

# A survey of the labeling information provided for Ayurvedic drugs marketed in India

Sir,

This is with reference to article by Bhalerao *et al.* "A survey of the labeling information provided for Ayurvedic drugs marketed in India" published in IJAR.<sup>[1]</sup>

I read with interest the above paper in the IJAR. The authors need to be complimented to have done this study which is more of a regulatory nature.

It would have been good if in the study apart from "Presence of Ingredients List" on label, whether the ingredients listed have been suffixed with the "Quality to which they conform" had also been studied. You may note that if one picks up any "Drug Products" from the Synthetic drug/actives category (popularly called as Allopathic medicines), their composition will not only list the active drugs (Active pharmaceutical ingredients [API]), but also they will be suffixed by quality like IP or BP or USP, etc., indicating the pharmacopoeia quality specification to which the particular drug/active comply.

Such a situation is not seen when it comes to Ayurvedic product labels. It is not common to see that the raw herbs/minerals used in the Ayurvedic products do not state whether they comply to

API (Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia of India, standards) even for those where an API monograph exists.

It would have been an added value, if study would have generated data on this aspect, which would have been very useful. Can this be done even now and a supplementary note published?

**D. B. A. Narayana**

*Hindustan Unilever Ltd., Bangalore, India.*

E-mail: dba.narayana@gmail.com

## REFERENCE

1. Bhalerao S, Munshi R, Tilve P, Kumbhar D. A survey of the labeling information provided for Ayurvedic drugs marketed in India. *Int J Ayurveda Res* 2010;1:220-2.

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