

## **Traditional Use of Malaysian Plants to Treat Skin Infection: A Review**

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### **Structured Abstract**

**Background:** Historically, natural products have always been a rich source of novel pharmacological leads, thus, making the ethnobotanical and ethnopharmacological knowledge an important and major asset of the medicinal plant-based drug discovery in providing hints for effective and safe chemotherapeutic compounds. Malaysia is known as home to the world's oldest rainforest and a global hub for natural products. One of the many uses of the plants of Malaysia is they are being utilized to treat skin infections. Skin diseases have a significant global impact on quality of life, mental health, and loss of income. Malaysia recorded a high burden of inflammatory dermatoses. This review will be a stepping stone for further extensive research in this respect to broaden the prospects of herbal drugs in skin disease treatment.

**Methods:** An extensive search on electronic databases including Google Scholar, Scopus, Science Direct and conference papers was done to find relevant articles on Malaysian medicinal plants ranging from year 1980-2022. Keyword search terms used were "skin disease", "medicinal plants of Malaysia", "bacteria infection", "fungal infection" and "virus infection".

**Results:** As a result, 111 articles on traditional treatment for skin disease of Malaysian medicinal plants were found and further reviewed. A total of 33 Malaysian plants were used to treat various kind of skin diseases. Pharmacological study showed that most of the plants are able to inhibit bacteria, fungal, virus and parasite.

**Conclusion:** Natural products have great potential to cure different kinds of skin diseases. Compared with the conventional allopathic drugs. They have relatively low cost and can be a great benefit to the population of Malaysia in general and poor people in particular. This review will be a reference to carry out extensive research in this respect to broaden the prospects of plant-based drugs in skin disease treatment.

**Keywords:** Skin Disease, Medicinal Plants of Malaysia, Bacteria Infection, Fungal Infection and Virus Infection

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