



## A Review On The Phytochemical And Pharmacological Characteristics Of Some Indian Medicinal Plants

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### ABSTRACT

Herbal remedies have been used since the beginning of human history. Written records from the ancient Chinese, North Africans, and Indians attest to man's resourcefulness in employing plants to treat a wide range of illnesses<sup>1</sup>. *Achyranthes aspera* Antimalarial, emmenagogue, purgative, diuretic, antiarthritic, oestrogenic, antileprotic, antispasmodic, cardiogenic, antibacterial, and antiviral properties are all associated with Linn. (*A. aspera*). Alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, steroids, and terpenoids are said to be present.<sup>2</sup> *Colebrookea oppositifolia* is a significant plant for medicine. The leaves have antifertility and oil fungal poisonous properties; they are used locally to treat wounds and fractures; the roots are utilized to cure epilepsy<sup>3</sup>. The characteristics that aid in the identification of this leaf medication include the presence of paracytic stomata, trichomes of glandular, non-glandular, uniseriate, and multicellular kinds, rectangular or druses type calcium oxalate crystals, and acicular raphides. The results of a preliminary phytochemical examination showed that the water extract had carbohydrates, glycosides, and traces of volatile oil; the acetone, ethanol, and water extracts contained phenols, tannins, and flavonoids; the ethanol and water extracts contained saponins, proteins, and amino acids; and the water extract contained gums and mucilage<sup>4</sup>. *Punica granatum* from Punicaceae family includes the sacred fruit, which has been used for many purposes in ancient writings. Pomegranates are utilized in several medical systems. The biological characteristics of extracts made from various pomegranate components, such as their hypoglycemic, immunomodulatory, analgesic, and anticancer effects. Because of these qualities, the extracts are employed in a variety of medical specialties, including the treatment of impotence, cholera, inflammation, and infection. *Punica granatum* was shown to contain anthocyanin, flavonoides, alkaloids, tannins, triterpenes, and phytosterols using phytochemical screening.<sup>5</sup>

**Key words:** Phytoconstituents, *Achyranthes aspera*, *Colebrookea oppositifolia*, *Punica granatum*

### INTRODUCTION

Herbal remedies were the first line of defense when pharmaceuticals were first used to treat illness. Herbal remedies are widely used in traditional medical systems around the globe. Examples include Indian systems such as Ayurveda and siddha, Japanese acupuncture, and traditional Chinese medicine<sup>6</sup>. Herbal remedies have also been used since the beginning of human history. Written records from the ancient Chinese, North Africans, and Indians attest to man's resourcefulness in employing plants to treat a wide range of illnesses.<sup>1</sup>

The knowledge that Indians possess about a large portion of the world's medicinal flora is a source of great pride. Traditional Indian medicine has been providing the health treatment that the Indian people have needed since the beginning of civilization. One of the upaveda of the Atharva Veda, Ayurveda, provides strong evidence for the subject's significance to the well-being of society and for its role in recording it. For the most part, these plants' phytochemistry and pharmacology have not been sufficiently studied to warrant consideration for medical application<sup>7</sup>.

Dr. Ischirch stated that after medicine has thoroughly destroyed its digestive system with artificial remedies and tested every organ in an animal, it "may assuredly hope that it will return to the most ancient remedies of mankind, to the medicinal plants and drugs for the utility of which the experiences of the thousands of years vouches"<sup>8</sup>. Furthermore, compared to synthetic pharmaceuticals, plant-based medicines offer a higher safety margin and a wider therapeutic efficacy, which has led to their rapid development in the treatment of neurological illnesses<sup>9</sup>.

In this review article, we will talk about three plants that were once suggested by the conventional Indian medical system to treat problems of the central nervous system. These plants are still utilized in folk medicine by many Indian populations.

### PHARMACOGNOSTIC AND PHARMACOLOGICAL DETAILS OF PLANTS:

#### 1: *ACHYRANTHES ASPERA* LINN

*Achyranthes* Linn (*A. aspera*), a member of the Amaranthaceae family of plants, is a common weed in fields and along Indian roads. These flowers go by numerous names, including "Apamarga," "Latjeera," "Prickly chaff flowers," and so on.

### 1.1. Vernacular Names

The same plant goes by several names: Apamargamu in Uttareeni, Agatha in Sanskrit, Chirchitta in Hindi, Chirchira in Telugu, Naayurivi and Shirukadaladi in Tamil, Apang and chirchiti in Bengali, and Kadaladi in Malayalam. The state of Madhya Pradesh is called Agya, and its capital city is called Circita Korroci. In Rajasthan, the Aghada and Aghara in Marathi, Katio-bhuratio, Andhi-jalo, and Unta-ghada are well-liked tourist spots. Common foods include the Punjabi cuisine Kutri and Chichra as well as the Oriya meals Apamaranga and Apamargo.<sup>10</sup>



**Figure 1. 1 Achyranthes aspera L**

The *Achyranthes aspera* is native to India, but it has spread to many other countries as a naturalized species. There is representation from Asia, Oceania, Africa, Europe, Laos, Thailand, Burma, and the Philippines.<sup>11</sup>

### 1.3. Description of the Plant

*Achyranthes aspera* is a perennial plant that can reach heights of 20 to 120 cm. The branches grow in opposite directions on a pubescent, square stem with slightly expanded nodes. The hairy petiole has a length that varies from half a centimeter to an inch and a half. The papery leaf blades have a cuneate or rounded base, an entire or undulating border, and an obtuse apex with a mucro. They range in size from 1.5 to 7 mm. Rachis is thick and heavily hairy, angling towards the end, and bearing erect, 10-15 cm long spikes that reflex following anthesis. Bracts that are 2-4 mm long and taper to a sharp point; bracteoles that are 2.5-4.5 mm long and have a hard, spiky appearance; wings that are 1-2 mm long and have a membranous border all around<sup>12</sup>.

### 1.4. Pharmacognostical Studies

A layer of collenchyma lies beneath the six to ten distinct ridges shown in a transverse section of a juvenile stem. The outermost protective layer is the epidermis, which is single-layered and has a thick cuticle. Trichomes, also known as epidermal warts, are benign growths that appear as multicellular, overlapping lesions on the skin. Calcium oxalate crystals can be found in parenchymatous cells, which are seen in cortical layers 6-8, both as clusters and as rosette-shaped crystals. The xylem is made up of a variety of cell types, including fibers, tracheids, parenchyma, and annular, spiral, and pitted vessels<sup>13</sup>.

### 1.5. Phytochemistry

This plant has been used to extract water-soluble achyranthine and betaine, a derivative of N-methylpyrrolidine-3-carboxylic acid. The plant's ethanol extract produced saponins and alkaloids. Ecdysterone has been detected in the plant's roots, leaves, and seeds. Pentatriacontan, 6-pentatriacontanone, hexatriacontane, and triacontane were isolated from the stem using chloroform. Alkaloids and flavonoids have been proposed as contents of the inflorescence. According to the paper, saponin—later identified as oleanolic acid-oligosaccharide—was detected in 2% of the defatted seeds. The sugar moiety of the saponins consisted of rhamnose, xylose, galactose, and glucose. Two oleanolic acid-based saponins, saponins A and B, were isolated from *A. aspera* in a different investigation<sup>14</sup>.

### 1.6. Therapeutic Uses Described By Ethnobotanical Studies

Many medical conditions, including snake bites, leukoderma, asthma, whooping cough, bone fractures, edema, piles,

skin eruptions, and colic, have been effectively treated using the plant's numerous constituents. This plant has the potential to be diuretic, astringent, laxative, and purgative, among other actions that may alleviate respiratory ailments. Coughs and fear of water are two conditions when ingesting the flower may be beneficial. The seeds of this plant are emetic, purgative, cathartic, and anti-asthmatic, and have also been used to treat hydrophobia, gonorrhea, and insect stings. Numerous medicinal ailments, including as dog bites, wounds, injuries, intermittent fever, and asthma, can be treated using the plant's leaves. In addition to treating whooping cough, tonsillitis, hemorrhage, cough, hydrophobia, and other ailments, the roots also have anti-asthmatic, diuretic, diaphoretic, and anti-syphilitic properties<sup>10, 15</sup>.

### 1.7. Pharmacological Activities

**Antiviral activity:** In methanolic preparations of *A. aspera* leaves, antimicrobial activity against 22 different bacteria, fungi, and yeasts has been demonstrated. *A. aspera* leaf extracts have been shown to suppress three strains of the papaya virus<sup>16</sup>.

**Anti-cancer activity:** Total methanolic extract successfully inhibited skin carcinogenesis in a mouse model of in vivo two-stage carcinogenesis. The fraction and the total extract have been shown to include inhibitors of malignant tumor growth. It has been demonstrated that *A. aspera* prevents hepatocarcinoma in rats given CCl<sub>4</sub> or N-nitrosodiethylamine. A methanolic extract of *A. aspera* leaves inhibits the growth of tumors and kills cancer cells, according to in vitro research on pancreatic cancer cell lines<sup>17</sup>.

**Anti-fertility activity:** In a few studies, it has been shown that *A. aspera* root extracts are spermicidal to rat and human sperm. Following being treated to an ethanolic root extract of *A. aspera*, female albino rats were shown to be less fertile following mating. When tested on female albino rats, the same set of researchers found that *A. aspera* root extracts had estrogenic and anti-implantation properties<sup>18</sup>.

**Hepatoprotective activity:** A methanolic preparation of aerial *A. aspera* protects albino rat liver tissue from rifampicin toxicity. The saponin-rich fraction of *A. aspera* has been shown to possess antioxidant, hypolipidemic, and hepatoprotective qualities<sup>19</sup>.

**Nephro protective activity:** The nephrotoxicity of lead acetate is prevented in male albino rat kidneys by a methanolic extract of the complete *A. aspera* plant<sup>20</sup>.

**Antidiabetic activity:** *A. aspera* seed ethanolic extract dramatically lowered blood sugar levels in streptozotocin-induced diabetic mice. The aqueous, and methanolic extracts of *A. aspera* have been shown to have a hypoglycemic effect in both normal and alloxan-induced diabetic rabbits. In diabetic rats given alloxan, ethanolic extracts of *A. aspera* were found to possess anti-hyperglycemic and antioxidant qualities<sup>21</sup>.

**Anti-inflammatory activity:** The ethanolic extract of *A. aspera* has demonstrated anti-inflammatory and antiarthritic properties in both acute and chronic inflammatory conditions in animals. According to Vetrichelvan and Jegadeesan's research, which used albino male rat models of cotton pellet granuloma and hind paw edema generated by carrageenan, the alcohol extract of *A. aspera* exhibited anti-inflammatory properties. Khuda et al. demonstrated the anti-inflammatory effectiveness of a topical preparation of methanolic leaf extract (cream) of *A. aspera* in male Wistar rats by inducing hind paw edema by the use of carrageenan. Furthermore, the cream's in vitro experiments demonstrated that it reduced lipoygenase activity<sup>22</sup>.

**Immunomodulatory activity:** Seed extract from *A. aspera* has been reported to have immunomodulatory and antioxidant effects, which help fish that have been vaccinated against *Aeromonas hydrophila*<sup>23</sup>.

**Antimicrobial Activity:** Extracts of *A. aspera* seed produced with either ethanol or chloroform shown antimicrobial efficacy against *B. subtilis*, *E. coli*, and *P. aeruginosa*. Extracts from *A. aspera*'s leaves exhibited antibacterial and antifungal properties against *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Klebsiella* species<sup>24</sup>.

**Anti-allergic activity:** Leukocytosis and eosinophilia in milk-allergic male Swiss albino mice were studied after being exposed to an extract of *A. aspera* aerial parts high in petroleum ether<sup>25</sup>.

**Wound Healing Activity:** The ability of *A. aspera* leaf extracts in ethanol and water to heal wounds was evaluated using excision and incision wound models, respectively. Methanolic leaf extract from *A. aspera* was used to assess experimental wound healing in rats that were subjected to excision and incision. Enhancing the healing of burn wounds in rats with the use of *A. aspera* leaf extract treated with methanol<sup>26</sup>.

**Anti-oxidant Activity:** The *aspera* fraction rich in saponins has antioxidant, hypolipidemic, and hepatoprotective properties. After being extracted in ethanol and water, *A. aspera* leaves demonstrated their ability to scavenge free radicals, specifically superoxide and DPPH radicals. *A. aspera* demonstrated reduced lipid peroxidation and free radical scavenging activity. Rats given a methanolic extract of *A. aspera* leaves for burn wounds demonstrated a considerable increase in antioxidant capacity and wound healing<sup>27</sup>.

**Hypolipidemic Activity:** Researchers found that both control and triton-induced hyperlipemic rats' lipid profiles were improved by an ethanolic extract of *A. aspera*. *A. aspera* aqueous extract produced both hypolipidemic and anti-hyperlipidemic effects in rats given sesame oil as part of their diet<sup>28</sup>.

**Neuropharmacological activities:** There have been several descriptions of *A. aspera*'s effects on the central nervous system, including antidepressant, anticonvulsant, anxiolytic, nootropic, and related. Studies on animals have demonstrated encouraging outcomes in the treatment of convulsive disorders when an extract from the roots of *A. aspera* is administered via methanol. Researchers discovered that mice's memory and learning were enhanced by a methanolic root extract of *A. aspera*<sup>29, 30, 31</sup>.

## 2: COLEBROOKEA OPPOSITIFOLIA SMITH

The Lamiaceae flower genus Colebrookea was created in 1806. It is now known that only one species—Colebrookea oppositifolia—actually inhabits this area. The densely woolly shrub Sm. C. oppositifolia, which is native to subtropical regions like India, has been used for centuries in traditional Indian medicine to treat a variety of ailments, such as rheumatoid arthritis, epilepsy, head injuries, and bone fractures, among many others<sup>32</sup>.

### 2.1. Vernacular Names

Kannada: Thuggi Gida; Telugu: Jolidi, Tolisi; Tamil: Vitupucittalai; Marathi: Bhaman, Bhamini, Bhamni; Oriya: Tulia; Hindi: Binda, Kala-Bansa, Pansra, Bhirmoli.



Figure 1.2 Colebrookea oppositifolia smith

### 2.2. Distribution and Habitat

The nations where C. oppositifolia is primarily found are India, Pakistan, southern China, Burma, Nepal, Indo-China, and Thailand. The plant can be found in many parts of India that have elevations between 250 and 1700 meters, including the Himalayas (from Kashmir to Bhutan), the Punjab, the Western Ghats, and the Hilly Areas of South India<sup>33</sup>.

### 2.3. Description of the Plant

The multi-stemmed Indian Squirrel Tail (Colebrookea oppositifolia) shrub reaches a maximum height of three meters. Young plants contain many tiny, hairy branches and pale green stems. The light green leaves are oppositely oriented and thicken toward the tips of the tree's twigs. The underside of the leaves, which has a paler green color than the top, is hairy. The leaves are lanceolate in outline, oblong in shape, and coarsely serrated, ranging in length from 10 to 15 cm. On spiking panicles, tiny white flowers, measuring just 5 to 10 centimeters in length, blossom. Hair resembling a squirrel's tail at the terminals of flower spikes<sup>34</sup>.

### 2.4. Pharmacognostical Studies

Transverse slices of leaf and stem showed abundant evidence of vascular bundles, parenchyma, collenchyma, cortex, cambium, pith, and so forth, along with the architecture of other cell types. Histochemical study of a cross-section of the leaf and stem revealed the presence of lignin, Ca<sup>2+</sup> oxalate crystals, volatile oils, and tannins along with concentrated hydrochloric acid, Sudan III, and ferric chloride. Powdered leaf tissue contained glandular trichomes, spiral vessels, lignified fibers, and lignified tracheids; powdered stem and inflorescence tissue contained parenchyma, collenchyma, papillose cells, covering trichomes, spherical pollen grains, uniseriate tapered trichomes, and corolla<sup>35</sup>.

### 2.5. Phytochemistry

Relative to C. oppositifolia, compounds from its several sections have been the subject of extensive study by noteworthy scientists. In particular, we have isolated two new flavonoid aglycones: 5, 7, 2'-trihydroxyflavone-2'-O—D-glucopyranoside and negletein -6-O—D-glucopyranoside. Verbascoside, which goes by the names Acteoside and Kusagin, is a newly discovered acylated flavone glycoside belonging to the Phenylethanoid family. It was extracted from the root extract of C. oppositifolia. The antifungal active component acteoside was found in C. oppositifolia leaves. Well-known substances include apigenin, caffeic acid, anisofolin A, tanetin, mosloflavone, flindulatin, 5,6,7-

trimethoxy baicalein, tanetin, scutellarein 4'-methyl ether, and apigeton. However, the quercetin content of leaf extracts from *C. oppositifolia* was assessed for a novel 14, 15-dinor-cis-labdane diterpene known as (+) - 14, 15-dinor. Five compounds were extracted from a petroleum ether extract of *C. oppositifolia* leaves; all five were ferulic esters. Researchers have successfully isolated 4, 5, 6, 7-tetramethoxy flavones, a novel flavonoid glycoside, betulonic acid, - sitosterol, triacontane, and triacontanol from the ethanolic root extract of *C. oppositifolia*.<sup>33,34,35</sup>

## 2.6. Therapeutic Uses Described by Ethnobotanical Studies

This plant has long been used in traditional medicine to treat epilepsy, and the leaves are ground into a paste that is given topically to wounds and bruises. Numerous medical conditions, including as dermatitis, epistaxis, bleeding, hemoptysis, ringworm infection, and other skin disorders, have been treated using *C. oppositifolia*. Because the leaves provide a juice, they can be consumed to treat fever and to ease headaches. Those with dysentery had their lesions treated with a leaf poultice. The Gujjars, Boa, Tharus, and some of the indigenous people of India have all employed the plant's crushed powder and decoction to cure epilepsy in traditional medicine. For the treatment of epilepsy, *C. oppositifolia* is used by a number of native communities. Moreover, a root infusion can be used to cure peptic ulcers, and consuming the inflorescence's juice helps relieve sinusitis and other digestive issues<sup>36</sup>.

## 2.7. Pharmacological Activities

Antifertility, antiulcer, antimicrobial, hepatoprotective, cardioprotective, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, wound-healing, and antibacterial properties have all been associated with various constituents of *C. oppositifolia*. The biological activities of the plant have not been thoroughly assessed, but there is much room for more research in this area in the future.

**Antifertility activity:** In male Wister rats, ethanolic extract from *C. oppositifolia* leaves reduces fertility<sup>37</sup>.

**Antiulcer activity:** Animal models of peptic ulcer disease have demonstrated antiulcer efficacy in response to an alcoholic extract of *C. oppositifolia* roots<sup>38</sup>.

**Hepatoprotective activity:** Hepatoprotective Acteoside was isolated from *C. oppositifolia* plant tops<sup>39</sup>.

**Antimicrobial activity:** The essential oils of *C. oppositifolia* have antifungal properties. A study on the antibacterial properties of a *C. oppositifolia* root extract revealed that 12 constituents were in charge of these outcomes. They contained eleven well-known flavonoid compounds and one novel diterpene molecule. Acteoside and other antifungal substances extracted from the leaves and stems of *C. oppositifolia* were examined for their potential synergistic effects<sup>33</sup>.

**Anti-oxidant activity:** Root methanol extract of *Cassia oppositifolia* has antioxidant properties<sup>40</sup>.

**Cardioprotective activity:** An ethanolic *C. oppositifolia* leaf extract's cardioprotective properties against doxorubicin-induced oxidative stress and cardiotoxicity in rats<sup>41</sup>.

**Anti-inflammatory activity:** Animal studies show that a methanolic extract of *C. oppositifolia* leaf has anti-inflammatory effects<sup>36</sup>.

**Wound healing activity:** It has been proven that both water and alcohol extracts of *C. oppositifolia* leaves accelerate wound healing in animal models<sup>42</sup>.

## 3: PUNICA GRANATUM LINN

The pomegranate tree, or *Punica granatum* Linn., is a tiny tree or deciduous shrub of the Punicaceae family. This tree produces highly sought-after fruit. Researchers have examined several plant sections over the past 20 years, and they have produced a wealth of fascinating findings from the phytochemical, pharmacological, and therapeutic viewpoints<sup>43</sup>.



Figure 1. 3 *Punica granatum* L

### 3.1. Vernacular names

Sanskrit: Dadimah; English: Pomegranate; Kannada: Dalimbe; Hindi: Anar; Tamil: Madalam; Telugu: Dadima; Malayalam: Matalam<sup>44</sup>.

### 3.2. Distribution and habitat

*P. granatum* only occurs naturally in the western Iranian Mountains and northern India. It has been grown and established for eons in India, the East Indies, Malaya, tropical Africa, and the arid regions of Southeast Asia<sup>45</sup>.

### 3.3. Description of the plant<sup>46</sup>

A big deciduous shrub or small tree, it reaches heights of 6-10 meters, has smooth, thin, gray bark, and is typically equipped with tiny thorns on either the axils or the tips of its branches.

**Leaves:** Opposite, oblong-lanceolate, oblong-elliptic, or oblong oblanceolate, glabrous, whole, minutely pellucid-punctate, bright green below and shiny above; petiole very short. Measures 2.5–6.3 cm.

**Flowers:** With a maximum length and width of 3.8 to 5 cm, these blooms are typically found alone, however they can sometimes occasionally be observed in groups of two or four. They are found at the terminals of incredibly small branches, which are frequently mistakenly described as axillary when they are actually sessile or almost so.

**Calyx:** In addition to the ovary, there are five to seven coriaceous, valvate tubular appendages.

**Petals:** There are five to seven obovate, crimson, wrinkled petals between the calyx lobes, counting the sepals.

**Stamens:** The calyx has many elliptical, longitudinally dehiscent anthers that are positioned at different levels underneath the petals.

**Ovary:** Long, curved, and inferior in appearance; the cells are organized in two concentric rings; capitate stigma.

**Carpels:** They quickly linked together into two distinct groups, symbolized by the numerals 3 and 5–9 to represent the bottom and top levels, respectively, due to their different beginning locations.

**Fruit:** The calyx-limb is used to crown the globose-shaped fruits. They are between 3.8 and 7.5 cm in diameter. The carpels' coriaceous, woody, and internally septate rind is covered in a membrane. Numerous angular seeds are present in each carpel, and these seeds are forced together by their neighbors. **Seeds:** It has a horny inner coat and a watery, pink-juiced outside.

### 3.4. Pharmacognostical Studies

A transverse slice of leaf tissue from the *Punica granatum* L. plant was made, exposing the upper and lower epidermis. In the epidermis, anomocytic and anisocytic stomata were observed. Compared to the rachis, the lamina has a reduced density of unicellular trichomes. These plants were characterized by non-lignified phloem, lignified xylem, and arc-shaped vascular bundles. Crystals of calcium oxalate with prism and cluster shapes were discovered. Transverse leaf slices revealed the presence of both spiral and annular xylem arteries.<sup>47,48</sup>

### 3.5. Phytochemistry

The hydrolyzable tannins punicalin, gallic acid, punicalagin, ellagic acid, and ellagic acid derivatives including ellagic acid, 3,3'-di-O-methyl, ellagic acid, 3,3', 4'-tri-O-methyl, and ellagic acid, 3'-O-methyl-3,4-methylene are the main bioactive ingredients of *P. granatum*. Other phenolic chemicals that may be present in plants include pedunculagin, punicalcorlein A-D, granatin A and B, punicafolin, punigluconin, corilagin, valoneic acid dilactone, and malic acid. *P. granatum* has been shown to contain a variety of compounds, including gallic acid, protocatechuic acid, chlorogenic acid, caffeic acid, ferulic acid, ortho- and para-coumaric acids, catechin, phloridzin, flavonoids, including flavonols like luteolin, quercetin, and kaempferol, and many more.<sup>49,50</sup>

### 3.6. Therapeutic Uses Described By Ethnobotanical Studies

It has been shown that *P. granatum* L. has a broad variety of biological effects, such as antioxidant, antibacterial, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, anti-diabetic, neuroprotective, and so on<sup>51</sup>.

### 3.7. Pharmacological Activities

**Anti-oxidant activity:** Promising results have been seen from the use of several *P. granatum* components as possible sources of antioxidant protection<sup>52</sup>.

**Antimicrobial activity:** It has been demonstrated that *P. granatum*'s leaves, peel, fruit extracts, and isolated components exhibit antibacterial activity against a variety of bacteria, fungi, and viruses<sup>53</sup>.

**Anti-cancer activity:** Numerous in vitro and in vivo cancer models have demonstrated *P. granatum*'s anti-cancer activity, and the plant's peel, leaves, fruit, and isolated components have all demonstrated this effect<sup>54,55</sup>.

**Anti-obesity activity:** Several in vitro and in vivo models have demonstrated the hypolipidemic, antihyperlipidemic, and anti-obesity properties of various *P. granatum* extracts and whole plants<sup>56</sup>.

**Anti-inflammatory activity:** Many in vitro and in vivo models of acute and chronic inflammation have proven the anti-inflammatory properties of *P. granatum*<sup>57</sup>.

**Hepatoprotective activity:** Strong evidence supporting *P. granatum*'s hepatoprotective properties may be found in both in vitro and in vivo liver injury models. Examples of such substances include carbon tetrachloride, arsenic, trichloroacetic acid, ferric nitrilotriacetate, and others of a similar nature<sup>58</sup>.

**Anti-diabetic activity:** Numerous research investigations have shown *P. granatum* to have anti-diabetic properties, which is in line with the plant's common folklore medicinal use as a diabetic remedy. Specifically, research is being

done on the anti-diabetic properties of fruit and peel extracts and isolated ingredients<sup>59,60</sup>.

**Neuropharmacological activities:** Scientific study using *P. granatum* extracts and components like punicalin has proven neuroprotective characteristics, such as those of an antidepressant, an Alzheimer's therapy, a Parkinson's disease treatment, and so on<sup>61</sup>.

**Cerebroprotective activity:** Standardized pomegranate extract protects Wistar rats from ischemia-reperfusion damage. Punicalagin from *P. granatum* may be able to shield rats' brains from harm during ischemia and reperfusion. *P. granatum*'s neuroprotective properties prevented brain damage in newborn mice exposed to hypoxia<sup>62</sup>.

### Conclusion:

The focus of efforts needs to be on strategies that will improve the efficiency, efficacy, and sensible application of medicinal plants, particularly by incorporating them into national and local health policies and initiatives. *A. aspera* is a highly significant plant, according to the literature review, because of its several medical uses and its chemical constituents, which include ecdysterone, achyranthine, betaine, pentatriacontane, 6-pentatriacontanone, hexatriacontane, and tritriacontane. Numerous pharmacological properties of the plant have been demonstrated, including spermicidal, anti-allergic, cardiovascular, nephroprotective, antiparasitic, hypoglycemic, analgesic, and antipyretic properties. Numerous traditional uses, including those for urinary tract infections, different forms of stomach problems, purgatives, laxatives, antiasthma, and anticholera, are also documented.

*Colebrookea oppositifolia* Smith is a member of the Lamiaceae family. In addition to its antifertility properties, this plant is one of the major medicinal herbs used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, fractures, cuts, and bruises. The entire plant, its roots, leaves, and occasionally its flowers have therapeutic qualities. The entire plant, its roots, leaves, and occasionally its flowers have therapeutic qualities. This family's primary components include amino acids, triterpenoids, glycosides, flavonoids, and tannins. Research on the *Punica granatum* L. (pomegranate) has been endless, ranging from chemistry to biotechnology to production and conservation methods, and from the biological effects to anti-microbial antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anticancer, and anti-diabetic effects, among other applications.

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