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## Review Article

# Integrating Ayurvedic Medicinal System into Cancer Treatment

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## ABSTRACT

A major global health concern that causes severe sickness in many people is cancer. Cancer kills 1 in 8 men and 1 in 11 women. Benign and malignant cancers are classified according to the type of tissue or cell they arise from. It is addressed how oncogenes and tumour suppressor genes contribute to the genesis of cancer. Radiation, hormone therapy, gene therapy, and stem cell transplantation are among the many treatment possibilities that are discussed. Ayurveda, a traditional Indian system, highlighting its basic ideas. By fostering mental, spiritual, and bodily well-being, these Ayurvedic ideas make it possible to maintain balanced health. Knowing the fundamentals of Ayurveda can help one develop complementary cancer treatment methods. Ayurvedic medicine integration into cancer treatment is a creative strategy that makes use of natural sources, particularly plants, to combat cancer. Plants like curcumin, ashwagandha, guggul, guduchi, and triphala have demonstrated anti-proliferative and anti-inflammatory activities, enhancing chemotherapy efficacy. Several Ayurvedic centers have conducted clinical trials (Phase I and II), showing promising results against cancer. Although the FDA has not approved Ayurvedic drugs due to insufficient clinical trials Limited understanding of active ingredients and mechanisms Some Ayurvedic herbal supplements have received FDA recognition as "Generally Recognized as Safe" (GRAS). By conducting rigorous clinical trials and establishing clear guidelines for ayurvedhic Integration into conventional cancer care, we can develop effective, natural cancer treatment.

## INTRODUCTION

cancer is a group of diseases characterized by the uncontrolled proliferation of diseases of abnormal cells that possess the ability to invade surrounding tissue and metastasize to distant sites in the body.

It results from genetic mutations that disrupt normal cellular processes, such as growth, division, and apoptosis (programmed cell death). cancer are typically classified based on the type cell or tissue from which they originate, and they

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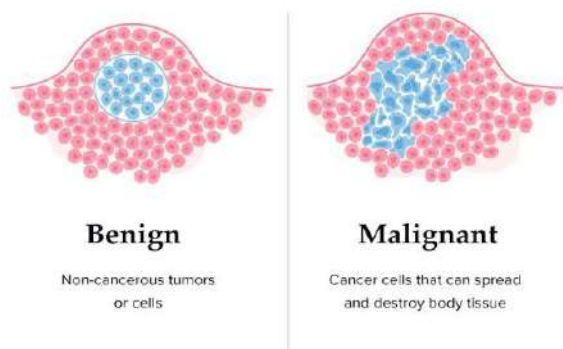
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can present as benign(non-invasive) or malignant (invasive) tumors, with malignant tumor being of greater clinical significance due to their potential for spread and harm.<sup>(1)</sup>

Classification:

#### Benign Mesothelioma vs. Malignant Mesothelioma



**Figure-1 benign and malignant tumors**

**Benign tumors:** benign tumor are non-cancerous growths that arise from the abnormal proliferation of cells. Unlike malignant tumor, benign tumors do not invade surrounding tissue or metastasize (spread) to other parts of the body.<sup>(3)</sup>

**Characteristics of benign tumor:** 1. Growth rate: Typically grow slowly compared to malignant tumors. Often well-defined and localised, making them easier to distinguish from surrounding tissues.

2. structure: Generally, have a uniform appearance and may resemble the normal tissue from which they originate. Encapsulated by a fibrous capsule, which separates them from surrounding tissues.

3. Invasiveness: do not invade adjacent tissues, they expand and compress near by structures rather than infiltrate them. Rarely they can cause damage or destruction depending on their size and location.

4. Metastasis: Benign tumours do not spread to distant sites in the body, making them less dangerous than malignant tumours.

**Types of benign tumors:** 1. Lipomas: Composed of fat cells, these soft, movable lumps often develop under the skin.<sup>(7)</sup>

2. Adenomas: Arise from glandular tissue and can occur in various organs, including the thyroid and pituitary glands.<sup>(6)</sup>

3. Fibromas: Formed from fibrous or connective tissue, these tumours can occur in various locations, including the skin and lungs.<sup>(5)</sup>

4. Haemangiomas: Composed of blood vessels, these vascular tumours commonly appear on the skin or liver.<sup>(4)</sup>

5. Nevi (moles): Clusters of pigmented cells on the skin that are generally harmless but can change overtime.<sup>(4)</sup>

**Malignant tumours:** Malignant tumours are cancerous growths characterized by uncontrolled cell division and the ability to invade nearby tissues and spread to distant parts of the body through the bloodstream or lymphatic system. Unlike benign tumours, malignant tumours pose a significant health risk and can be life-threatening.<sup>(2)</sup>

**Characteristics of malignant tumor:**

1. Uncontrolled growth: Malignant tumours exhibit rapid and disorganized growth due to mutations in the DNA of the affected cells. This uncontrolled proliferation leads to the formation of masses that can grow larger overtime.

2. Invasiveness: These tumours infiltrate surrounding tissues, making them difficult to remove completely. They can destroy normal tissues and disrupt the function of adjacent organs.

3. Metastasis: A defining feature of malignant tumours is their ability to spread to distant sites in the body. Cancer cells can break away from the original tumour, travel through the bloodstream or lymphatic system, and establish new tumours in other organs (secondary tumours).

4. Anaplasia: Malignant tumours often show a lack of differentiation, meaning the cancer cells do not resemble normal cells from the tissue of origin. They may appear abnormal in size, shape, and organization.

**Types of malignant tumours:**

1. Carcinomas: these tumors originated from epithelial cells and are the most common type of cancer. Examples include breast cancer, lung, colorectal cancer.<sup>(8)</sup>

2. Sarcomas: Arising from connective tissues such as bone, muscle, and fat, sarcomas are less common than carcinomas. Examples include osteosarcoma (bone cancer) and liposarcoma (fat tissue cancer).<sup>(9)</sup>

3. Leukaemias: this cancer affects the blood and bone marrow, leading to the overproduction of abnormal white blood cells. Common types include acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) and chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML).<sup>(10)</sup>

4. Lymphomas: originating in the lymphatic system, lymphomas can be classified into Hodgkin lymphoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma, each with distinct characteristics and treatment approaches.<sup>(11)</sup>

5. Melanomas: these tumors arise from melanocytes, the cells responsible for skin pigmentation. Melanoma is particularly aggressive and has a higher tendency to metastasize compared to other skin cancers.<sup>(12)</sup>

Mechanism of oncogenes: Oncogenes are mutated forms of normal genes (known as proto-oncogenes) that have the potential to cause cancer. These mutations can lead to uncontrolled cell growth and division, contributing to tumor formation.<sup>(13)</sup>

Characteristics of oncogenes:

1. Role in cell growth: Oncogenes typically encode proteins that regulate cell growth, differentiation, and survival. When mutated, these proteins can become hyperactive or overexpressed, leading to unregulated cell proliferation.

2. Types of mutation: Mutations in oncogenes can occur through various mechanisms, including point mutations, gene amplifications, chromosomal translocations, or insertions. Each of these mutations can alter the function of the proto-oncogene, leading to oncogenic properties.

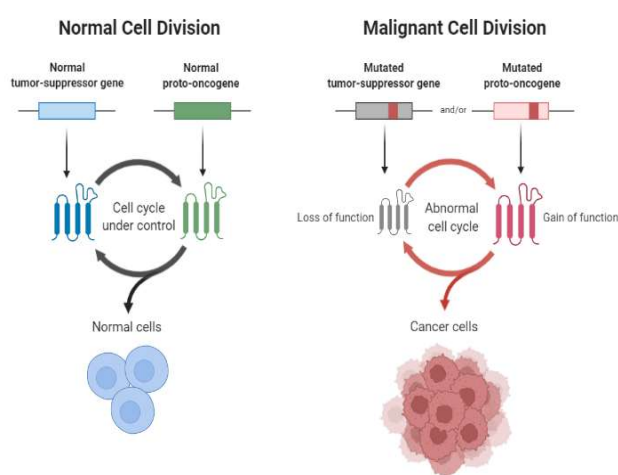
3. Dominant effect: Oncogenes exert a dominant effect; that is, a mutation in just one allele of a proto-oncogene can drive cancer development. This is in contrast to tumor suppressor genes, where both alleles typically need to be inactivated for PC cancer to occur.

Common types of oncogenes:

1. Growth factor: Some oncogenes code for growth factors that stimulate cell division. An example is platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF), which can promote tumor growth when overexpressed.

2. Receptors: Oncogenes can also encode receptor proteins that, when mutated, become constitutively active, driving continuous signaling for cell proliferation. An example is the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), and (HER2), commonly implicated in various cancers, including lung cancer.<sup>(14)</sup>

3. Signal Transduction Proteins: Oncogenes like RAS and SRC are involved in transmitting signals from outside the cell to the nucleus, leading to cell division. Mutations in these genes can lead to



**Figure-2 cell cycle of proto oncogene and tumor suppressor gene**

persistent signaling, driving uncontrolled cell growth.<sup>(15)</sup>

4. Nuclear Proteins: Some oncogenes code for proteins that directly regulate gene expression. For instance, the MYC oncogene influences cell cycle progression and apoptosis. Overexpression of MYC is associated with several cancers.<sup>(16)</sup>

Role in Cancer Development:

1. Transformation of Cells: The activation of oncogenes can lead to the transformation of normal cells into cancerous cells. This transformation is often a multi-step process, requiring additional mutations in other oncogenes or the inactivation of tumor suppressor genes.

2. Tumor Progression: Oncogenes play a critical role not only in the initiation of cancer but also in its progression and metastasis. As tumors grow and evolve, they can acquire additional mutations, leading to more aggressive forms of cancer.

Examples of Oncogenes:

1. KRAS: Frequently mutated in pancreatic, colorectal, and lung cancers, leading to uncontrolled cell growth.<sup>(17)</sup>

2. HER2/neu: Associated with breast cancer, where its overexpression promotes aggressive tumor growth.<sup>(14)</sup>

3. BCR-ABL: A fusion protein resulting from a translocation between chromosomes 9 and 22, commonly seen in chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML).<sup>(18)</sup>

Mechanism of tumor suppressor genes: Tumor suppressor genes are a class of genes that regulate cell growth and division, preventing uncontrolled cell proliferation and tumor formation. When these genes are mutated or lost, they can no longer effectively perform their regulatory functions, leading to the development of cancer.<sup>(19)</sup>

Characteristics of Tumor Suppressor Genes:

1. Functions in cell cycle regulation: Tumor suppressor genes play a crucial role in controlling

the cell cycle. They produce proteins that can halt cell division in response to DNA damage or other cellular stressors, allowing for repair processes to occur before the cell progresses through the cycle.

2. Recessive Action: Unlike oncogenes, which are typically dominant (where a mutation in one allele can drive cancer), tumor suppressor genes usually require both alleles to be inactivated or mutated for tumorigenesis to occur. This means that an individual can inherit one mutated copy and still remain healthy, but the second copy must also be mutated for cancer to develop.

3. Induction of apoptosis: Many tumor suppressor genes are involved in the apoptotic pathways, promoting programmed cell death in response to cellular stress or damage. This process is essential for eliminating potentially cancerous cells.<sup>(20)</sup>

Common Tumor Suppressor Genes:

1. TP53: Also known as the "guardian of the genome," TP53 encodes the p53 protein, which is pivotal in monitoring DNA integrity. It can induce cell cycle arrest, DNA repair, or apoptosis in response to DNA damage. Mutations in TP53 are found in a wide range of cancer.<sup>(22)</sup>

2. BRCA1 and BRCA2: These genes are crucial for DNA repair mechanisms, specifically in repairing double-strand breaks. Mutations in BRCA1 and BRCA2 significantly increase the risk of breast and ovarian cancers, among others.<sup>(23)</sup>

4. APC (Adenomatous Polyposis Coli): The APC gene is involved in the Wnt signaling pathway, which regulates cell proliferation and differentiation. Mutations in the APC gene are often associated with familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) and colorectal cancer.<sup>(24)</sup>

5. PTEN (Phosphatase and Tensin Homolog): PTEN acts as a lipid phosphatase and is a key regulator of the PI3K/Akt signaling pathway, which promotes cell survival and growth. Loss of PTEN function is implicated in various

cancers, including prostate and endometrial cancers.<sup>(25)</sup>.

#### Examples of Tumor Suppressor Gene Action

1.Cell Cycle Checkpoints: Tumor suppressor proteins help maintain checkpoints in the cell cycle. They ensure that cells do not divide when DNA is damaged or when conditions are not suitable for growth.

2.DNA Repair: These genes are involved in DNA repair processes, correcting errors that

can occur during DNA replication. Failure to repair DNA can lead to mutations that contribute to cancer progression.

3.Inhibition of Oncogenic Signals: Tumor suppressor genes can inhibit pathways that promote cell division and survival, acting as a counterbalance to oncogenes that drive tumor growth.

**Table- 1 Types of cancer treatments in allopathy**

Treatment Modality	Description	Application	Examples
1. Surgery	Physical removal of the tumors and surrounding cells.	Used for localised tumors.	Lumpectomy, mastectomy, tumor resection.
2.chemotherapy	Use of drugs to kill rapidly dividing cancer cells.	For systemic treatment of cancer after surgery.	Doxorubisyn, Cyclophosphamide, Cisplatin.
3. Radiation therapy	High- energy radiation is used to target and kill cancer cells.	Localised tumors, often post-surgery or for palliation.	External beam radiation, brachytherapy.
4.targeted therapy	Drugs that specifically target cancer cell mechanism like growth path way	Common for specific cancer types with known mutation	Imatinib( gleevec), Trastuzumab ( herceptin),
5. Immunotherapy	Boosts the body's immune response against cancer cells.	Various cancers , especially melanoma and lung cancer.	Pembrolizumab (Keytruda), nivolumab (Opdivo).
6.Hormone therapy	Blocks hormones that fuel certain cancers (like breast and prostate cancers).	Hormone sensitive cancer	Tamoxifen, anastrozole, leuprolide.
7.stem cell transplantation	Replaces damaged bone marrow with healthy stem cells.	Blood cancers like leukemia and lymphoma	Autologous and allogenic transplantation.
8. Gene therapy	Modifies genes in cancer cells to stop or reverse growth.	Experimental; for specific genetic mutations.	CART cell therapy.

#### Brief introduction to AYURVEDHA:

Definition:

Ayurveda is an ancient Indian system of traditional medicine that emphasizes a holistic approach to health and wellness. The term "Ayurveda" is derived from two Sanskrit words

Ayur meaning: - "life" or "longevity"

Veda meaning: - "knowledge" or "science"

Ayurveda is a comprehensive system of medicine that aims to promote physical, mental, and spiritual well-being through.

1. Natural therapies (herbal remedies, diet, lifestyle modifications)
2. Prevention and management of diseases
3. Balance and harmony of body, mind, and spirit.

### Key Principles of Ayurveda

**1. The Five Elements (Pancha Mahabhuta):** Ayurveda is based on the belief that all matter is made up of five fundamental elements:

- Earth (Prithvi)
- Water (Apas)
- Fire (Tejas)
- Air (Vayu)
- Space (Akasha) (27).



Figure-3 panchamahabhutha

**2. The Three Doshas:** The three doshas "Vata, Pitta, and Kapha" are bioenergetic forces that govern physical and mental processes. Each person has a unique constitution, or Prakriti, determined by the dosha balance.

- **Vata:** Composed of air and space; associated with movement and communication.
- **Pitta:** Composed of fire and water; governs digestion, metabolism, and transformation.
- **Kapha:** Composed of earth and water; responsible for structure, stability, and lubrication.(26).

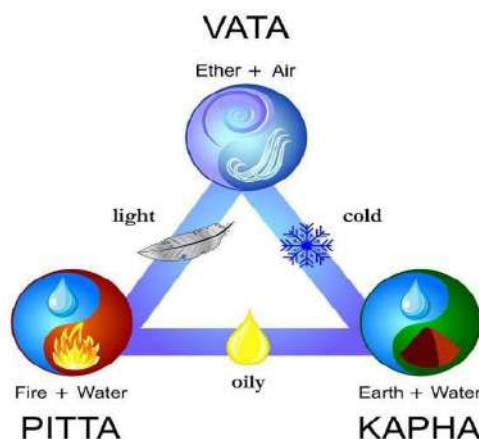


Figure-4 tridosha

### 3. The Concept of Dhātu:

Dhatus are the seven tissue systems that provide structure and support to the body. They are essential for overall health and vitality.

1. **Rasa** (Plasma)
2. **Rakta** (Blood)
3. **Mamsa** (Muscle)
4. **Meda** (Fat)
5. **Asthi** (Bone)
6. **Majja** (Bone marrow)
7. **Shukra** (Reproductive tissue) (28).

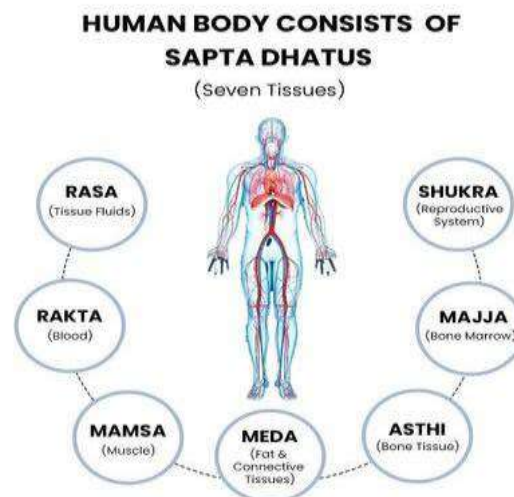


Figure-5 The concept of Dhātu

**4. Srotas (Channels):** Srotas are the channels through which substances flow in the body, including nutrients, waste, and energy. Proper function of the srotas is crucial for health.

**5. The Concept of Agni (Digestive Fire):** Agni refers to the digestive fire that transforms food into

energy. It's essential for digestion, metabolism, and overall health. A balanced Agni is critical for maintaining healthy. (21). (29).



Figure-6 The concept of Agni

**6. Ama (Toxins):** Ama is the toxic residue produced from improper digestion and metabolism. It is considered the root cause of many diseases in Ayurvedha. (21).

**7. Prakriti and Vikriti:**

- **Prakriti:** One's inherent constitution, determined at birth by the unique balance of doshas.
- **Vikriti:** The current state of one's dosha balance, which can be affected by lifestyle, diet, and environmental factors. (21).



Figure-7: Prakriti and Vikriti

Integrating Ayurvedhic medicine into cancer treatment:

Cancer is a group of over 200 neoplastic diseases, all of which are caused by the dysregulation of multiple cell signaling pathways . A cancer may have as many as 500 different dysregulated genes.

The dysregulation of various genes may occur over a period as long as 20-30 years before a given cancer begins to manifest its symptoms. Therefore, targeting or inhibiting a single gene product or cell signaling pathway is unlikely to prevent or destroy cancer. Chemotherapy and specific targeted drugs have been developed to disrupt these gene products or pathways, thereby inducing cell death and impeding progression of malignant changes in cells. However, problems such as ineffective targeting and drug resistance have plagued these agents. These drugs are costly, have a long list of undesirable side effects, and are still not effective enough to have a significant effect on the course of the disease. Before the modern chemotherapy era, drugs derived from natural sources were used for centuries for both cancer prevention and treatment. According to some estimates, as many as 80% of all anticancer drugs today have their roots in natural products. The molecular targets of these natural compounds and their true potential against cancer, however, are not fully understood. (21).

**Methodology:**

Ayurvedic formulation composed of many herbs, each with many compounds. Methodologies are needed to determine mechanisms of herbal compounds. It involves multidisciplinary approaches. Influential component in cancer etiology is the relationship of body, mind and spirit or consciousness through yoga and meditation can remove stress and develop consciousness. Consultation with oncologists and Ayurvedic experts, Patient evaluation and diagnosis (conventional and Ayurvedic), Identification of cancer type, stage, and treatment goals are the pre integrating steps in cancer treatment. Along with medications patient should also include regular diet and regular yoga can improve effectiveness in treatment.

**Pre integrating steps:** consulting oncologist and ayurvedhic expert.

**Integrating steps:** Complementary Therapy: Ayurvedic herbal supplements (e.g., Turmeric, Ashwagandha) to reduce side effects, Panchakarma detoxification therapies (e.g., massage, meditation) for stress management, Yoga and Pranayama for physical and mental well-being.

Alternative Therapy (under expert guidance): Ayurvedic treatments as primary therapy for early-stage cancer.

**Integration Models:**



Concurrent model: Ayurvedic treatment alongside conventional cancer treatment  
 Sequential model: Ayurvedic treatment before or after conventional cancer treatment.  
 Integrative model: Combining Ayurvedic and conventional treatments under one roof

**Panchakarma** is a collective term used to refer to the five main Ayurvedic procedures of detoxification:





- vamana (emesis),
- virechana (purgation),
- nasya (nasal instillation of herbal oils/powders),
- basti or vasti (herbal enema), and
- raktamokshana (bloodletting).




These procedures are commonly used in conjunction with allied therapies in order to cleanse the channels, eliminate toxins from the body, and restore balance. Panchakarma is one of the most important Ayurvedic treatment modalities. When done correctly, it increases the receptivity and effectiveness of subsequent therapies.<sup>(30)</sup>.

**Table2: List of ayurvedhic medicines in cancer treatment.**

Compound	Source	Properties	Functions
1. curcumin (Diferuloylmethane) 	Derived from turmaric (curcuma longa); Polyphenol widely used as an anti- inflammatory.	Modulates multiple molecular targets (inflammatory markers, growth factors, protein kinases, etc.) -Direct binding to DNA/RNA.	Inhibits tumor growth, metastasis, invasion, and angiogenesis. -Induces apoptosis, mitotic catastrophe, and autophagy. (1).
2. triphala 	Herbal formulation from Terminalia chebula, Emblica officinalis, Terminalia bellirica, fruits.	Rich in antioxidants and modulates cellular responses.	Demonstrats anti-tumor effects in in vitro and in vivo studies (MCF-7, lymphoma models). Anti-proliferative and tumor regression properties. <sup>(2)</sup> .
3. Ashwagandha(Withania somnifera)	Root extract used for stress reduction and immune enhancement.	Exhibits adaptogenic, anti-inflammatory, and immunomodulatory effects.	Shows anti-cancer activity through inhibition of tumor growth and metastasis in preclinical models.



 <p>Withaferin A (WA)</p>	<p>-Steroidal lactone from <i>Withania somnifera</i>(Ashwagandha)</p>	<p>-Targets oncogenic pathways (ER-<math>\alpha</math>, STAT3) and modulates apoptosis, immune function, and autophagy.</p>	<p>-Demonstrates anti- cancer and chemopreventive effects in preclinical breast cancer models.(<sup>4</sup>).</p>
<p>4. Guduchi (<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i>)</p> 	<p>Medicinal herb used for boosting immunity and anti-inflammatory properties.</p>	<p>Enhances immune response, modulates cytokines, and has antioxidant properties.</p>	<p>Shows anti-proliferative effects on breast, prostate, and colon cancer cell lines. - Reduces tumor progression in preclinical studies.(<sup>3</sup>).</p>
<p>5. Neem (<i>Azadirachta indica</i>)</p> 	<p>Extracts from neem tree leaves, seeds, and bark widely used in Ayurvedic medicine.</p>	<p>Modulates immune system, anti-inflammatory, anti- angiogenic, and pro- apoptotic pathways.</p>	<p>Exhibits anti-proliferative effects against skin, breast, and prostate cancer cells. Promotes apoptosis and inhibits angiogenesis.(<sup>31</sup>).</p>
<p>6. Boswellia (<i>Boswellia serrata</i>)</p> 	<p>Resin from <i>Boswellia</i> tree, known for its anti-inflammatory effects.</p>	<p>Inhibits pro-inflammatory pathways (e.g., 5-lipoxygenase) and modulates immune response.</p>	<p>Demonstrates anti-tumor effects in brain, breast, and pancreatic cancer models. -Inhibits angiogenesis and induces apoptosis.(<sup>32</sup>).</p>

<p>7. Brahmi (<i>Bacopa monnieri</i>)</p> 	<p>Medicinal herb traditionally used for improving memory and cognition.</p>	<p>Modulates anti-oxidant system, protects against stress oxydative.</p>	<p>Exhibits anti-cancer effects in brain and colon cancer models. - Induces apoptosis and reduces oxidative stress.<sup>(33)</sup>.</p>
<p>8. Amla (<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>)</p> 	<p>Fruit rich in Vitamin C and antioxidants, widely used in Ayurveda.</p>	<p>Modulates oxidative stress, enhances detoxification, and supports immune function.</p>	<p>Shows anti-proliferative in liver and colony cancer models.<sup>(34)</sup>.</p>
<p>9. Guggul (<i>Commiphora mukul</i>)</p> 	<p>Resin from the guggul tree, used for anti-inflammatory and lipid-lowering effects.</p>	<p>Modulates inflammatory pathways, inhibits nuclear factor-kappa B (NF-κB) signaling.</p>	<p>Exhibits anti-tumor effects in prostate, breast, and colon cancer models. -Induces apoptosis and inhibits metastasis.<sup>(35)</sup>.</p>

#### Advantages:

1. Holistic approach: Ayurveda treats the whole person, not just the tumor.
2. Enhanced quality of life: Ayurvedic therapies can alleviate symptoms and side effects.
3. Increased patient satisfaction: Combining conventional and Ayurvedic treatments can improve patient outcomes.
4. Potential for improved survival rates: Some studies suggest Ayurvedic herbs and compounds may enhance chemotherapy efficacy.
5. Reduced toxicity: Ayurvedic treatments may minimize side effects of conventional therapies.
6. Cost-effective: Ayurvedic treatments can be less expensive than conventional therapies.
7. Personalized medicine: Ayurveda tailors treatment to individual constitutions and needs.

#### Challenges and limitations:

1. Standardization of Ayurvedic products and manufacturing processes.
  2. Limited clinical trial data and evidence-based research.
  3. Potential interactions with conventional medications.
  4. Need for trained Ayurvedic practitioners and integration with **conventional healthcare**.
- Ongoing research and initiatives:
1. National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants for Ayurvedic treatment and research.
  2. Collaboration between Indian and US institutions.
  3. Establishment of Ayurvedic research centers and institutes.
  4. Development of Ayurvedic-based cancer treatment protocols.

### **Notable hospitals and centers integrating Ayurveda:**

1. Tata Memorial Hospital (India)
2. All India Institute of Ayurveda (India)
3. University of California, San Francisco (US)
4. MD Anderson Cancer Center (US)
5. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (US)

FDA approved ayurvedic medicines :

Ayurveda is the traditional medicine system of India, and has been in practice for several years. It is a traditional approach that uses 1000's of different plant preparations in various combinations for treatment of human ailments, including cancer. Ethnopharmacological and phytochemical analyses are now elucidating the bioactive constituents of the different plant species and herbal formulations, including ashwagandha, curcumin, guduchi, triphala, and others. In recent decades, significant research has begun to extract the bioactive compounds of ashwagandha, turmeric, guduchi, and triphala, such as with afeirin A, curcumin, palmatine, and many others. These compounds and extracts are now being applied to brain tumor cells in vitro and in animal models, with positive signs of anti-cancer activity including reduced cell growth, increased apoptosis, cell cycle arrest, increased differentiation, and inhibition of important internal signal transduction pathways. Several Ayurvedic herbs (ashwagandha, curcumin) have bioactive compounds with significant anti-cancer activity, and are effective in early pre-clinical testing against brain tumor cells in vitro and in animal models. Further pre-clinical testing is warranted, along with advancement into phase I and phase II clinical trials of patients with glioblastoma and other brain tumors.

**The FDA has not approved any Ayurvedic medicinal treatments for various reasons:**

1. Lack of standardized manufacturing processes.
2. Insufficient clinical trial data.

3. Limited understanding of active ingredients and mechanisms. 4. Potential interactions with conventional medications 5. Concerns about heavy metal contamination However, some Ayurvedic herbal supplements have been recognized as "Generally Recognized as Safe" (GRAS) by the FDA:

1. Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*)
2. Ginger (*Zingiber officinale*)
3. Ashwagandha (*Withania somnifera*)
4. Boswellia (*Boswellia serrata*)
5. Guggul (*Commiphora mukul*)

The FDA has also issued warnings and recalls for certain Ayurvedic products due to:

1. Heavy metal contamination (lead, mercury, arsenic)
2. Undeclared pharmaceutical ingredients
3. False or misleading labeling To bridge the gap between

Ayurveda and Western medicine, researchers are conducting studies on Ayurvedic herbal supplements, including:

1. National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants for Ayurvedic research
2. Collaboration between Indian and US institutions
3. Standardization of Ayurvedic manufacturing processes.

**Some notable Ayurvedic products with FDA-recognized status:**

1. Himalaya Herbal Healthcare's "Pure Herbs" line.
2. Maharishi Ayurveda's "Amrit" line.
3. Ayurveda Rasayana's "TRI-DOSHA" line.

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