

Pharmacological Review on Indium Bdelium

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Abstract: *Currently, a day to day life increasing used of herbal drug and ayurvedic remedies or derived medicine as natural instead of synthetic products in all over the world. indium bdellium also known as guggul belong to family burseraceae obtain from gum resin (sap) of the commiphora mukul and commiphora wightii. It contained wide range of chemical constituents diterpenoids, triterpenoids, steroids, long-chain aliphatic tetrols, aliphatic esters, ferulates, lignans, carbohydrates. This review article focus on the pharmacological actions like hypolipidemic activity, effect on platelet aggregation and fibrinolytic activity, thyroid stimulatory activity, anti-inflammatory and anti-arthritic activity, anti-oxidant activity, anti-atherosclerotic activity, cardioprotective activity, cytotoxic activity, anti-fertility activity, skin diseases, anti-hyperglycemic activity, anti-microbial activity.*

Keywords: Indium bdellium, Guggul, Pharmacology, Review, Chemical Constituents.

I. INTRODUCTION

Indium bdellium obtained as an extraction of oleo-gum resin from the spontaneously injury to stem and branches of Commiphora wightii (Arnott) Bhandari and Commiphora mukul (Hook. Ex Stocks); Family, Burseraceae. The plant is commonly known as guggul tree and is found in arid areas of India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. In India, it is found in Gujrat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, and Karnataka. It is a small, bushy tree with thorny branches and produces a yellowish gum resin (guggulu) in small ducts located throughout its bark. The Sanskrit term "guggul" is "one that protects against diseases". Guggul is a small tree with various branches normally grow upto two or three meters long. The tree go on without any foliage for several years. it grows well in sandy to slit loam soils, which are reach in matters. The tree is tapped from November to January and the resin iscollected through May to June. A guggul tree yields between 250 to 500 g of dry resin during each collection season [3,4].

In Indian traditional system of medicine, guggulu has been used for thousands of years in the treatment of arthritis, inflammation, gout, rheumatism, obesity, and disorders of lipids metabolism [5]. It is known by different names like guggula, guggul, guggal, gugar, and Indium bdellium [6]

Guggulu occurs in vermicular pieces of pale yellow or brown coloured mass with aromatic odour and bitter astringent taste; when fresh it is viscid and golden coloured. It should produce not more than 5 percent of total ash and 1 percent of acid-insoluble ash. It yields not less than 27 percent of alcohol-soluble matter and not less than 53 percent of water-soluble matter. The genuine samples of guggulu contain 1 percent of volatile oil [4] and between 1.0 and 1.5 percent of guggul sterones (Z and E) [5]



Synonyms: Gumgugul, Salai-gogil.

Biological Source:

Guggal is a gumresin obtained by incision of the bark of *Commiphora mukul* (H. and S.) Engl., belonging to family Burseraceae.

Guggul is known by different names in different languages such as:

- In Hindi: – Guggul.
- In Marathi: – Guggala.
- In Tamil: – Gukkulu.
- In Telugu: – Guggipannu.
- In Sanskrit: – Guggulu.
- In English: – Indian bdellium.
- In Kannada: – Kanthagana.
- In Gujarati: – Gugal

Geographical Source:

The tree is a small, thorny plant distributed throughout India.

Collection:

Guggal tree is a small thorny tree 4 to 6 feet tall branches slightly ascending. It is sometimes planted in hedges. The tree remains without any foliage for most of the year. It has ash-coloured bark, and comes off in rough flakes, exposing the innerbark, which also peels off. The tree exudes a yellowish resin called gum guggul or guggulu that has a balsamic odor. Each plant yields about one kilogram of the product, which is collected in cold season

Characteristics: Guggal occurs as viscid, brown tears; or in fragment pieces, mixed with stem, piece of bark; golden yellow to brown in colour. With water it forms a milk emulsion. It has a balsamic odour and taste is bitter, aromatic.

Chemical Constituents

Major –

Volatile oil consisting myrecene, dimyrecene, polymyrecene; Resin (*Z*-Guggulsterone, *E*-Guggulsterone, *Z*-Guggulsterol, Guggulsterol I-V)⁵.

Others –

20- α -Hydroxy-4-pregnen-3-one; 20- β -hydroxy-4-pregnen-3-one; 16- β -hydroxy-4,17(20)*Z*-pregnadien-3-one; 16- α -hydroxy-4-pregnen-3-one; cembrene A; mukulol;

Quercetin; 3-O- α -L-arabinoside; 3-O- α -L-rhamnoside; 3-O- β -D-glucuronide; ellagic acid; pelargonidin-3; α -camphorene; cambrene; Chloestrol; guggulsterols I, II, III¹⁵, 6-7.

One reviewer also says that there is the components of the essential oil found in *C. mukul*. The essential oil with their percentages by weight as shown- α -pinene (4.755); myrcene (3.50%); eugenol (14.70%); cadiene (5.50%); geraniol (6.20%); methyl heptanoate (17.50%); (+)- α -phellandrene (5.50%); (+)-limonene (6.50%); (\pm)-bornyl acetate (7.30%); (\pm)-linalool (8.70%); methyl chavicol (5.40%); α -pineol (4%); 1,8-cineole (3.5%); and unidentified compounds⁸. The seed of *C. wightii* contains $9.8 \pm 0.7\%$ oil. The esters of fatty acids shows the presence of 46.62% saturated fatty acids and 51.40% unsaturated fatty acids. The fatty acid composition is capric acid (3.50%); myristic acid (14.51%); palmitic acid (6.68%); steric acid (4.705%); arachidic acid (3.185%); behenic acid (14.05%); myristoleic acid (1.34%); palmitoleic acid (12.07%); oleic acid (14.15%); eicosenoic acid (0.11%); linoleic acid (22.34%); and alpha linol acid (1.37%)⁹.

Veda

Guggul is described as “Agni Sthana” and used for ‘Dhupa’. In Atharva Veda, it is mentioned that Yaksma and other diseases will not spread to the areas fumigated by Guggulu. ‘Sayana also introduced it as a well known ‘Dhupana dravya’. It was used for the treatment of diseases of cattle^{2,3,5,6}

Samhita

It is observed that the internal usage of Guggul increased during Samhita period only. Acharya Charaka included Guggul in “Sangya Sthapana Maha Kashaya” and in “Kashaya Skandha”. Maharishi Sushruta has described Guggul in the list of seven most important drugs for the treatment of Sthaulya. He has prescribed Guggul with Go-mutra in condition of vitiated Vata with Medodhatu dominated Kapha dosha. The drug is also mentioned as highly effective in the treatment of Vrana as a fumigating agent, Kushtha, Vidradhi Pratisaranartha, Shotha, Gulma etc. Acharya Kashyapa has quoted Guggul in different formulations to treat various diseases. Ghrita, Taila, Avaleha, Dhoopana etc. many formulations of it are also described for the treatment of many ‘Bala Rogas’¹⁰ Maharishi Bhela has prescribed that Dhoomrapana of Guggulu should be taken after bath and after taking meal. He also described the Vrana ropana property of Guggulu¹¹. Maharishi Harita has elaborated Guggulu in a separate chapter titled “Guggulu Kalpa”. Here, he has opined that Guggulu from Marudesh must be collected in Ushna Ritu and Guggulu from hilly areas must be collected in Sheeta Ritu¹². Many formulations of Guggulu have been mentioned in Sharangadhara Samhita. However, in Vati kalpadhyaya, Guggulu has been suggested specifically for the Vati preparation, because it facilitates the binding capacity. Sarangadhara quoted it among the drugs to be used when they are older (Purana).

Vagbhata has described that it is a drug of choice for Medoroga and Vatavikaras. He has also quoted its Medohara action along with other drugs like Shilajatu, Rasanjana and Brihat panchmula. He has also used Guggul in Sneha vyapada chikitsa and prescribed Guggulu in diseases produced due to vitiated Vata, Kapha, Medodhatu a

II. PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES

Hypolipidemic Activity

The lipid lowering effect of guggulu with special reference to atherosclerosis and obesity (medoraga) was first reported in a doctorate thesis submitted to the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in January 1966. Earlier to this work, guggulu was well known as an Ayurvedic drug for the treatment of various types of arthritis. This work was inspired by a rather obscure shloka in Sanskrit in the well-known Ayurvedic treatise Sushruta Samhita. The shloka deals in an extraordinarily lucid and scientific manner, with the etiology, pathogenesis, and treatment of obesity and associated lipid disorders and their complications. The hypolipidemic activity was shown in animals as well as in patients of obesity and hypercholesterolemia [20]. In carefully planned studies carried out (over a period of two years) on rabbits, in which hyperlipidemia was induced by feeding cholesterol (in hydrogenated vegetable oil), it was demonstrated for the very first time that crude guggulu could not only lower significantly the serum cholesterol in hypercholesterolemic rabbits but also protected these animals against cholesterol-induced atherosclerosis at the fatty streak stage. It also reduced the body weight of the animals. A similar trend to reduce significantly the serum cholesterol levels in patients with obesity and hypercholesterolemia was found in clinical studies with crude guggulu. The Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow, has been engaged in chemical, pharmacological, and clinical studies on guggulu [20]. Gugulipid, an ethyl acetate extract of the oleoresin, standardized at CDRI, has been marketed in India since 1988 as a hypolipidemic agent. It contains *Z*-guggulsterones and *E*-guggulsterones which are purported to be the compounds responsible for the hypolipidemic activity of the guggulu. Gugulipid contains not less than 4 percent and not more than 6 percent of guggulsterones (*Z* and *E*). The decision to use the ethyl acetate extract rather than two guggulsterone was primarily for commercial reasons and was also because of the fact that other components of the ethyl acetate extract showed synergistic (hypolipidemic) effect [20]. A number of clinical studies were carried out to confirm hypolipidemic activity of guggulu and gugulipid [21]. The findings of multicentric clinical trials carried out with gugulipid at seven different centres in India coordinated in collaboration with CDRI confirmed the role of gugulipid as a hypolipidemic agent.

Effect on Platelet

Aggregation and Fibrinolytic Activity. The purified steroid mixture from guggulu completely inhibited ADP, adrenaline, or serotonin induced platelet aggregation. No difference was observed between the effectiveness of the steroid mixture and the purified guggulsterone *E* or *Z*. The effect of guggulsterones *E* and *Z* was very similar to the inhibitory effect of clofibrate. This finding has therapeutic value in myocardial infarction and thromboembolism. The effect of guggulu on fibrinolysis and platelet adhesiveness in coronary heart disease was studied. Guggulu fraction A (pet ether extract) in daily dose of 1 g was administered to healthy individuals (group I) and to patients of coronary artery disease (CAD) (group

II) for a period of 30 days. Serum fibrinolytic activity increased, while the platelet adhesive index decreased, which was statistically significant in healthy individuals and in CAD patients. In view of this, guggulu fraction A may be a useful therapeutic agent in the management of coronary artery disease [19].

Thyroid Stimulatory Activity

Administration of ethanolic extract of guggulu to the female albino mice for 15 days enhanced the triiodothyronine (T₃) concentration and T₃/T₄ ratio, while no marked change in the concentrations of serum thyroxine (T₄) was observed [47]. Z-Guggulsterone was shown to be responsible for the thyroid stimulatory action of guggulu. Administration of isolated Z-guggulsterone to rats led to significant increase in all thyroid function parameters, namely, uptake of iodine by the thyroid, enzymes involved in the synthesis of thyroid hormones, and tissue oxygen uptake, thus suggesting thyroid stimulatory action [18].

Anti-Inflammatory and Antiarthritic Activity

The results of several studies confirm anti-inflammatory and antiarthritic activities of guggulu [13, 15, 25, 49–52]. The 50 percent aqueous methanolic extract was found to exhibit an anti-inflammatory effect on adjuvant-induced air pouch granuloma in mice. The methanolic extract inhibited nitric oxide production in lipopolysaccharide activated mouse peritoneal macrophages [15]. A crystalline steroid was isolated from the petroleum ether extract and tested in rats for inhibition of inflammation induced by Freund's adjuvant. It inhibited the full development of the primary lesions in adjuvant arthritis and also reduced the severity of secondary lesions as compared with the untreated control group. Guggulosomes prepared using guggul with ibuprofen by bath sonication and trituration methods were studied for anti-inflammatory activity. It was clearly shown that guggulosomes had more efficacy than ibuprofen and both and ibuprofen had synergistic effect. The study proved that guggul could serve as a carrier for entrapping drugs and for their sustained release action [17].

Antioxidant Activity

The antioxidant property of guggulu helped stop the oxidation of cholesterol and subsequent hardening of the arteries, reduced the stickiness of platelet, and also lowered the risk of coronary artery disease [16]. It also enhanced the production of thyroxin and triiodothyronine; these hormones increase the metabolism of carbohydrates and protein synthesis and help in lowering the lipid activity. The antioxidant activity was attributed to the presence of guggulsterones. It was tested in vitro against the formation of oxygen free radicals. The oxidation of human LDL induced by Fe²⁺ or by rat peritoneal macrophages caused marked formation of lipid peroxidation products. Guggulsterone (50 μM) prevented the generation of thiobarbituric acid reactive substances and lipid hydroperoxide of low density lipoprotein in above system. However, it did not protect lipids against the formation of conjugated dienes, the initial step of lipid peroxidation cascade. Guggulsterone significantly inhibited the reaction of lipid peroxidation in liver microsomes challenged with Fe²⁺ and sodium ascorbate

Antiatherosclerotic Activity

LDL has been found to accumulate in atherosclerotic lesions and is the major source of the cholesterol accumulation in human foam cells. There is evidence that LDL oxidation is essential for atherogenesis and the antioxidants that prevent this oxidation may either slow down or prevent atherogenesis. Guggulsterones, the lipid-lowering components of guggulu, effectively inhibited in vitro LDL oxidation (as discussed under antioxidant action). Thus the combination of antioxidant and lipid-lowering properties of guggulu makes it especially beneficial against atherogenesis [15].

Cardioprotective Activity

Guggulsterones are shown to be effective cardioprotectives. Myocardial necrosis induced by isoproterenol in rats caused marked increase in serum creatine phosphokinase and glutamate pyruvate transaminase. Phospholipase, xanthine oxidase, and lipid peroxides were simultaneously enhanced in ischemic heart following depletion of glycogen, phospholipids, and cholesterol. Treatment with guggulsterone at a dose of 50 mg/kg significantly protected cardiac damage as assessed by the reversal of blood and heart biochemical parameters in ischemic rats [14].

Cytotoxic Activity

Ferulates, important bioactive constituents identified from the guggulu gum, were reported to play a significant role in in vitro cytotoxicity by decreasing the cell viability in MCF-7 (breast) tumor cells, PC-3 (prostate) tumor cells, and parental and transfected P 388 cells [13]. Therefore, ferulate compounds are used in the method for prevention and treatment of abnormal cell growth and proliferation of inflammation, neoplasia, and cardiovascular disease. Ethyl acetate extract showed significant in vitro cytotoxicity. A fraction showing cytotoxic activity was characterized as a mixture of two ferulates with an unusual skeleton by spectral and chemical methods. This fraction also showed moderate scavenging effect against 2,2-diphenyl-1-picryl hydrazyl (DPPH) radicals [12]. Treatment with guggulipid significantly inhibited the viability of human prostate cancer cell line LNCaP (androgen-dependent) and its androgen-independent variant (C-81) with IC₅₀ of 1 μ M (24 h treatment), thus indicating its possible role in apoptosis and cancer prevention [12]. The results of this study indicated that guggulsterone inhibited proliferation of PC-3 cells in culture by causing apoptosis, whereas a normal prostate epithelial cell line is resistant to growth inhibition and apoptosis induction by this phytoconstituent. These observations provided rationale for further preclinical and clinical evaluation of guggulsterone for its efficacy against prostate cancer [11].

Antifertility Activity

Guggulu administered orally (2 and 20 mg/100 g body weight) to female rats decreased the weight of the uterus, ovaries, and cervix, whereas glycogen and sialic acid levels in these organs increased. This suggested that guggulu may be useful as an antifertility agent [10].

Skin Diseases

Administration of guggulipid was reported to be effective in the treatment of nodulocystic acne. A study in 21 patients found that guggulipid was as effective as tetracycline in the treatment. The patients with oily faces responded better to the guggulipid treatment [9].

Antihyperglycemic Activity

Administration of alcoholic extract of *C. mukul* at a dose of 200 mg/kg for 60 continuous days reduced plasma glucose levels in streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats [8]. A study showing effect of guggulsterone isolated from *C. mukul* in high-fat diet induced diabetic rats has also been reported. Different biochemical parameters like GTT, glycogen content, glucose homeostatic enzymes (like glucose-6-phosphatase and hexokinase), insulin release in vivo, and expression profiles of various genes involved in carbohydrate and lipid metabolism clearly demonstrated the hypoglycemic effect. The results suggested that guggulsterone has both hypoglycemic and hypolipidemic effects which can help cure type II diabetes [7].

Antimicrobial Activity

The volatile oil of *C. mukul* was found to be highly effective against *Rhizopertha dominica* which suggested its role as a fumigant. The ethanolic extract of *C. mukul* exhibited best antibacterial activity at 5 mg/mL against multidrug-resistant *Klebsiella pneumonia* [2]. An active compound, 5-(1-methyl,1-aminoethyl)-5-methyl-2-octanone, of the methanolic extract of guggulu gum possessed significant antibacterial activity against Gram-positive bacteria and moderate activity against Gram-negative bacteria [1].

Formulation	Manufacturer by	composition	uses
GUGULIPID 	SABINSA Corporation	Guggul Resin, Dalchini, Bhumi Amla, Sonth, Marich, Pippali	Lipid lowering agent. anti-atherogenic, dietary supplement

	Nishan products	Guggal Dhooop Are Manufactured Using Pure And Natural Gugle, Herbs And Fine Essense Oils Etc	Scent, air fragrance , purifier of atmosphere
	Premium Quality Nutraceuticals and Herbal Formulations	Guggul extract 400mg. commiphora wightii, guggul sterons >2.5%	normal cholesterol levels, normal function of joints and connective tissues

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IV. CONCLUSION

Although the results from this review are quite promising for the use of guggulu as a multi-purpose medicinal agent, several limitations currently exist in the current literature. Indium Bdelium is traditional medicines for the treatment of inflammation, arthritis, obesity, microbial infection, wound, pain, fractures, tumor, and gastrointestinal diseases. It is one of the oldest and the most prominent herbs in Ayurvedic medicine. Guggulu is a versatile drug and, because of its paranormal properties, it is very valuable in treating variety of disorder

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