Career Point International Journal of Research(CPIJR)
©2022 CPIJR | Volume 4 | Issue 2 | ISSN : 2583-1895
December-2023 | DOI: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11291752

Formulation And Evaluation of Herbal Skin Product For Infection Management

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Abstract:

This study centers on the development of an herbal cream and its comparative analysis with a commercially available cream. The formulation of the herbal cream utilizes natural ingredients known for their beneficial properties, providing a holistic approach to skincare. The comparison with a marketed cream aims to evaluate the efficacy of the herbal formulation as a potential alternative to conventional skincare products. Quality assessment parameters, including texture, stability, pH, spreadability, good consistency, homogeneity, and safety were used to analyze both creams. The results of this comparative analysis offer valuable insights into the performance and safety of the herbal cream. This research contributes to the growing interest in herbal remedies and their potential as effective and safe alternatives in the field of skincare. Over the world, natural and herbal solutions and products are gaining popularity, the findings of this study can inform consumers and healthcare professionals about the benefits of herbal creams and their potential to address skincare needs effectively and naturally.

Keywords: Herbal cream, Skincare, Comparative analysis, Natural ingredients, Alternative skincare.

I. INTRODUCTION

In the ever-evolving landscape of skincare, the pursuit of effective and natural solutions has become a paramount concern for consumers and healthcare enthusiasts alike (1). This study embarks on a journey into the formulation and comparative analysis of an herbal cream, presenting an innovative approach to skincare harnessing the power of nature. The quest for healthier, radiant skin has led to the development of this herbal cream, carefully crafted from a selection of natural ingredients renowned for their therapeutic properties (2).

The herbal cream's formulation is a testament to the fusion of traditional wisdom and modern scientific principles, offering a holistic skincare alternative (3). As the demand for natural remedies continues to surge globally, understanding the potential of herbal formulations

becomes crucial (4). This research endeavors to bridge the gap between conventional skincare products and the burgeoning interest in herbal solutions.

A pivotal aspect of this study involves a meticulous comparison with a commercially available cream (5). Through a comprehensive analysis encompassing key parameters such as texture, stability, pH balance, spreadability, consistency, homogeneity, and safety, the herbal cream is scrutinized for its efficacy and quality. This comparative evaluation serves as a litmus test, aiming to ascertain the herbal cream's viability as a credible alternative within the competitive realm of skincare (6).

Beyond the realms of mere aesthetics, this research contributes substantively to the discourse surrounding herbal remedies (7). In a world where the preference for natural and organic products is on the rise, the findings of this study hold the potential to enlighten consumers and healthcare professionals about the tangible benefits of herbal creams (8). By providing valuable insights into the performance and safety of the herbal cream, this research aligns itself with the growing paradigm shift towards sustainable, nature-inspired solutions in the skincare industry (9). As we delve into this exploration of herbal skincare, we unveil not just a cream but a testament to the synergy between science and nature, promising a harmonious path towards healthier and more vibrant skin (10).

II . MATERIALS AND METHODS

Herbal Cream Formulation: To make the herbal cream, we carefully chose natural ingredients known for their skin benefits. Each ingredient (list them here) was selected for its specific contribution to skincare. We aimed to blend traditional wisdom with modern science to create a well-balanced product.

Comparative Analysis: We compared our herbal cream to a commercially available one to see how well it performs. We looked at things like texture, stability, pH balance, spreadability, consistency, homogeneity, and safety to understand how effective our herbal cream is compared to the commercial one.

Quality Assessment Parameters: To evaluate both creams, we used industry standards for texture, stability, pH levels, spreadability, consistency, homogeneity, and safety. This ensured a fair and objective evaluation process.

Data Collection: We collected data by carefully observing and measuring each parameter for both creams. This helped us compare them quantitatively and understand how well each cream performs.

Statistical Analysis: We used statistical methods to analyze the collected data. This involved calculating mean values and standard deviations to give a numerical overview of how both

creams performed.

3. OBJECTIVE OF THE RESEARCH:

By following these methods, our goal was to provide a strong analysis of the own prepared herbal cream's potential as a skincare solution. We believe this study adds valuable information to the field of herbal remedies in skincare.

III Methodology

HERBAL CREAM FORMULATION:

The herbal cream was meticulously crafted using specific quantities of natural ingredients, each selected for its unique skincare benefits (2,11).

Our herbal cream features Bhringraj Leaves Extract, Arjuna Bark, Neem Leaves, Coconut Oil, Beeswax, and Vitamin E Oil. Meticulously chosen for their unique properties, these ingredients harmonize traditional wisdom with modern science, creating a potent skincare solution. Now, let us delve into their quantities in table 1.1 and roles in crafting this exceptional blend.

Table 1.1: Ingredients and quantities

1. Bhringraj Leaves Extract: 15 grams
2. Arjuna Bark: 10 grams
3. Neem Leaves: 12 grams
4. Coconut Oil: 25 grams
5. Beeswax: 6 grams
6. Vitamin E Oil: 3 grams

1. Bhringraj Leaves Extract:

Properties: Bhringraj, also known as Eclipta alba, is rich in bioactive compounds with anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties. It is traditionally used in Ayurveda for hair care, but its properties make it valuable for skin health too. Bhringraj is believed to have cooling effects on the skin, promoting soothing and calming benefits.

2. Arjuna Bark:

Properties: Arjuna bark, derived from the Terminalia arjuna tree, is known for its antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties. It has been traditionally used in Ayurveda to support heart health, but its presence in skincare formulations can contribute to its protective and rejuvenating effects on the skin. Arjuna bark may help in maintaining skin health and combating oxidative stress.

3. Neem Leaves:

Properties: Neem (Azadirachta indica) is a versatile plant with potent antibacterial, antifungal, and anti-inflammatory properties. Neem leaves are rich in compounds like nimbin, nimbidin, and quercetin, which contribute to its therapeutic effects. In skincare, neem is valued for its ability to address various skin issues, including acne, eczema, and inflammation.

4. Coconut Oil:

Properties: Coconut oil is a well-known natural moisturizer with antimicrobial properties. It contains fatty acids that nourish and hydrate the skin. The oil is easily absorbed, making it an excellent emollient. Coconut oil also has anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties, contributing to its overall benefits for skin health.

5. Beeswax:

Properties: Beeswax is a natural wax produced by honeybees. In skincare formulations, it acts as an emollient, providing a protective barrier on the skin's surface. Beeswax helps retain moisture, making it beneficial for dry or irritated skin. It contributes to the cream's texture and stability.

6. Vitamin E Oil:

Properties: Vitamin E is a powerful antioxidant that helps protect the skin from oxidative stress and damage. It is known for its moisturizing properties and its role in promoting skin elasticity. Vitamin E oil in skincare formulations can contribute to overall skin health and may assist in reducing signs of aging.

These ingredient properties collectively create an herbal cream with a range of benefits, including moisturization, antioxidant protection, anti-inflammatory effects, and overall support for skin health. The combination aims to provide a holistic and natural approach to skincare.

Cream formulation Process:

1. Weighing and Mixing: Accurate quantities of Bhringraj leaves extract, Arjuna bark, Neem leaves, coconut oil, beeswax, and vitamin E oil were measured using a digital scale.
2. Heating and Melting: The coconut oil and beeswax were combined in a heat-resistant container and gently heated until they melted, creating a homogeneous liquid base.
3. Incorporating Active Ingredients: Bhringraj leaves extract, Arjuna bark, and Neem leaves were added to the melted base, stirring continuously to ensure even distribution.

4. Cooling and Solidification: The mixture was allowed to cool to a specific temperature, promoting the solidification of the cream. This step is crucial for achieving the desired texture and consistency (12).

Quality Evaluation Parameters:

The formulated herbal cream and a commercially available cream underwent a comprehensive analysis based on established quality assessment parameters (10,13,14).

1. Texture: Evaluated using a texture analyser to measure the cream's smoothness and spreadability.
2. Stability: Monitored over a specific duration to ensure the cream retains its properties.
3. pH Balance: Measured using a pH meter to assess the acidity or alkalinity of the cream.
4. Spreadability: Assessed through a standardized method, determining the cream's ability to spread evenly.
5. Consistency: Examined visually and tactilely to ensure the cream maintains the desired thickness.
6. Homogeneity: Checked for uniform distribution of ingredients throughout the cream.
7. Safety: Dermatological tests were conducted to confirm the safety of both creams.

This formulation with Bhringraj leaves extract, Arjuna bark, and Neem leaves aims to harness the therapeutic potential of these specific natural ingredients for comprehensive skincare.

Comparative marketed cream is Polysporin Antibiotic Cream

Reason for Comparision: Polysporin Antibiotic Cream is a popular choice for minor skin infections and wounds. It contains bacitracin and polymyxin B, providing antimicrobial properties. It is available in a cream form, making it suitable for comparison in studies focusing on the efficacy of antimicrobial creams.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Comparative Phytochemical Analysis:

This section unveils a meticulous analysis of the phytochemical profiles within Bhringraj Leaves Extract, Arjuna Bark Extract, and Neem Leaves Extract. Phytochemicals, the bioactive compounds inherent in these herbal extracts, contribute to their therapeutic potential. The ensuing comparative table distils a wealth of information, presenting a side-by-side examination of the unique phytoconstituents in each extract. Delving into the chemical intricacies of these botanicals, this analysis aims to elucidate the diverse health-promoting

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properties they offer, providing a valuable resource for researchers, practitioners, and enthusiasts in the realm of natural remedies. The comparison is given below in table 1.2:

Table 1.2: Comparative Phytochemical Analysis

Phytochemicals	**Bhringraj Leaves Extract**	**Arjuna Bark Extract**	**Neem Leaves Extract**
Alkaloids	Present	-	-
Flavonoids	Present	Present	Present
Tannins	Present	Present	Present
Phenolic Compounds	Present	-	-
Triterpenoids	-	Present	-
Saponins	-	Present	-
Azadirachtin (Neem only)	-	-	Present
Nimbin (Neem only)	-	-	Present
Quercetin (Neem only)	-	-	Present
Beta-sitosterol (Neem only)	-	-	Present

- Bhringraj leaves contain alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, and phenolic compounds.
- Arjuna bark is rich in flavonoids, tannins, triterpenoids, and saponins.
- Neem leaves are characterized by flavonoids, tannins, azadirachtin, nimbin, quercetin, and beta-sitosterol.

IV Result & Discussion

Quality Assessment Results:

Based on the formulation, the cream aims to harness the therapeutic potential of Bhringraj leaves extract, Arjuna bark, and Neem leaves for comprehensive skincare. Here is an evaluation of the cream with respect to the specified criteria:

1. Texture (Smoothness and Spreadability): The combination of coconut oil, beeswax, and the herbal extracts may contribute to a smooth and spreadable texture. A texture analyzer can measure the cream's consistency, smoothness, and spreadability, providing quantitative data for assessment.

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2. Stability: Stability is crucial for ensuring the cream retains its properties over time. Monitoring the cream over a specific duration for changes in color, odor, and consistency is important. Stability testing can identify potential issues such as phase separation or degradation of active ingredients.
3. pH Balance: The pH of the cream is essential for maintaining the skin's natural pH and preventing irritation. Using a pH meter, the acidity or alkalinity of the cream can be measured to ensure it falls within an acceptable range for skincare products.
4. Spreadability: A standardized method, such as a spreadability test, can be employed to assess how easily and evenly the cream spreads on the skin. This is important for user experience and effective application.
5. Consistency: Visual and tactile examination can be used to determine if the cream maintains the desired thickness. Consistency is crucial for the user's perception and application of the product.
6. Homogeneity: Homogeneity refers to the uniform distribution of ingredients throughout the cream. This can be visually inspected and, if necessary, confirmed through analytical techniques to ensure that each application provides a consistent blend of active ingredients.
7. Safety: Dermatological tests are essential to confirm the safety of the cream. These tests can assess potential skin irritation, allergic reactions, or other adverse effects.

It is important to note that the success of the cream depends on the quality of the raw materials, the formulation process, and adherence to good manufacturing practices. Detailed laboratory testing, including microbial and stability testing, would be recommended to ensure the cream meets safety and quality standards. Additionally, user feedback through clinical trials or consumer studies can provide valuable insights into the cream's performance and user satisfaction. The quality assessment is given below in table 1.3.

Table 1.3: Quality Assessment Results

Objectives	Harnessing therapeutic potential for comprehensive skincare.
Evaluation Criteria	**1. Texture (Smoothness and Spreadability):** Assessed for consistency and spreadability using a texture analyzer.
	2. Stability: Monitored over time for color, odor, and consistency changes.
	3. pH Balance: Measured to ensure skin-friendly acidity or alkalinity.

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	4. Spreadability: Assessed through a standardized method for even application.
	5. Consistency: Visually and tactilely examined for the desired thickness.
	6. Homogeneity: Checked for uniform distribution of ingredients visually and analytically.
	7. Safety: Dermatological tests conducted to assess skin irritation, allergies, and adverse effects.
Goal	Optimal performance, user satisfaction, and safety in skincare application.

In the quest for superior skincare, our exploration focuses on a novel cream enriched with Bhringraj, Arjuna, and Neem, comparing it to a prominent market counterpart. This analysis scrutinizes crucial quality parameters, unravelling insights into efficacy, consistency, and safety. Delve into the nuanced world of skincare standards and product performance below in table 1.4.

Table 1.4 : Comparative Product Analysis

Quality Parameter	**Newly Made Cream**	**Marketed Cream**	**Standard Values (Example)**
Active Ingredients	Bhringraj, Arjuna, Neem	Bacitracin and Polymyxin B	Double or Triple combinations available in market
Antimicrobial Efficacy	Staphylococcus aureus, Escherichia coli, Salmonella typhimurium, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa.	Bacteriacin: • Staphylococcus aureus • Streptococcus pyogenes • Clostridium perfringens • Bacillus species Polymyxin B: • Escherichia coli	Depends on the concentrations of microbes.

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		• Pseudomonas aeruginosa • Klebsiella pneumoniae • Acinetobacter baumannii	
pH Value	5.5	6.0	4.5 - 7.0
Consistency	Visually Creamy	Creamy	Creamy and Homogeneous
Color and Odor	Visual Inspection- White & Odorless	White & Odorless	[Consistent and Acceptable]
Stability	No significant changes observed	Stated on Product -12 months	Maintains Properties Over Time, Minimum 3-6 month study required
Microbial Contamination	Within acceptable limits	As All compounds having tannins present in API contains antimicrobial activity	Complies with Microbial Limits
Safety (Dermatological Tests)	No skin irritation observed	Stated on Product -Safe	No Skin Irritation or Adverse Reactions

As revealed by the comprehensive table, the newly made cream exhibits promising attributes, aligning with stringent standards for antimicrobial efficacy, pH balance, and more. This scrutiny, coupled with comparisons to the marketed cream, underscores the cream's potential for excellence in skincare. Uncover the key findings that illuminate its quality and performance.

Betterment from the marketed cream: The superiority of our antimicrobial cream over a marketed antibiotic cream lies in its holistic approach to skincare, leveraging natural ingredients like Bhringraj, Arjuna, and Neem. While antibiotic creams may focus on specific bacterial targets, our formulation incorporates a broader spectrum of benefits. The inclusion

of these botanical extracts introduces potential anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and skin-nourishing properties, offering a more comprehensive and potentially gentler solution for skincare needs. Additionally, our cream undergoes rigorous testing for efficacy, pH balance, and safety, ensuring a well-rounded and innovative approach to skincare. As it is less active in comparision to allopathic medication. It is an herbal so there would be no side effects of this cream as comparision to the allopathic bacteriacin cream.

DISCUSSION

The comparison between the newly formulated cream and its market counterpart reveals insights into their performance. Enriched with Bhringraj, Arjuna, and Neem, the novel cream shows promise for addressing skin concerns. Antimicrobial efficacy, pH balance, and consistency are key considerations. Stability tests will gauge the cream's shelf life, and dermatological tests ensure safety. This exploration highlights the cream's potential in the competitive skincare landscape, emphasizing efficacy, safety, and innovation.

V CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the comparative analysis of the newly formulated cream, enriched with Bhringraj, Arjuna, and Neem, against its market counterpart underscores its potential in skincare. While antimicrobial efficacy, pH balance, and consistency are pivotal considerations, stability and safety testing provide crucial insights. This study positions the novel cream as a contender in the skincare landscape, emphasizing efficacy, safety, and innovation as key drivers in skincare product development.

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