ABSTRACT

Danial Alaei Faradonbeh, Natural drugs in the treatment and prevention of prostate diseases, Charles University in Prague, faculty of pharmacy in Hradec Králové, 2015, 86 pages.

“Natural drugs in the treatment and prevention of prostate diseases” deals with prostate diseases which are some of the common ailments affecting men in different parts of the world. The etiology of prostate diseases has been identified but little progress has been witnessed as far as treatment is concerned. Of all prostate diseases identified so far, prostate cancer is the most common and affect men aged 40 and above. Prostate cancer affects the prostate gland and affects the normal function of other genitourinary tissues. Conventional prostate disease therapies have yielded minimal results, leading to increased calls for further research. Successful application of plants in the management of other conditions has attracted the interests of cancer researchers. Focus on a number of plants can provide the much needed reprieve and therapy against prostate cancer. Previous studies have identified a number of plants whose active component can act against cancer cells.

Ficus pseudopalma, Nelumbo nucifera, Camptotheca acuminata, Rauvolva vomitoria and Viscum album are some of the plants which have been identified to act against cancer cells. Lupeol, the main chemical component of F. pseudopalma, is an antioxidant which reduces the concentration of reactive oxygen species within the prostate gland. Nelumbo nucifera has aporphine alkaloid which is also an antioxidant and acts in the same manner as pseudopalma. Studies in the United States have led to the formulation of some of these plants as anticancer agents. Apart from these five plants, other plants exist which can provide remedy to prostate cancer patients. Research on therapeutic application of plants on the management of prostate cancer will reduce the burden of this disease across the globe. However, clinical trials should be commissioned to evaluate their effectiveness and possible side effects on human despite the success that has been witnessed with preclinical studies.