

PROSPECTS OF APPLICATION PHYTOMEDICINES AT THE PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET OF UKRAINE

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For many years medical and pharmacy specialists and the population are greatly interested in using medicinal plants and medicines obtained on their basis for treating different diseases. Nowadays medicines based on biologically active substances of the plant origin (phytomedicines) comprise 50% of the total nomenclature of medicines, and up to 90 % of these medicines are used for treating cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, nervous diseases.

About 750 plants are described and used in folk medicine, but only 50-60 plants are used in the Ukrainian traditional medicine, while, for example in China, more than 1000 plants are applied, and the USA pharmaceutical firms have in their drugstores more than 500 extracts and compositions from plants.

Approximately 90 medicines of the plant origin in the form of tinctures, oils, syrups, extracts, medicines for injections, solid and soft medicinal forms are produced by the domestic industry. The volume of realization of herbal medicines manufactured abroad is in 2-3 times higher than from home manufacturers at the pharmaceutical market of Ukraine. Therefore, development of this direction by introduction of new phytogenic medicines into medical practice and expansion of assortment of phytomedicines produced not only by pharmaceutical enterprises, but at the chemist's as well is quite perspective. One of the simplest forms of application of medicinal plants are water extractions, among their advantages it should be noted the simplicity of preparation, the complex action and a high bioavailability of biologically active substances containing in the plant raw material, besides, they have a milder effect on the organism. Water extractions (infusions and decoctions) have a wide application in medical practice as mixtures, rinses, lotions, washes, baths and inhalations. At present the classical technology of water extracts is modified due to the application of modern extraction methods, development of new equipment, application of extracts-concentrates. However, the work in this direction is being conducted both using the latest achievements and taking into account the existed experimental data obtained as a result of studying physical and chemical, biological and pharmacological properties of some plants.

Thus, one of the directions of developing phytotherapy is determination of scientific approaches of the rational combination of medicinal plants in order to form the optimal formulation, as well as the search of rational technologies of water extractions with the purpose of achieving the necessary therapeutic effect.