakkara A B, Banik K, Bordoloi D, et al., Googling the Guggul (Commiphora and Boswellia) for prevention of chronic disease, Front Pharmaco, 9 (2018) 686.
- 50 Yadav K D, Singh A, & Chaudhary A K, Anti-Oxidant potential of herbal formulation (Sahaj Vati) modulating leptin, insulin activity, *Indian J Tradit Know* (In Press).