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Dear Friends,

In recent years there is a spurt in the interest and belief about the benefits of Siddha Medicine among the common people. In the global perspective, there is a paradigm shift towards the use of medicines of herbal origin. Being a Physician/Researcher, we have a very high responsibility to ensure that the patients get the medication with purity, safety and potency. WHO has emphasized the need to ensure quality control of medicinal plant products by using modern techniques such as HPTLC, HPLC and GC etc.

We should be aware of the fact that standardization procedures mentioned above, ensure the quality of medicine. A physician's clinical success not only depends on the diagnosis of disease and prescription of medicine but also depends on the quality of medicines which are selected for a particular pathological condition. In the market, there is plethora of herbal medicines both standardized and unstandardized medicines.

Both WHO and Government of India have already prescribed Good Manufacturing standards (GMP) for Herbal Medicine preparation. GMP certification is given to a manufacturer based on their quality practices. Selection of herbal products from GMP certified companies minimizes the chances of prescribing poor quality medicines. Every physician should be aware of these facts.

Best wishes to all.