

Chemical Method of Classification of Crude Drugs with its Merits and Demerits - A Review

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ABSTRACT

A Review Article on Chemical method of classification of Crude drugs, Enlisted Various Classes of crude Drug with its Examples for Example, (Alkaloids class examples are Aconite, cinchona, etc. Merits and Demerits of chemical classification involved in crude drug or Natural Drugs of Pharmacognosy, This type of classification is applicable to crude drugs containing similar type of chemicals, it is useful for phytochemical studies of crude drugs.

Keywords : Chemical method, classification, crude Drug, Merits

I. INTRODUCTION

This type of classification is based on type of chemicals present in the drugs. For example

Class	Examples
Alkaloids	Aconite, cinchona, nux-vomica, vinca, ipecac, belladonna, opium , tea

Glycosides	Digitalis, senna, squill, aloe, dioscorea, liquorice, wild cherry.
Lipids	Castor oil. Peanut oil, mustard, wool fat, cod -liver oil.
Volatile oils	Peppermint, clove, eucalyptus, valerian.

Tannins	Myrobalan, kino, catechu, galls
Vitamins	Yeast, cod –liver oil, shark-liver oil
Resin and resin combinations	Benzoin, balsamof tolu, storax, asafoetida, myrrh, colophony, guggul, shellac.
Carbohydrates and derived products	Agar, honey, starch, tragacanth, acacia, Guar Gum, sterculia.

Merits:

1. This type of classification is applicable to crude drugs containing similar type of chemicals.
2. It is useful for phytochemical studies of crude drugs.

Demerits:

1. This type of classification fails in proper placement of drugs containing two different types of chemicals.
e.g. - Certain drugs contain alkaloids and glycosides (Cinchona), Fixed oil and volatile oil (Nutmeg), Fixed oil and enzyme (Bitter almond). Hence makes it difficult to categorize them Properly.
2. The drugs from various sources are grouped together.

II. REFERENCES

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