
Review on Skin Aging and Anti-Aging Natural Herbs

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Abstract

The biggest part in the integumentary system is the skin. The state and texture of an individual's skin has significant effects on their entire fitness and their overall a healthy life. The skin regulates body temperature, maintains water and electrolyte balance, and helps in immunity by protecting the body from infections. The outermost layer of skin that covers the body's surface and acts as a protective barrier is known as the epidermal layer. The reduction of this epidermal layer, decreased collagen and elastic fibers, and the formation of lines are the signs of aging. Extrinsic like sun exposure, smoking, diets, and pollution can cause aging, as can intrinsically factors like heredity, cellular metabolism, hormones, and biological processes. Nowadays, with advances in technology, many people want to look younger and prevent issues by using natural herbs instead of plastic surgery or laser therapy. Herbs provide the nutrients required for healthy skin as well as enhance the skin's biological processes. Herbs are rich in phytochemicals with anti-aging properties, such as polyphenols, terpenoids, and carotenoids. Herbs having anti-aging properties are aloe plant, neem, turmeric, amla, peppermint, green tea, honey from bees, liquorice, arjuna, also and jatamansi.

Keywords - Herbs, Anti-aging, Skin, phytochemicals

INTRODUCTION

In society, appearances are very important because they reflect one's identity to others and have a big impact on how people see you. In the era of social media, celebrities and Photoshop, every person is now highly aware of their appearance. Setting excessive standards for self is a usual mistake, especially when comparing the typical person with the beautifully altered photos that famous people provide. Their picture-perfect society shows an apparent fear to aging, as seen by the filters used to smooth out wrinkles on Instagram postings, fillers injected to boost up tissue to decrease laugh lines and makeup to cover up any sunspots that have appeared.^[1]

What is skin aging

A complex biological process, skin aging is affected by both internal and external causes. The process of a chronological aging, also referred to as intrinsic cellular aging, is mainly brought by a genetic factor. It happens through time. Normally, it shows up as thinner skin, fine wrinkles and decreased flexibility. On the other hand, environmental factors such as pollution, smoking, sun exposure (photoaging) and lifestyle choices are causing extrinsic aging. Photoaging is the main cause of most of noticeable changes in the texture of the skin, pigmentation and the formation of deeper wrinkles.^[2]

Process of aging starts at birth and becomes noticeably apparent on the skin as we age. It is predicted that there will be more than 1.2 billion older persons (those over 60) in the world in 2025 due to a longer lifetime.^[3]

A reduction in the quantity of specialized cells, which synthesize the protein collagen, and the vessels which provide nourishment to the skin is a sign of aging skin flexibility, which leads to the development of wrinkles. [4] Between the human body and the external environment, the skin works as difficulties. Its function includes maintaining fluid balance, regulating temperature and protecting against dangerous bacteria and UV rays from the sun. Age-dependent/chronological ageing and premature ageing/photoaging are the two types of skin aging. Deep lines dark/light pigmentation and a rough appearance are some of the external signs of photoaging. Skin wrinkles are a common sign of natural ageing. The different layers of the skin are known as the dermis, epidermis and subcutaneous tissue. [5]

The outermost membrane of skin, called an extracellular matrix (ECM), is composed of proteins such as elastin and collagen and also fibroblasts. An extracellular matrix (ECM) gives a structural framework that is essential to skin flexibility and growth. It contains the enzymes collagenase, elastase and hyaluronidase. One of the key parts of skin is collagen, which gives the skin its strength, flexibility and elasticity. The structure, flexibility and hydration of the skin are all enhanced by hyaluronic acid. It also helps in the rapid proliferation, regeneration, and restore of tissue along with the product exchange.

Hyaluronic acid, elastin, and collagen level decrease with ageing, causing the skin to lose strength and flexibility. This causes wrinkles to appear, which are linked to thick epidermis, as well as spotted discolouration, laxity, dullness, and roughness. [6]

Modern science and technology provide plastic surgery, laser rejuvenation, and other invasive procedures. On-surgical procedures are risk-free and typically have little adverse effects as compared to invasive technique. Herbal extracts are more popular in cosmetics over the past ten years as a way to slow down the aging process. Because of their positive effects on skin, extract of aloe Vera, Alma, Turmeric, Green tea, Honey, neem, Liquorice, Arjuna, peppermint, and Jatamansi are commonly used in the herbal cosmetic industry. [7]

Aging process

The aging process is a complex natural process caused by external as well as internal factors. The main features of skin aging are given as follows:

Types of aging

Chronological aging or intrinsic aging

The term “intrinsic aging,” also called “chronological aging,” describes the biological aging process that is caused by both genetic and physiological factors.

Decrease in collagen and elastin

The skin’s flexibility and strength is maintained by elastin, while collagen begin to break down. This causes wrinkles and sagging

Reduced natural oil production

As people age, their sebaceous glands produce less oil, which leads to dry skin. Reduced cell turnover: Skin gets thinner and more sensitive as skin cells regenerate more slowly.

Reduced blood flow

A duller less red skin indicates less blood flowing to the skin. Derma thinning: This condition makes the skin drier and more open to injury by causing the layers of the skin, particularly the dermis, to thin out. [8]

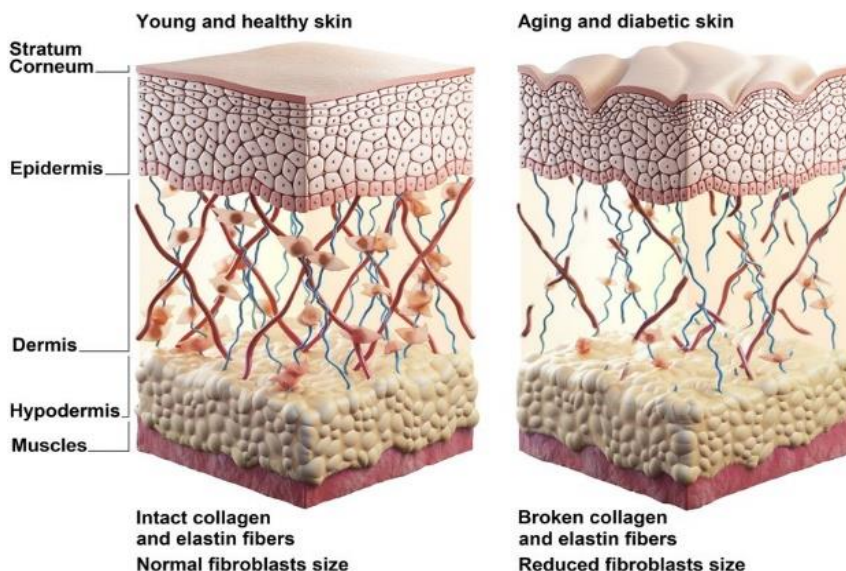


Figure 1: Aging process: comparison of young skin and aged skin

Extrinsic aging (or environmental) Sun Exposure (photoaging)

By dissolving collagen, UV rays rapidly accelerate up aging and cause wrinkles and pigmentation problems.

Smoking

Nicotine constricts blood vessels, which reduces skin moisture and increases along the breakdown of collagen.

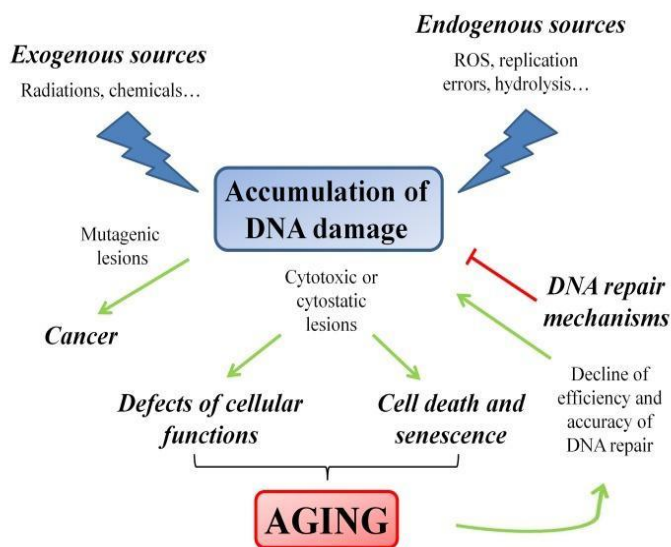


Figure 2: Telomerase inducing Skin Aging

Pollution

Chemicals found in the environment cause oxidative stress, which speed up the aging process. Lifestyle: Excessive stress, an unhealthy diet, lack of sleep, and lack of water can all increase the rate of skin aging.

Cell and Molecular System Mechanisms Oxidative Stress

Reactive forms of oxygen (ROS) caused by pollutants, UV rays, and metabolic activity results in cellular damage and rapid aging. In order to reduce the effects of aging on the skin, preventive measures like sunscreen use, a healthy lifestyle, skincare routines are crucial.

This is because environmental and genetic factors connect in a complex way. [8]

Mechanism of skin aging

Oxidative stress

Oxidative damage may affect proteins and skin that is photodamaged. Loss or gain of activity (i.e., enzymes), loss of basic protein function, and increased or decreased sensitivity to disintegration are the potential effects of oxidative protein damage.^[9]

Telomere

The short sequence TTAGGG is tandemly repeated to form telomeres. It is present in the structure of a loop. When these loops are broken by UV radiation or cell division, telomeres become critically short. The base regions of the telomere's caps are lost with each cell division and ultimately enter a state of aging or cell death because the telomeres cap the terminal region of chromosomes that prevents telomeres from fusing with each other cannot be reproduced during cell division. UV rays damages telomeres, exposing the loop structure that, through protein-protein interaction, release the p53 gene suppressor of cancer gene and more genes that harm DNA, resulting in aging or cell death.^[10]

Mitochondrial damage

Organisms of cells called mitochondria use oxygen pressure to produce energy (ATP). ROS produced by the UV effect on Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) can be destroyed by the electron transport process in the mitochondria.

Thirteen elements of electron transport chain are stored in the mitochondrial genome, and oxidative damage may be the primary cause of DNA mutations or rearrangements carried on by double-strand breaks, which may impair the mitochondria's capacity to produce life for a cell.

The prediction is assumed the resulting loss of metabolic activity in skin aging. More ROS build up and affects the cell's capacity to start an energy cycle.^[11]

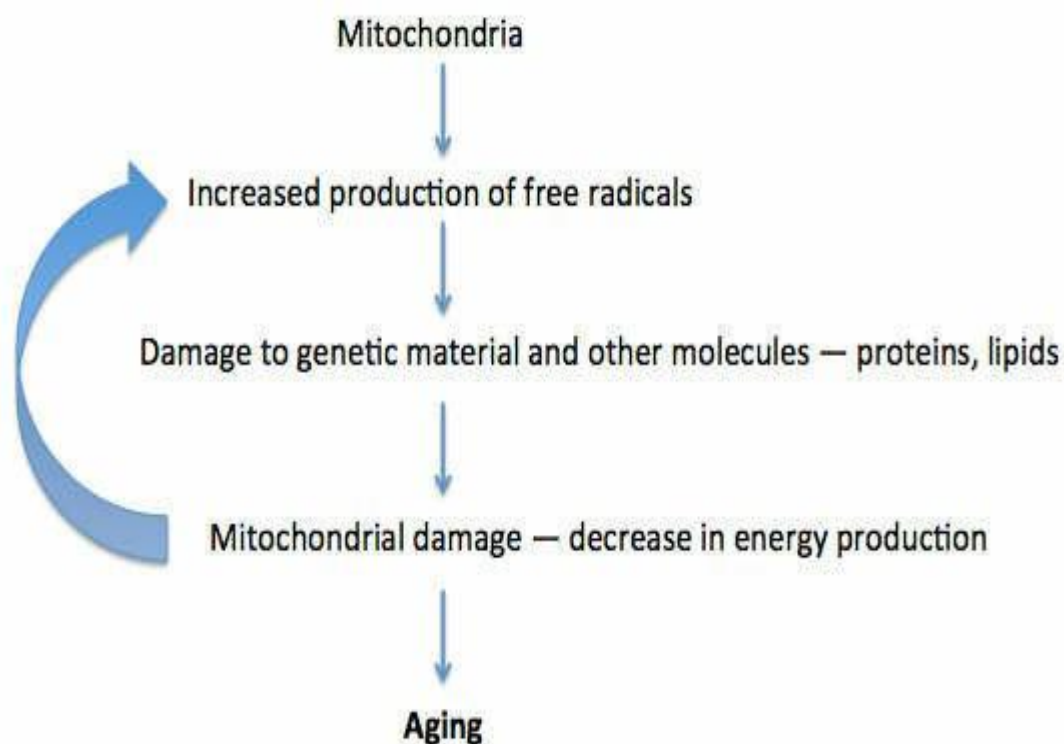


Figure 3: Mitochondrial damage

Membrane nuclear signalling

Tyrosine phosphatase κ enzyme activity is reduced by (ROS) reactive oxygen species generated by Ultraviolet rays. This enzyme maintains the inactive (hypo phosphorylated) state of skin receptors on the cell membrane, like as in epidermal hormone, interleukin (it)-1, TNF- α , and keratinocyte development hormone.^[12]

The p38 protein and the c-J glutamate ends enzyme, stress-associated nitrogen regulated protein enzymes are stimulated by activated receptors, which lead to intracellular signalling. The activation of kinase leads structure protease activator decrease in synthesis of transforming growth factor receiver.

This leads to in a reduced growth of the dermal matrix, which in turn regulates the synthesis of collagen.^[13]

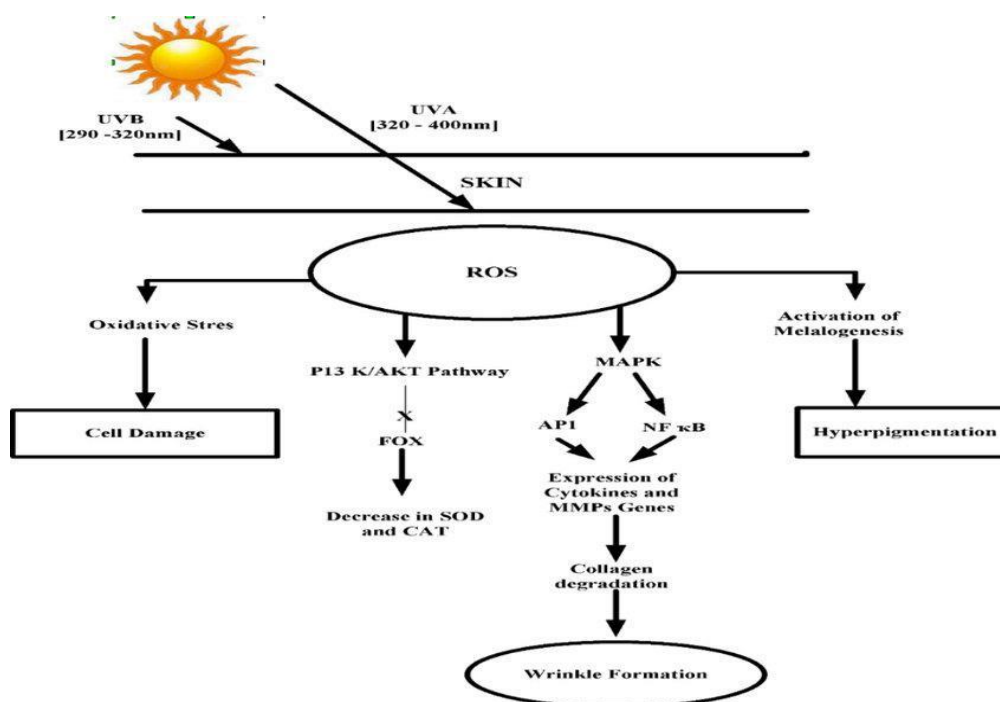


Figure 4: Nuclear signaling pathway

Common symptoms of aging skin

Fine lines and wrinkles

As we age, our skin starts to loose collagen and elastin, especially in regions where we move our faces a lot, including the mouth and eyes.^[14]

Skin sagging

Lower level of elastin and collagen causes the skin's elasticity to decrease, which causes sagging, particularly in the face and jaw regions.^[15]

Dryness

As skin ages, it produces fewer natural oils, which makes it dry and rougher.^[16]

Hyperpigmentation or age spots:

Sunlight over time causes dark patches, also referred to as liver spots or age spots, which commonly appear on sun-exposed areas including the hands and cheeks.^[17]

Skin thinness

Skin thins and becomes more porous when fat is lost, leaving it more opens to injury.^[18]

Dullness

The skin looks tired and dull due to a decrease in cell division, which causes a loss of brightness.^[19]

Pores

As the skin loses elasticity, pores become larger and clearer. [20]



Figure 5: Common signs of skin aging

Role Of collagen in skin aging

The most common protein in human beings, collagen acts as one of the basic components in many tissue types, such as bones, muscles, skin, and hair. Collagen is made up of protein. Collagen fibers are present in the skin's dermis layer, where they help produce fibroblasts, which are areas where new cells can develop and replace damaged skin cells. [21]

Type I Collagen

Role

Tensile strength for the skin, making it hard and flexible.

Aging Effect

Form I collagen, the most common form in the skin, produces significantly less collagen as we age. This reduction causes reduction in dermis, formation of fine Wrinkles, and decrease in flexibility. [22]

Type III collagen

Role

The roles in along with Type I collagen to provide flexibility and structure to the dermal layer.

Aging Effect:

Type III collagen reduces with age, but at more slowly than Type I collagen. Reduced Type III collagen can lead to decreased skin flexibility, loosening, and deep wrinkles. [23]

Type IV collagen

Role

It's mainly found in the subcutaneous layer and helps to support and separate the epidermis and dermis.

Aging Effect

Type IV collagen breakdown damages, Skin layers' rigidity. Reducing cell binding and nutrition exchange between the dermis and epidermis. Causes lack in skin texture. [24]

Type VII Collagen

Role

Supports fibrils that connect the dermis and epidermis.

Aging Effect

As Type VII collagen levels reduce with age, the skin's structure breaks down, resulting in dermal-epidermal separation and wrinkles.^[25]

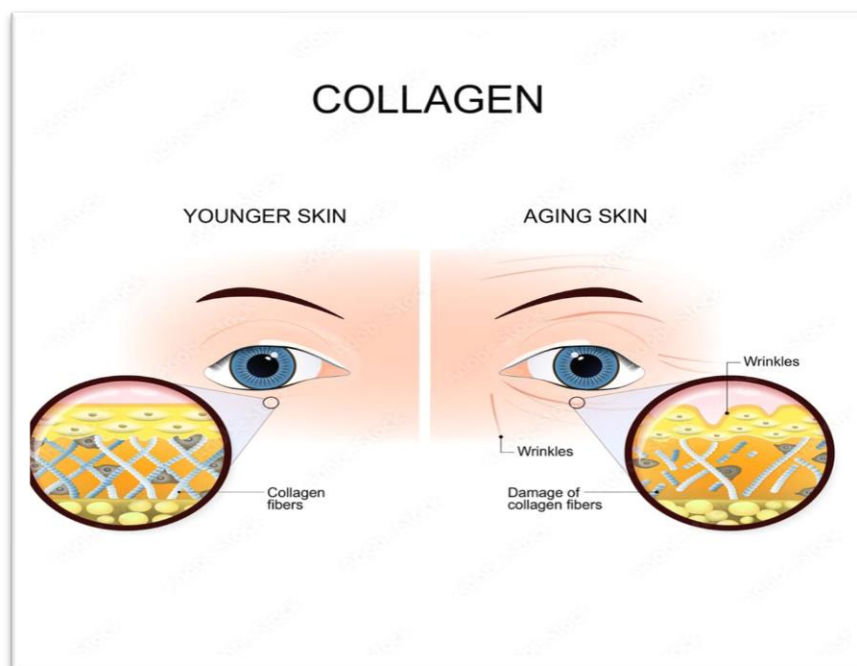


Figure 6: Skin aging collagen damage

Anti-Ageing use of Natural Herbs

Natural beauty products are an important component in preventing and reversing skin aging. Herbal cosmetics affect your skin's physiological processes or supply necessary substances that promote beautiful skin. . Natural products and their derivatives appear to make up over 50% of all medicines in the world and natural remedies to health are to be show promise. In personal care techniques, the application of herbal remedies for aging has risen greatly. A number of products that shield the skin from damage and stop sagging skin from harmful effects exist as a result of current developments in anti-aging skin care products that are focusing on creating fresh plant essences, herbal components as per to their ancient medical applications.^[26]

Aloe vera

Biological source

Aloe Vera is derived from the extract of Aloe barbadensis leaf, which belongs to the **Liliaceous family**.^[27]

Phytoconstituents

Aloe plants contain a high concentration of anthraquinone glycosides. Aloe's main active ingredient is aloin, a glycoside mixture which includes barb loin. The medication also contains aloe-emodin, β -barbaloin, isobarbaloin, and resins in addition to barb loin.^[28]



Figure 7: Aloe Vera

Role in anti-aging

Aloe Vera enhances fibroblasts activity, which results in the production of elastin and collagen proteins that give face softer or minimize lines. Further, it produces a cohesiveness effect which keeps skin initially removed cell layers together, smoothing the structure of the skin. It can hydrate and smooth out scars on the skin while also having a healing impact on it. Aloe vera's cooling and antimicrobial properties help As an antibacterial products.^[29] Aloe leaves frequently found in cleansers and creams that fight scars and aging. . Aloe Vera's components, including aloin A and B, has been show to block collagenase, an enzyme responsible for collagen fiber disintegration, so it's useful for treating aging and wrinkles.^[30]

Amla



Figure 8: Amla

Biological source

The fruit-producing tree that produce amla, scientifically known as *Phyllanthus emblica* (sometimes called *Emblica officinalis*), is used medicinally. The fruits are famous for their high antioxidant and vitamin C content.

Family

Phyllanthaceae.^[31]

Phytoconstituents

Ascorbic acid, tannins, flavonoids, phenolic compounds and alkaloids (phyllantine), These components are present in amla (*Phyllanthus emblica*) and are well-known for their antimicrobial, anti-allergic and antioxidant effects.^[32]

Role in Anti-aging

Due to its high antioxidant content, particularly Vitamin C, which prevents oxidative stress and free radical major causes of (Phyllanthus emblica), plays a significant role in anti-aging. Amla's anti-inflammatory effects help in preventing UV-induced skin aging and it also increases the production of collagen, which enhances the elasticity of the skin.^[33]

Turmeric



Figure 9: Turmeric

Biological source

Biological turmeric is dried rhizomes of the *Curcuma longa* plant are used to make turmeric. *Zingiberaceae* is the family to which turmeric belongs.^[34]

Phyto-constituents

Curcuminoids are a yellow-coloured chemical substances found in turmeric. Curcumin, which makes up 50–60% of curcuminoids, is the main ingredient. Also, it contains volatile oil, resin, camphene and camphor. Turmeric includes phytoconstituents with anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and anticancer properties, such as curcumin, turmerone and ar-turmerone.^[35]

Role in anti-aging

Turmeric is an excellent source of antioxidants, which are essential for protecting the skin from free radical-induced oxidative damage. Wrinkles, fine lines, and other signs of aging are caused by oxidative stress.^[36]

Turmeric has long been used for wound healing due to its antibacterial and skin-repair qualities. This is useful in anti-aging because it helps faster skin regeneration, keeping the skin smooth and youthful.^[37]

In the skin care and cosmetics fields, curcumin, the naturally found colouring agents, is used. Native American groups, cultures, religions and communities use it topically and orally as a skin beautifier in combination with milk.^[38]

Honey



Figure 10: Honey

Biological Source

The natural production of sugar that bees, mainly *A. mellifera* as well as similar Apes genera include the Apididae group, deposit in honey comb is known as honey. [39]

Phytoconstituents

An aqueous solution containing 35% glucose, 45% fructose and 2% sucrose is called honey. Also; it has gum, proteins, polyphenols, flavonoids, maltose and vitamins.

Role in Anti-aging

Honey is a naturally occurring moisturizer; it absorbs moisture from the surrounding air into the skin. By preventing dryness, which is a significant source of aging signs like wrinkles and fine lines, this helps maintain hydration. Softening the skin Honey can help maintain skin soft and flexible by preventing the signs of aging. [40] Honey reduces the swelling and redness of acne. It removes the pores and regulates the formation of dust in the skin's pores. Prevents dryness by maintaining the skin's moisture. By hydrating the outermost layers of the skin, honey helps reduce wrinkles and fine lines. It's a chemical that heals wounds. [41] Honey's antioxidant properties come from its phenolic components. Collagen synthesis enhances by honey, and collagen is necessary to keep the skin elastic and smooth. [42]

Neem

Figure 11: Neem

Biological source

Neem is obtained from the leaves; bark, seeds and oil of the *azadirachata indica* belong to the

Family Meliaceae

Phytoconstituents

The main phytoconstituents found in neem (*Azadirachta indica*) are quercetin (an antioxidant), nimbin (an antibacterial and anti-inflammatory agent), beta-sitosterol (an anti-inflammatory agent) and tannins (an antimicrobial). [43]

Role in Anti-aging

Due to its antimicrobial and moisturizing properties, it is used as an ingredient in topical cosmetic. Neem soap can be used to treat minor skin issues or to prevent fungal infections. Neem, its main ingredient, has anti-aging, anti-microbial, moisturizing and acne-reducing properties also with the anti-wrinkles and anti-acne effects. *Azadirachta indica* or neem is used by native Indians in India. Neem's capacity to nourish healthy skin is highly valued by Ayurvedic physicians. Neem treats skin disease scabies, dry skin, rashes, itchiness and topical skin disorders. Neem has the ability to nourish and moisturize skin. Neem is used to treat acne and pigmentation problems of all kinds.

Arjuna



Figure 12: Arjuna

Biological Source

Arjuna is produced from the Terminalia Arjuna bark. The plant contains Combretaceae group. The tree is large and leafy native in India which grows along riverbanks and in humid environments.

Phytoconstituents

Saponins, tannins, arjunolic acid, arjunic acid and arjungenin are all present in Arjuna. Arjunine, arjunolone and ellagic acids are also present.

Role in Anti-aging

Tannins found in Arjuna, have strong antioxidant properties that help in absorbing free radicals. As a result, oxidative stress is decreased, it leads greatly to signs of aging. Collagen synthesis increased by the plant and this is important for maintaining the texture and flexibility of the skin. Decreased wrinkles and sagging can result with more collagen production. According to some research, arjuna extracts can improve skin hydration and give it a more young, flexible texture. It has been seen that arjuna helps wounds heal, which can improve skin health and regeneration mainly as well reduce the apparent signs of aging. Due to its connection with aging and a number of skin problems, arjuna's anti-inflammatory properties may be useful to help reduce inflammation. Reduced aging signs and better-looking skin can result from this. ^[44]

Green Tea



Figure 13: Green tea

Biological source

Biological source of green tea is the dried leaves of *Camellia sinensis* and belong to the family theaceae. [45]

Phytoconstituents

Green tea is rich in phytoconstituents, including flavonoids, polyphenols, caffeine, theanine, and catechins.

Role in anti-aging

Because it contains a lot of antioxidants, which prevents UV-induced skin aging, reduces wrinkles and fights free radical damage, it helps prevent aging of the skin. It also helps in enhancing skin softness and reducing inflammation. The polyphenols in green tea help in protecting cell DNA from oxidative damage. Green tea may help reduce these processes because DNA damage builds up with age and lead diseases related to age and skin damage.

A number of disease conditions such as coronary artery disease and gout, are caused by chronic inflammation. It has a significant part in the aging process.

Green tea is shown in studies that it can maintain the skin's collagen levels. The protein collagen is responsible for the flexibility and smoothness of skin and its breakdown speeds up the aging process. Green tea's polyphenols help in the prevention of collagen-breaking enzymes, maintaining the softness of the skin. [46]

Jatamansi

Figure 14: Jatamansi

Biological source

It comes from dry rhizomes and roots of *Nardostachys jatamansi* DC are the biological source of jatamansi. Caprifoliaceae is the family (formerly classified under Valerianaceae). [47]

Phyto-constituents

Include volatile oil, resin, sugar, starch, jatamansic acid, ketones, jatamansi one and nardostachnone.

Role in anti-aging

It plays anti-aging role by stimulating fibroblasts to produce and elastin and collagen fibres, resulting in increased flexibility of skin, reduced wrinkle production.

For centuries, Ayurvedic medicine used jatamansi to relax the body and mind. It is also helpful for aging skin that may become more effective with time because when used topically, it helps relax the skin, reduce irritation, and produce a calming effect. [48]

Anti-Inflammatory Properties

Aging and many skin problems are caused by a long-term Research has shown that jatamansi has anti-inflammatory properties that can help in reducing skin irritation and redness, giving a look of younger skin.^[49]

Liquorice



Figure 15: Liquorice

Biological source

The Liquorice is derived from Dry, unpeeled *Glycyrrhiza glabra* branches and stems, a plant in the Leguminosae genera.^[50]

Phytoconstituents

Phytoconstituents found in liquorice are isoflavones, chalcones, glycyrrhizin, flavonoids and saponins.^[51]

Role in Anti-aging

The chemical glabridin found in liquorice has been found to block the enzyme tyrosinase, which helps in the synthesis of melanin. Liquorice, which blocks tyrosinase, helps reduce hyperpigmentation (dark patches), a common symptom of aging. This brightening effect also helps to achieve a uniform skin tone and a young appearance.^[52]

Liquorice root extracts help the skin stay hydrated and provides a calming effect. Sufficient moisture is essential for maintain softness of the skin and to prevent wrinkles. Liquorice enhances soft, smooth skin by absorbing moisture and avoiding the dryness that comes with age.^[53]

Peppermint



Figure 16: Peppermint

Biological source

The mixture of peppermint (*Mentha spicata*) and watermint (*Mentha aquatica*) produce peppermint (*Mentha piperita*), which is a member of the mint family (Lamiaceae).

Phytoconstituent

Menthol, methyl acetate, flavonoids and phenolic compounds are some of the important phytoconstituents found in peppermint.

Role in anti-aging

Most commonly known treatment in worldwide use for many kinds of skin problems is peppermint. It helps remove extra oil from oily skin and nourish dull skin because it has high omega-3 healthy & vitamins A and C. When menthol is present, it keeps the skin being cool. Your skins look more youthful, healthy and bright when you use peppermint oil. Peppermint essential oil contains menthol, which has a rapid relaxing effect and is good for treating inflammation, oily skin, wrinkles and acne.

[54]

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, a review of natural herbs that prevent skin aging and skin aging process highlights the significant role of various plant-based compounds play in decreasing the appearance of skin signs of aging. Skin alterations connected to aging involved wrinkle development, increased dryness and elasticity loss. Natural herbs with potent antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and moisturizing qualities, such green tea, aloe vera, ginseng and turmeric, can help reduce these changes. It was found that the constituents in medicinal plants and herbs like polyphenols, flavonoids and essential oils promote the synthesis of collagen; improve the skin's protecting layer and increase skin moisture. These herbs' anti-aging properties are further improved by the fact that a lot of them consist of antioxidant and UV protection effects. As a growing range of scientific research indicates that to the efficacy of these natural medicines, additional trials are needed to fully grasp their mechanisms and enhance their use in dermatological applications. A viable approach to enhancing skin health and minimizing the aging process is by including these natural herbs into diets or skincare routines. The rising need from customers for secure and effective skincare products is in with a focus on the availability of natural options, which makes study of anti-aging herbs an essential and useful subject of research in the search for more powerful more youthful skin.

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