



Editorial: Clinical Journal of Diabetes Care and Control

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Editorial

Diabetes has become one of the most prevalent diseases in today's world, claiming lives both young and old. In medical books it is defined as the condition that is caused when the body's ability to process blood glucose becomes impaired. The underlying mechanism of glucose impairment differs by type of Diabetes. No matter what the underlying mechanism, the complications of unrestrained blood sugar can be disastrous for a patient. It can affect the quality of life as well as can lead to untimely mortality. Thus the importance of early diagnosis, proper treatment and lifestyle modification for the control of diabetes cannot be undermined.

Currently the most common modality of treatment is use of oral hypoglycemic drugs and insulin. But many adverse effects have been reported with the use of these drugs. Thus scientists have been trying to find out newer and better drugs to treat diabetes. But this search continues to be elusive and futile.

For centuries human beings have been using medicinal plants for the management of various diseases. Many different plant species have shown promising results in laboratory conditions. They have been proven to be an effective and safe therapy for diabetes. A look back into

the history of drugs show how some well-known drugs used in current treatment regimen for diabetes were derived from plant sources such as metformin drug being developed from the plant *Galega officinalis*. But there is still room for identification and documentation of medicinal plant used in diabetes.

Unfortunately one of the major bottlenecks in development of newer promising drug lead from anti diabetic plants is inability of scientific researchers to elucidate on the bioactive principles and therapeutic mechanism of potential anti diabetic plants. These lacunae are the direct and indirect result of absence/inadequate funding leading to poor scientific infrastructure and research design. Further the results from these studies often end up in journals with low visibility and thus are lost in oblivion.

Thus in order to benefit from these natural resources and to benefit the patient community world over, the need of the hour is to prioritize funding of research based on medicinal plants, document the results of such findings and to put them out for global scientific community scrutiny. Only then the scourge of chronic diseases like diabetes can be warded off from the planet.