



Oxidative Stress in Herbal Medicine

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Message from the Guest Editor

The characteristics of herbal medicines, which differ from those of modern drug therapy, are based on the composition of several active ingredients produced as a result of the combination of crude drug components that generate their specific pharmacological effects. This is also applicable to their antioxidant activities. While purified natural antioxidants and synthesised antioxidative compounds usually have a single or a few reactive points, the reactive points of herbal medicines are multiple and diverse in complex oxidative-stress-related reactions. These effects are mainly antioxidative but may sometimes be pro-oxidative. Consequently, herbal medicines do not simply reduce oxidative stress, but rather cause more complex oxidative–antioxidative shifts, which are deeply related to their unique pharmacological effects.

In this Special Issue, we focus on the unique antioxidative effects of herbal medicines, which differ from those of modern drug therapy, leading to the creation of a de novo strategy to control oxidative stress. Both basic and clinical research articles are welcome. We look forward to your submission.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

It has been recognized in medical sciences that in order to prevent adverse effects of "oxidative stress" a balance exists between prooxidants and antioxidants in living systems. Imbalances are found in a variety of diseases and chronic health situations. Our journal *Antioxidants* serves as an authoritative source of information on current topics of research in the area of oxidative stress and antioxidant defense systems. The future is bright for antioxidant research and since 2012, *Antioxidants* has become a key forum for researchers to bring their findings to the forefront.

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