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## Journal of Ginseng Research

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## Correspondence

## Comment on antiviral activities of ginseng and putative benefits against monkeypox virus

## Authors' contribution

AK 50 % ideas, writing, analyzing, approval

VW 50 % ideas, supervision, approval

To the Editor, we would like to share ideas on the publication "Antiviral activities of ginseng and its potential and putative benefits against monkeypox virus: A mini review [1]". The small review on the potential use of ginseng in the prevention of Monkeypox virus (MPXV) infections is a topical and interesting issue. The review emphasizes the lack of specific MPXV treatment regimens as well as the potential benefits of employing ginseng as an adaptogenic agent to aid in infection prevention.

The paper gives a fair overview of ginseng's antiviral effects and putative mechanisms of action. It also addresses the findings of in vitro and in vivo investigations on the effects of ginseng on other viruses, indicating that it may have broad-spectrum antiviral activity.

However, it is crucial to highlight that the review focuses mostly on ginseng's potential benefits in avoiding MPXV infections, and there is currently no concrete evidence to support this claim. More research is needed to discover the best dosage and delivery of ginseng for preventing MPXV infections, as well as to assess its safety and efficacy in clinical studies.

Overall, the evaluation is a good starting point for future research into the possible use of ginseng as an adjuvant therapy for MPXV infection prevention. More research is needed, however, before it can be suggested as a conventional treatment for this disease. At least, in case that the real in vitro or in vivo studies are not possible, the use of in silico computational analysis of pharmacological action of ginseng on the pathogen might provide supporting evidence. The recent publication by Vardhan et al [2], is a good example on this kind of study.

## Declaration of competing interest

None.

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## References

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- [2] Vardhan S, Sahoo SK. Computational studies on searching potential phytochemicals against DNA polymerase activity of the monkeypox virus. *J Tradit Complement Med* 2023 May 8. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtcme.2023.04.002> [Online ahead of print].

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