

A REVIEW ON HERBS USED IN THE TREATMENT OF UROLITHIASIS**Jenane Velayuthem V.*¹, Amudha P.², Muralidharam P.³**Post Graduate¹, Asst Professor², Professor Head of pharmacology³

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Metha College of Pharmacy,
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Chennai-600097.**ABSTRACT**

Urolithiasis, which affects up to 12% of the world's population, is the third most common and painful ailment among urinary diseases. Among the most common varieties of kidney stones are those made of calcium oxalate, calcium phosphate, uric acid, struvite, and cysteine. Although there are several ways to lessen diabetes' negative effects and its subsequent complications, herbal formulations are favoured since they have fewer side effects and are less expensive. This review's main objective is to give readers a fundamental grasp of urolithiasis and the numerous plants that can be used to cure kidney stones since they have anti-urolithiatic properties.

KEYWORDS: Urolithiasis, calcium oxalate, herbal plants.**INTRODUCTION**

Urolithiasis is the third common condition that affects the urinary system and causes people to experience excruciating discomfort. In industrialized nations, 10-12% of the population suffers from urinary stones. Although the mechanisms of urolithiasis have not been fully explored, it is thought that the risk of urinary calculi may be directly tied to many elements, including heredity, gender, age, occupation, metabolic disease, drug use, food, infection, and urinary tract blockage.^[1] A sufficient fluid intake and dietary changes may successfully stop the recurrence of stones. Recent therapeutic options include surgical removal, percutaneous methods, and extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsies (ESWL) are too expensive for the average person to afford. Recurrence is also extremely common with these operations, and the patient must undergo thorough follow-up for a number of years. As a result, it's essential to adopt alternate therapies or create new antilithiatic medications with milder adverse effects.^[2] Due to their effectiveness, low toxicity, and lack of side effects, herbal medications are gaining more and more attention. Except for a few composite herbal drugs and plants, the majority of remedies used in traditional medical systems were derived from plants, and they were demonstrated to be effective despite the

lack of a well-established rationale for their use through systematic pharmacological and clinical studies.^[3]

Symptoms

The symptoms of a kidney stone vary depending on whether it is in the kidney, ureter, or urinary bladder. A kidney stone does not usually produce symptoms until it moves about within the kidney or enters one of the ureters. The tubes that link the kidneys and bladder are known as ureters. If a kidney stone becomes caught in the ureters, it can cause the kidney to enlarge and the ureter to spasm, both of which can be quite painful. These are some examples of stone disease indicators and symptoms.^[4]

- Significant lower back ache on either side
- More nebulous pain or a persistent stomachache
- Urine with blood in it
- Foul smell in urine

Mechanism of Stone Formation

The process of stone formation involves the nucleation of the crystals that make up the stone, their growth or aggregation to a size that can interact with an intra renal structure, their retention within the kidney or renal collecting system, and then additional aggregation and/or secondary nucleation to create the renal stone.^[5]

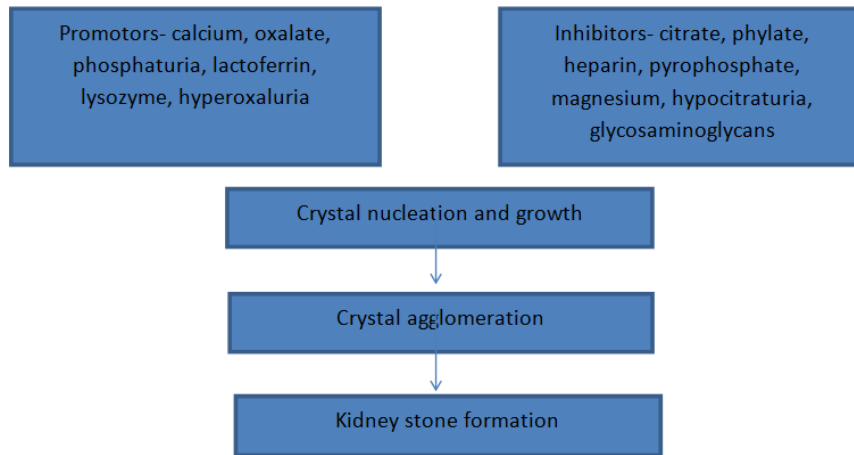


Figure 1: Schematic representation of formation of kidney stones.

TYPES OF RENAL STONES

Calcium oxalate stones

The most prevalent kidney stone kind is calcium oxalate. When there is a lack of fluids and a high concentration of calcium, oxalate, cystine, or phosphate, solid lumps called kidney stones develop in the kidney. Calcium oxalate, either by itself or, far more frequently, in combination with calcium phosphate or calcium urate, makes up calcium stones⁽⁶⁾. Calcium stones can form as a result of hypercalciuria, poor urine volume, and hypocitraturia. Diseases like hyperparathyroidism, cancer, sarcoidosis, and excess vitamin D that are associated with hypercalcemia and hypercalciuria frequently co-occur with these conditions.

Uric acid stone

Patients with hyperuricosuria frequently develop uric acid stones, but aciduria is generally the most prevalent underlying cause. Diet-dependent and diet-independent factors, including metabolic syndrome, which tends to produce a net acid load, are thought to be the causes of aciduria. Due to the high purine content of animal

protein, which results in the production of uric acid during catabolism, a diet heavy in animal protein may increase the risk of uric acid stone development. At a low urinary pH (5.5 or less), uric acid is significantly less soluble, whereas solubility significantly rises at a higher urinary pH.^[7]

Struvite stones

These stones, which are often composed of magnesium ammonium phosphate stones, develop in response to urinary tract infections. Urease, a bacterial enzyme that breaks down bacteria into ammonia and carbon dioxide and makes urine alkaline, favours the formation of struvite stones⁽⁸⁾. Typically, women are more likely than men to develop this sort of stone.^[9]

Cystine stones

Cystine kidney stones are caused by cystinuria, an inherited (genetic) disease in the transport of the amino acid cystine, which causes an excess of cystine in the urine and the development of cystine kidney stones.^[10]

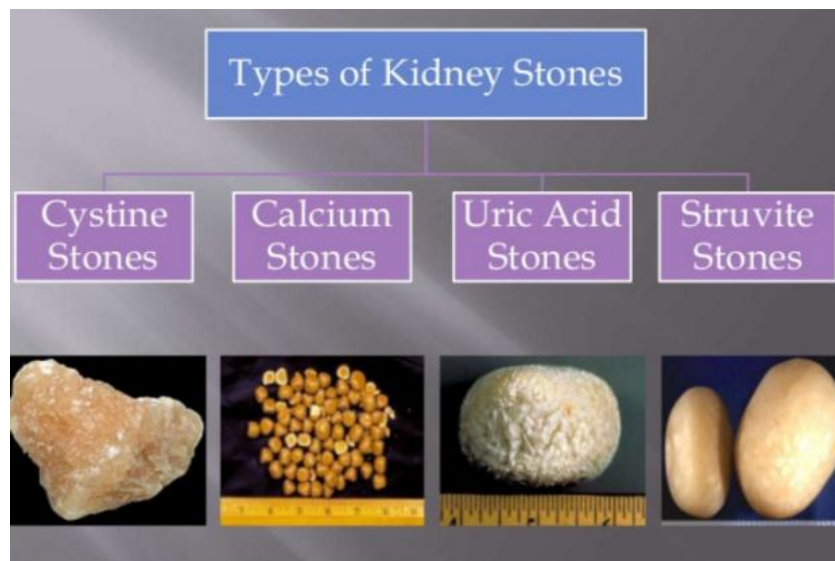


Figure 2: types of kidney stones.

Table 1: Herbal plants having urolithiatic activity.

Sr.No	Plant name	Family	Part used	Inducer	Outcome	Reference
01	Abelmoschus moschatus	malvaceae	seed	Zinc disc implantation in urinary bladder of rats	Increased creatinine clearance rate Diuretic effect	[11]
02	Alcea rosea	malvaceae	root	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Prevented calcium oxalate deposition in kidney Reduced urinary oxalate level	[12]
03	Angelica sinensis	Apiaceae	Roots	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Inhibited urinary oxalate – stone forming constituent	[13]
04	Berberis trifoliata	Berberidaceae	Leaves	Zinc disc implantation of urinary bladder	decrease in the weight of calculi in the urinary bladder	[14]
05	Biophytum sensitivum	Oxalidaceae	Whole plant	Surgical implantation of zinc disc in urinary bladder of rats	Increased GFR	[15]
06	Bryophyllum pinnatum	Crassulaceae	Leaves	sodium oxalate induced urolithiasis	Prevented accumulation and retention of calcium oxalate crystals in renal tubules	[16]
07	Camellia sinensis	Theaceae	Leaves	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis in rats	Increased sodium oxate dismutase Decreased growth rate of calculus	[17]
08	Cinchorium intybus	asteraceae	leaves	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Decreased serum levels of calcium, uric acid Increased urine output	[18]
09	Cucumis trigonus	Curcubitaceae	fruits	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Restored antioxidant in homogenates of kidney	[19]
10	Crocus sativus	Iridaceae	Stigma	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Reduced number of crystal deposition	[20]
11	Daucus carota	Apiaceae	roots	Ethylene glycol and ammonium chloride induced urolithiasis	Inhibited renal tissue damage and inflammation Inhibited serum creatinine and uric acid level	[21]
12	Dolichos biflorus	Fabaceae	seeds	Experimentally prepared kidney stone- calcium oxalate	Increased dissolution of calcium oxalate	[22]
13	Euphorbia hirta	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves	Nucleation and aggregation assay	Inhibition of calcium oxalate kidney stone	[23]
14	Eryngium campestre	Apiaceae	Aerial parts	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Reduced inflammation Inhibited calcium oxalate deposition in kidney	[24]
15	Ficus tikova	moraceae	stem	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis in SD rats	Inhibition of inflammatory process Decrease in level of oxalate in inorganic urine sediment	[25]
16	Gomphocarpus fruitcosus	Apocynaceae	leaves	Ethylene glycol and ammonium chloride induced urolithiasis	Elevated the levels of magnesium, citrate Increased urine output	[26]
17	Holorrhena antidysenterica		seeds	Hyperoxaluric rat model of CaOx	Decreased the size of crystals	[27]
18	Hygrophila spinosia	Acanthaceae	Whole plant	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Lowered level of calcium and oxalate	[28]

					Increased glomerular filtration rate	
19	<i>Ipomea ericarpa</i>	Convolvulaceae	Leaves	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Inhibited serum level of calcium, urea, creatinine	[29]
20	<i>Lagenaria siceraria</i>		Fruit powder	Sodium oxalate induced urolithiasis in rats	Decreased calcium oxalate excretion and prevented crystal deposition in urinary tubules	[30]
21	<i>Launea procumbens</i>	asteraceae	leaves	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Decreased number and size of calcium oxalate crystals sediment in renal tubules	[31]
22	<i>Lea macrophylla</i>	Vitaceae	Whole plant	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Increased urinary excretion of calcium phosphorus and oxalate	[32]
23	<i>Macrotyloma uniflorum</i>	Fabaceae	seeds	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Showed anti urolithiatic activity by promoting inhibitors- magnesium, citrate and suppressed promoters- calcium, oxalate, phosphate in serum, urine kidney tissue	[33]
24	<i>Mallotus philippinensis</i>	Euphorbiaceae	leaves	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis in wistar rats	Inhibition of formation of calcium oxalate and phosphate	[34]
25	<i>Melia azearach</i>	Meliaceae	Leaves	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis in rats	Decreased the elevated serum levels of creatinine, blood urea nitrogen and uric acid	[35]
26	<i>Mentha piperita</i>	Lamiaceae	Aerial parts	Urolithiasis induced by giving 1% ammonium chloride and 0.75% ethylene glycol in drinking water	Inhibited calcium oxalate deposition	[36]
27	<i>Mimusops elengi</i>	sapotaceae	bark	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Lowered the levels of oxalate and calcium in urine Increased urinary phosphate excretion	[37]
28	<i>Musa acuminata</i>	Musaceae	stem	Nucleation and aggregation assay	Inhibited the growth of calcium oxalate crystals	[38]
29	<i>Pedaliium murex</i>	Pedaliaceae	Whole plant	Ethyl acetate induced urolithiasis model in rats	Inhibited enzyme urease Inhibited urinary pH Through this crystal formation inhibited	[39]
30	<i>Pedaliium murex</i>	Pedaliaceae	fruit	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Lowered LDH level (oxalate synthesizing enzyme)	[40]
31	<i>Piper cubeba</i>	piperaceae	fruit	Ethylene glycol and ammonium choride induced urolithiasis	Elevated glomerular filtration rate Decreased renal oxidative stress	[41]
32	<i>Pyrrosia petiolosa</i>	polypodiaceae	Whole plant	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Decreased oxidative stress and inflammatory response Activated TGF- β	[42]

					pathway	
33	Rubia tinctorum	Rubiaceae	Root	0.75% ethylene glycol and 2% ammonium chloride induced urolithiasis	Reduced the presence of calcium oxalate in urine	[43]
34	Salvia hispanica	lamiaceae	seeds	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Reduced inflammation Inhibited levels of urinary oxalate, calcium and serum uric acid	[44]
35	Solanum xanthocarpum	Solanaeaceae	Fruits	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Increased urinary output Decreased deposits of calcium oxalate crystal	[45]
36	Vernonia cinerea	asteraceae	Whole plant	Ethylene glycol induced urolithiasis	Decreased oxalate levels Maintained phosphate levels	[46]

CONCLUSION

A detailed description has been made about various medical plans having antiurolithiatic effect, along with their underlying mechanism for progression, however more researchers are required in order to isolate the active constituent of herbal drugs and molecular interaction of their active combination of evaluation their therapeutic activity.

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