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An Overview of Interactions Between Antimalarial Herbal Remedies and Standard Antimalarial Medications

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Abstract: Malaria parasites' resistance to standard antimalarial treatments has revived herbal medicine research. Herbal antimalarial therapies are increasingly used alongside conventional medications, prompting researchers to study potential herb-drug interactions. Herbal and conventional antimalarial medication interactions were examined in this study. English peer-reviewed scientific journals from 2003 to 2020 were searched for relevant publications using Pubmed and Google scholar. Search phrases include "antimalarial-herbal drug interaction", "antimalarial medicinal plant interactions with conventional antimalarial drugs", "drug-herbal interactions", and "antimalarial drugs and medicinal plants". In 30 research, synergistic, antagonistic, and no effects were observed. 14 of 18 in vivo experiments on P. berghei and P. yoelii nigerense-infected mice showed synergism, 3 showed antagonism, and 1 demonstrated both effects with three plants. In 9 normal animal in-vivo trials, 2 exhibited antagonism, 2 synergism, and 5 showed no impact. Garcinia kola lowered plasma quinine and halofantrine in two human investigations and one in vitro quantitative research. Most herbal antimalarials synergized with CAMDs. The most-studied plant was Vernonia amygdalina. Thus, herbal medicines that synergized with conventional antimalarial pharmaceuticals may be candidates for standardisation and development of antimalarial-medicinal plant combination therapy to reduce malaria resistance.

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Keywords: Pharmacokinetics, Antimalarial-herb drug interaction, Medicinal plants.

