



CONSOLATION

Herbal Medication for Epilepsy

Sabzar Ahmad Wani

Kulgam, Jammu & Kashmir

Sabzar Ahmad Wani (50) a herbal practitioner by profession, has been practicing herbal medication since an early age. One of the herbal practices, he has knowledge of, pertains to the treatment of epilepsy, which has been found to be unique and promising after some validation trials.

His father was a well known and renowned herbal healer of the area for many human health ailments like fever, male and female infertility, diabetes, etc. Patients from surrounding villages as well as from various nearby towns used to visit him looking for cure and getting his medications. Sabzar was quite attached to his father and as a child used to accompany him on his visits to nearby forests to collect herbs. He also used to observe and sometimes help his father in preparation and administration of medications. This helped him to understand and learn the uses of various plants/ herbs for medicinal purposes.

Among the three brothers, Sabzar was the only one to show interest and opt for the profession of his father. He claims to have knowledge of about two hundred herbal formulations, both for human and veterinary health, for curing various ailments/diseases like liver problems, obesity, constipation, diabetes, frost bite and post-delivery problems in both human and

in animals. He lives with his wife and three young children.

Sabzar has a small medicine shop at Anantnag market area where he sells the medications prepared by him. In the local market, he has introduced medicines like “Darmain 201” for frost bite and other skin diseases, “Shafi-e-Qabaz” for constipation, “Shafi-e-Sang” for kidney stone, etc. He claims to have sold more than one thousand products till date. His medicine shop is registered as one of the Micro Small and Middle Enterprise. His herbal practice for treating epilepsy was found to be novel after patent and non-patent prior art search and accordingly taken up for validation, the results of which have been quite promising. More research is being undertaken as per statutory requirements.

The formulation was tested at Anand Pharmacy College, Anand where the test plant demonstrated significant antiepileptic activity in Maxium electroconvulsive shock (MES) and Pentylenetetrazole (PTZ) induced epilepsy models. The herbal formulation was effective in reducing extension/flexion ratio. Treatment with the herbal drug resulted in reduction in seizure score value indicating the efficacy of the practice.