



## A REVIEW ON HERBAL BIOENHANCERS

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### ABSTRACT:

Bioenhancer is a revolutionary prospect for us. It is a latex of Indian traditional Charaka, Sushruta and other medicinal system in tradition. Lipid solubility and molecular size is most important problem for maintaining the bioavailability of a drug as well as effect of toxic drug, cost of drugs is another problem which can be managed by enhancing bioavailability. To overcome these problems, herbal compounds like silymarin, naringenin, curcumin can be used to enhance the bioavailability. In recent era there are various novel drug delivery system focused on enhancing the bioavailability. Liposomal formulation, nano materials, transferosome also used to enhance the bioavailability. But there are some practical drawbacks regarding large-scale production of these products.

**KEYWORDS:** Bioenhancer, lipid solubility, charaka, sushruta, bioavailability, transferosome.

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**INTRODUCTION:**

From ancient times to present era Ayurveda has a great role in discovery of active phytoconstituents. It has given a big helping hand to discover the new drug entity [1]. Bioenhancers are such great agents which does not give any synergism but trigger and increase the bioavailability [2]. Lipid solubility is most important thing for bio enhancing. Some herbal drugs and plants do not easily solubilize in fat which is the reason behind their low bioavailability [3]. So, there is a great and beautiful relationship between novel drug delivery system and bioenhancer for bioavailability of a product. For some drugs especially water-soluble, for their inability to cross the lipid membrane of intestine, are delivered through various newer drug delivery systems; like in the form of liposome, microsphere, transferosome, niosome to cross the fatty layer [4].

**Importance of Bioenhancers:**

Intestinal epithelial layer makes huge problem to pass the drug from lumen of gut to systemic circulation to show the drugs biological activity [5,6]. Size of drug molecule must need below 0.4mm, as at this size p-glycoprotein gives great opportunity to pass the barrier and transfer the drug into systemic circulation [7,8]. According to C. K. Atal, a pioneer of pharmacognosy, who scrutinized a list of formulation of ancient Indian ayurveda "Trikatu" containing black pepper (*Piper nigrum*), long pepper (*P. longum*) and ginger (*Zingiber officinale*), where pepper has the most important constituent which shows the enhanced bioavailability of various drugs [9,10].

**Procedure of enhancement of bioavailability for extravascular route drugs:**

Bioavailability enhancers lowers the HCl secretion and uphold the GI blood supply, stopping the GI transit, emptying time of gastric juice, intestinal motility, suffocate the first pass metabolism and working of metabolizing activity as well as increase the loading of amino acid by triggering of gamma glutamyl transpeptidase [11,12,13,14,15,16,17].

Absorption enhancer, prodrug, dosage form and other pharmaceutical approaches like p-glycoprotein inhibitors can take great responsibility for enhancement of bioavailability. Calcium chelators like ethylene glycol tetra acetic acid and ethylene diamine tetra acetic acid increase the absorption by decreasing the extracellular calcium concentration [18].

In prodrug strategy, various derivatives of ampicillin like pivampicillin, bacampicillin which denotes as a prodrug of ampicillin gives huge response in bioavailability enhancement [19].

Specially liposomal drug delivery system, microsphere, nano-sphere etc shows the enhanced bioavailability [20,21,22,23]. P-glycoprotein inhibitor trigger the metabolism, absorption, distribution and excretion and as well as it has huge effect on what the body does to drug [24].

**Natural components for enhancing bioavailability:**

- (i) Sinomerine: Paeoniflorin is one of the most important components for inflammation and arthritis treatment. But the main problem is that it has very low bioavailability. Here sinomerine which is extracted from *Sinomerinium actum*, plays a very important role on co-administration with paeoniflorin, which gives the

- increasing activity of paeniflorin and it is 12 times more effective in rats [25,26,27].
- (ii) Aloe vera: Vitamins are very important for human body and *aloe vera* increases the bioavailability of vit C and vit E[28].
  - (iii) *Allium Sativum*: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* is a very common yeast. Allicin which is obtained from *Allium Sativum* increases the activity of Amphotericine B and helps to fight *S. cerevisiae* [29].
  - (iv) Quercetin: It contains antioxidant, anti tumour, antiviral property. It has increased the bioavailability, blood level and efficiency of drugs like digoxin, diltiazem etc [30,31,32,33,34].
  - (v) Genistein: One of the most important and common phyto-estrogen is genistein[35]. Genistein gives a huge response if we use it with paclitaxel and it inhibit the p-glycoprotein, BCRP, MRP2 [36,37]. Genistein decreases the the total plasma clearance and increase the area under curve.
  - (vi) Naringin: Naringin is a CYP3A1/2 and p-glycoprotein inhibiting compound. It is present in grapes and gives a huge effect as lipid lowering , antioxidant and anti-carcinogen. If we use extravascular naringenin 30min before IV administration of paclitaxal, it increases AUC near about 40.8% and 49.1% for a doses of 3.3 and 10mg/kg [38,39]
  - (vii) *Zingiber officinalis*: Nearabout 10mg/kg of body weight is used as bioenhancer. It maintains the intestinal motility and gastric mucosa. It helps to increase the bioavailability of azithromycin, erythromycin, cephalosporin like 85%, 11%, 85% etc [40].

**Various liposomal formulation, nanoparticles transferosome for bioenhancer**

**Table1: Liposomal Formulations[41]**

| Formulation                     | Active ingredient | Application  | Biological activity         | Method of preparation         | Percent entrapment efficiency | Route of administration |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Quercetin Liposome              | Quercetin         | Reduced dose, enhanced penetration in blood brainbarrier | Anti-oxidant<br>Anti-cancer | Reverse evaporation technique | 60%                           | intranasal              |
| Liposome encapsulated Silymarin | Silymerine        | Improve bioavailability                                  | Hepatoprotective            | Reverse evaporation technique | 69.22依0.6%                    | buccal                  |
| Ampelopsin liposome             | Ampe-lopsin       | increase efficiency                                      | Anti-cancer                 | Film ultrasound method        | 62.30%                        | Invitro                 |
| Paclitaxel liposome             | Paclitaxel        | High entrapment efficiency and Ph sensitive              | Anti-cancer                 | Thin film hydration method    | 94%                           | Invitro                 |
| Curcumin liposome               | Curcumin          | Long circulation with high entrapment efficiency         | Anti-cancer                 | Ethanol injection method      | 88.27依2.16%                   | Invitro                 |

**Table 2: Nanoparticle Formulations [41]**

| Formulation                             | Active ingredient      | Application  | Biological activity  | Method of preparation                                      | Percent entrapment efficiency | Route of administration |
|---|------------------------|--|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Triptolide Nanoparticles                | Triptolide             | Enhance the penetration of drug through stratum corneum by increased hydration | Anti-inflammatory  | Emulsification ultrasound                                  |                               | Topical                 |
| Nanoparticle of Cuscuta chinensis       | Flavonoids and Lignans | Improve water solubility   | Hepato-protective and anti-oxidant activity                        | Nano-suspension Method                                     | 90%                           | oral                    |
| Artemisinin nanocapsules                | Artemisinin            | Sustained drug release   | Anti-cancer  | Self assembly procedure                                    | 90-93%                        | In-vitro                |
| Radix salvia miltiorrhiza nanoparticles | Radix salvia           | Improve the bio-availability   | Coronary heart diseases, angina pectoris and myocardial infraction | Spray drying technique                                     | 96.68%                        | In-vitro                |
| Taxol loaded nanoparticles              | Taxol                  | Improve the bioavailability and sustained drug release                         | Anti-cancer  | Emulsion solvent evaporation method ionic gelation method. | 99.44%                        | In-vitro                |
| Naringenin loaded nanoparticles         | Naringenin             | Improve the release of NAR and improv its solubility                           | Hepato-protective  | Nano-precipitation method                                  |                               | oral                    |

**Table 3: Transferosome Formulations [41]**

| Formulation              | Active ingredient | Application   | Biological activity | Droplet size | Route of administration |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Capsaisin transferosome  | Capsaisin         | Increase skin penetration                           | Analgesic           | 150.6nm      | Topical                 |
| Colchisin transferosome  | Colchisin         | Increase skin penetration                           | Antigout            |              | Invitro                 |
| Vincristin transferosome | Vincristin        | Increase entrapment efficiency and skin penetration | Anticancer          | 120nm        | Invitro                 |

**Merits and demerits:**

Lipids are not easily soluble and their molecular size is a big problem for bioavailability. So, bioavailability enhancer can enhance the bioactivity and reduce the molecular size problem and increase the lipid solubility [41]

Overall bioenhancer is a very good project for us but it is not successful in each and every places. If we keep our eyes open in research and development, we can observe some drawbacks of it. It is a largescale project where we need large scale laboratory and facilities. As well as it musttake care of the protection of the incorporated drugs,duringits journey with blood. [42].

**Application:**

Piperine is used as a bioenhancer and nutritional additives of vitamins. Curcumin is used as a co-enzyme. Bio enhancers can reduce the dosage and cost of expensive medication while making treatment safer. Bioenhancer increases the poor bioavailability of drug by improving the molecular size and lipid solubility [43].

**Conclusion:**

Bioenhancer is a revolutionary prospect for us. lipid solubility, molecular sizes are improved by the bioenhancers. It is a large scale production product and we cannot make it in small quantity. Bioenhancers are used in novel drug delivery system. There are many herbal drugs like silymarin, curcumin etc which are used as bio enhancers, which can increase the activity of drug molecules.

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