

Herbal Cosmeceuticals

Tejal Sunil Brahmane¹, Yash Vilas Wankhede², Mrs.Rashmi Wagh³

^{1, 2, 3} Shiva Trust Godavari College of Pharmacy Manori, Nashik

Abstract- Nanotechnology represents a major step forward in research and development by enhancing product effectiveness through innovative solutions. Its use is growing in the field of cosmeceuticals to address some of the limitations found in traditional products. Cosmeceuticals are now one of the fastest-growing areas within the personal care industry, with their popularity increasing significantly over the years. Products known as nanocosmeceuticals, which cater to skin, hair, nails, and lips for issues like wrinkles, sun damage, dark spots, dandruff, and hair harm, are becoming widely adopted. New delivery systems such as liposomes, niosomes, nanoemulsions, microemulsions, solid lipid nanoparticles, nanostructured lipid carriers, and nanospheres are replacing older methods. The term "Cosmeceuticals" was first used by Albert Kligman in 1984 to describe products that offer both cosmetic and therapeutic effects.

Cosmeceuticals are one of the most exciting but also challenging treatment choices for doctors. They are growing quickly in the skin-care market, with many topical treatments available for issues like photoaging, hyperpigmentation, and wrinkles. Cosmeceuticals combine cosmetics and pharmaceuticals and contain active ingredients that claim to provide medical benefits. These products not only nourish the skin but also enhance its appearance, and they have been shown to effectively treat various skin conditions. Cosmeceuticals help improve how skin looks by supplying essential nutrients needed for healthy skin. Cosmetic products are usually made as emulsions, ointments, solutions, or powders that include active ingredients. According to EU laws, a cosmetic product is defined as "any substance or preparation meant to be applied to the outer parts of the human body mainly for cleaning, scenting, changing appearance, correcting body odors, protecting them, or keeping them in good condition." However, advancements in science regarding active carriers and ingredients have improved how many cosmetic products can affect skin function through their delivery systems. This led Reed and Kligman to redefine these items as "cosmeceuticals," which combine elements of cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. Until recently, the term cosmeceuticals did not have any legal meaning. These so-called cosmeceuticals can actually influence skin function by affecting things like transepidermal water loss, how skin cells stick together and renew themselves, controlling inflammation, and changing the surface bacteria due to preservatives. Because of this potential impact, they are said

to offer medical or drug-like benefits. The words cosmeceutical and evidence-based might not seem to fit together. Many scientists think of cosmeceuticals as empty promises, and by the end of this chapter, you might feel the same way. Still, it's important to look into the science behind cosmeceuticals since they are a growing area in dermatology with potential that hasn't been fully explored yet. Cosmeceuticals go beyond regular cosmetics; they aim to improve skin health and often try to make the skin look younger. Examples include moisturizers that reduce wrinkles, serums packed with antioxidants, and creams that lighten the skin. However, cosmeceuticals can be a bit confusing because both prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) products fall under this term. Prescription cosmeceuticals consist of topical retinoids that help boost collagen in the skin, topical minoxidil which promotes hair growth on the scalp, and eflornithine that reduces facial hair growth. These products won't be covered here since you can only get them with a prescription. The second type includes OTC drugs like sunscreens and antiperspirants, which also won't be discussed in this chapter. Instead, we will focus on topical cosmeceuticals meant to enhance how your skin looks. Cosmeceuticals are cosmetic products that aim to improve and enhance beauty, health, and the overall appearance of the skin while also treating skin problems. The main goal of this review is to list various plants and their active compounds, such as alkaloids, flavonoids, saponins, sterols, triterpenes, and tannins. These compounds are known for their abilities to act as antioxidants, reduce inflammation, protect against sunlight, help with skin regeneration, lighten pigmentation, prevent dandruff, reduce hair loss, and fight lice. This study also gives an overview of where these plants are found geographically, their environmental conditions, and how the active compounds are extracted and isolated for their biological effects.

Traditional remedies and preparations for treating skin issues, often referred to as Cosmeceuticals and cosmetics, have been used for a long time. People have always wanted to look good, creating a large market for cosmetics. This desire to appear attractive is not new; throughout history, both men and women have aimed to enhance their appearance. Today, many people want to look younger and more charming, which has led to an increased demand for herbal cosmetics and Cosmeceuticals. Customers often prefer herbal products because they are believed to have fewer side effects and be more effective than synthetic ones. Ingredients like turmeric

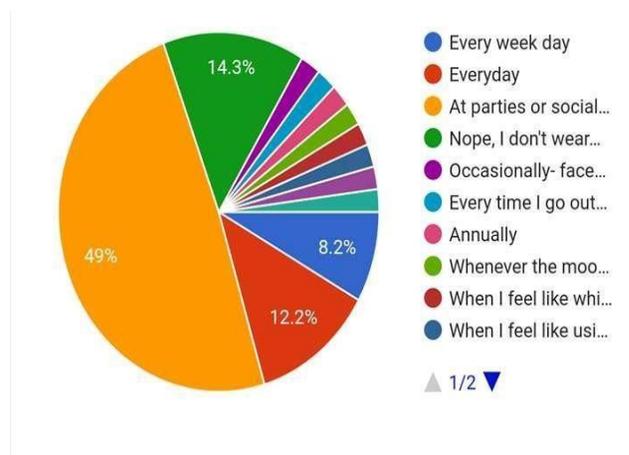
and sandalwood have been commonly used on the face for fairness and freshness. Many other herbs are also used in daily life as cosmetics, with their preparations classified as Cosmeceuticals. This article aims to clearly explain these terms and how they relate to each other. Ultraviolet B (UVB) rays change with the seasons and time of day, and they are the main reason people get sunburns. Getting sunburned increases the chance of developing melanoma and other types of skin cancer. To protect your skin from UVB rays, you can use different methods, like applying broad-spectrum sunscreen. When UV rays hit the skin, they can create harmful substances known as free radicals or reactive oxygen species (ROS). These can lead to skin cancer and make your skin age faster. Ingredients in cosmetics that were once thought to be "inactive" can actually have an effect on the skin. In a cosmeceutical product, it can be hard to tell the difference between "active" and "inactive" ingredients. Because of this, those who sell cosmeceuticals need to find a clear way to show how well a new ingredient works. For a product to do well in stores, its benefits must be clearly explained to customers, and customers need to be happy with how the product performs. The long life expectancy of people in developing countries, along with various cultural and social factors, has created a greater focus on health and physical appearance. Cosmeceuticals are becoming more popular in the cosmetic industry because they serve two purposes: they meet the needs of cosmetics (like cleaning, fragrance, protection, altering the look of the body's outer parts, or keeping them healthy) while also providing specific bioactive benefits. The cosmetics industry, which makes both cosmetics and cosmeceuticals, is currently dealing with many challenges to meet different consumer preferences (such as vegetarianism, veganism, cultural or religious beliefs, health or safety concerns, and environmentally friendly practices). These special skin tissues, made from natural fibers, can hold various active ingredients. This makes them useful for things like fighting bacteria, reducing inflammation, protecting against the sun, lightening skin, or preventing aging, depending on what ingredients are included. Unlike regular cosmetics, they don't have preservatives, emulsifiers, colors, or other chemicals. You can use them by placing the dry tissue on wet skin and leaving it there for about 30 minutes. During this time, the active ingredients slowly come out of the fibers. Herbal cosmeceuticals are a quickly growing part of the personal care industry, and their popularity has increased significantly over the years. Research and development have progressed, particularly with nanotechnology, which enhances product effectiveness by providing new solutions. The use of nanotechnology is rising in the cosmeceutical field to overcome many limitations of traditional herbal products. Some key issues with phyto-based cosmeceuticals include low

penetration and instability of various compounds, which hinder long-lasting and effective delivery for skin treatments.

Keywords- Moisturising agent , Cosmetics, nanotechnology, Patends, Ultraviolet radiations, cosmetics industry, nanocarriers, Sunscreen, Pharmaceutical drug

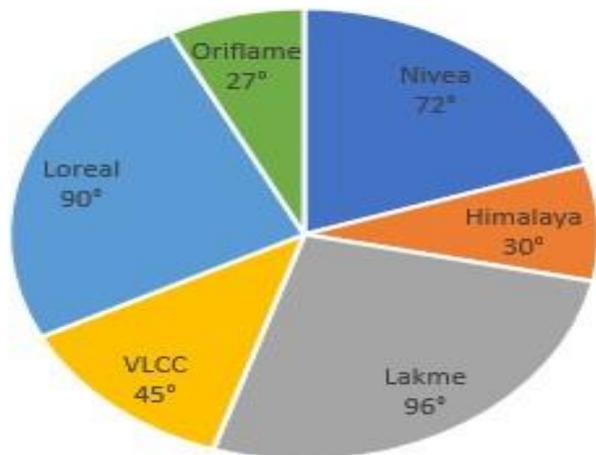
I. INTRODUCTION

Cosmetics are products that people use to improve the appearance of their skin (Mary and Lupo, 2001). While cosmetics are connected to both the pharmaceutical and food industries, consumers have different expectations for these products. They seek safe cosmetics that genuinely enhance their skin. This contrasts with cosmetic regulations, which indicate that only pharmaceutical items can significantly affect the body and skin. As a result, the cosmetic industry faces a major challenge: they need to provide products that are both effective and safe (Kostarelos and Rheins, 2002).



The skin is our largest organ and acts as the primary barrier against harmful elements like free radicals from external sources. Ultraviolet light and environmental pollution are common causes of free radicals. These highly reactive molecules have an unpaired electron, which can damage nearby molecules and tissues. The most severe harm caused by free radicals affects biomembranes and DNA. It is thought that using vitamins (A, B, C, E, K) and antioxidants in skincare can help shield and possibly repair this damage by neutralizing free radicals. Furthermore, some vitamins may also benefit the skin in various ways, such as reducing pigmentation and bruising, promoting collagen production, enhancing keratinization, or providing anti-inflammatory effects. Plant-based ingredients play a vital role in pharmacy, food, and cosmetics (Mary and Lupo, 2001). 1]

Total products sold = 2,16,000



“Cosmeceuticals” are described as “...a substance that will produce cosmetic results... through some level of physiological action.” This shifts the focus from the final cosmetic product to its individual ingredients. With this understanding, the author points out that common substances like petrolatum and glycerin could be classified as “cosmeceuticals” or even “drugs,” since they do have an impact on the body’s structure or function, even if it’s minimal. On the skin, more than any other part of the body, any ingredient can show some sort of “activity” or “effect.” Therefore, it becomes nearly impossible to clearly define what separates “active” ingredients from “inactive” ones in a cosmetic formulation. 2]

Cosmeceuticals are seen as the fastest-growing part of the personal care industry, and the market for personal care products is expanding greatly. Even though nanoparticles have many benefits, we know very little about their short-term and long-term effects on health in both the environment and living organisms. There are safety concerns because of reported toxicity and potential risks associated with nanomaterials. This article looks at different types of nanocarriers, such as liposomes, niosomes, solid lipid nanoparticles, nanostructured lipid carriers, and nanoemulsions. These are used to deliver nanocosmeceuticals, along with discussing marketed products and their positive and negative aspects.3]

The cosmeceutical benefits of aromatic plants have been known since ancient times (Lall et al. 2020). These plants create fragrant substances called essential oils (EOs), which give them their unique smells (Mishra and Chandra 2022). Aromatic plants are important in many fields such as perfume making, aromatherapy, food processing, and cosmetics. Furthermore, EOs do not gather harmful metals that could enter the food supply, making them safe for use in

various industries and supporting large-scale sustainable farming (Mishra and Chandra 2022).



Research has shown that these plants can effectively treat a range of health issues. As a result, extracts, essential oils, and plant compounds from aromatic species are commonly used as active ingredients in both the pharmaceutical and cosmetic sectors because of their healing properties and appealing qualities (Michalak 202).4]

The market for cosmeceuticals is growing significantly each year. Nowadays, consumers are more informed about nutritional products that help both skin health and disease prevention. Over the past decade, pharmacists, chemists, nutritionists, and doctors have teamed up to create new nutritional solutions that meet people’s needs. A recent trend merging the cosmetics and food industries has led to the rise of nutricosmetics, a term that many consumers—and even some experts—may not fully understand. Nutricosmetics involve taking nutrients orally and are often called “beauty pills,” “beauty from within,” or “oral cosmetics.” They mainly claim to provide anti-aging benefits by reducing wrinkles through combating free radicals caused by sunlight. Antioxidants are key ingredients in nutricosmetics. The most well-known antioxidants include carotenoids (like beta-carotene, lycopene, lutein, zeaxanthin, and astaxanthin) and polyphenols (such as anthocyanidins, catechins, flavonoids, tannins, and procyanidins). This study offers an overview of nutricosmetics and explains how they differ from nutraceuticals and cosmeceuticals. The article also highlights carotenoids and polyphenols as two important ingredient groups commonly used in these products.5]

The integumentary system is a crucial part of our body that includes the skin, hair, nails, and exocrine glands.

reverse existing signs. While sun protection is the most effective way to prevent skin damage from the sun, the development of cosmeceuticals for facial rejuvenation has made significant progress over the last fifty years, thanks to many important studies funded by leaders in the modern cosmetic industry. Currently, stem cell research is at the forefront of studies related to cosmeceuticals.11]

Cosmeceuticals are products that blend drugs and cosmetics. They are personal care items designed to enhance beauty while also providing healing, therapeutic, and disease-fighting properties. For many years, plant-based compounds have been used in cosmeceuticals and have shown promise in areas like moisturizing, sun protection, anti-aging, and hair treatment. However, the difficulty of these compounds to penetrate the skin easily and their lack of stability restricts their use in cosmetic products. Using nanotechnology in cosmetics can help solve these problems by making the compounds more stable and allowing for a longer-lasting effect.12]

Cosmeceuticals are designed to perform various functions such as protecting the skin, whitening, tanning, reducing wrinkles, acting as deodorants, fighting aging, and caring for nails and hair. However, they can also lead to some unwanted side effects. Common issues include skin irritation, contact dermatitis, sensitivity to sunlight, clogged pores, damage to hair and nails, changes in skin pigmentation (either too much or too little), infections, cancer risks, and even other serious health problems. When developing cosmeceuticals, especially those with combined active ingredients, it is important to consider their sources, structures, how they interact with the skin, and most importantly, their effectiveness and safety for specific skin needs. In this review, we will look at different types of cosmeceuticals based on their functions and pay special attention to their biologically active ingredients.13]

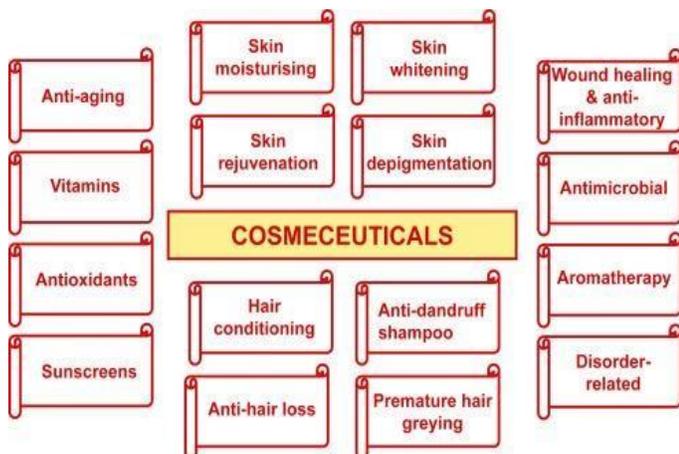


Cosmeceuticals are cosmetic products that can positively impact the skin by showing healing benefits. While the cosmetic industry, pharmacists, and health experts use this definition, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not officially recognized it yet. Cosmeceuticals can include active ingredients from synthetic sources or from plants and animals. More cosmetics now use herbal ingredients than those made from animal products or synthetic materials due to concerns about side effects. 14]

Green chemistry is a new way to make chemicals that produces less waste, uses less energy, and keeps workers and the environment safe. Important studies on caffeine show that it can help improve health for the brain and nervous system. However, pregnant women, athletes, and children should be careful with how much caffeine they consume because it can raise body temperature. Caffeine can also lead to several side effects, such as faster breathing and heart rate, dehydration, trouble sleeping, needing to urinate often, and feelings of anxiety.15]

Herbal products have been used since ancient times. Many people believe that cosmetics made with chemicals can harm the skin and overall health. Because of this belief, more consumers are seeking out herbal products, which has led to a rise in the demand for natural ingredients in cosmetic products. The plant-based chemicals taken from different plants serve two purposes in cosmetics. First, they help enhance beauty, and second, these active ingredients nourish the skin. Herbs are parts of plants, including leaves, flowers, fruits, seeds, stems, wood, bark, roots, rhizomes, or other plant sections. These can be whole, broken into pieces, or ground into powder. Besides herbs, herbal materials also include fresh juices, gums, fixed oils, essential oils, resins, and dried herb powders. In some countries, people may process these materials using different local methods like steaming, roasting, or baking them with honey or alcoholic drinks.

Cosmetic products are mixtures of natural and man-made substances that consumers use to cleanse and improve their skin, hair, and nails. Beauty items like makeup and skin creams as well as grooming products such as shampoo and deodorant fall under cosmetics. When herbs are included in cosmetics for their scent and healing properties, they are referred to as herbal or green personal care products. 16]



The use of cosmeceuticals, which are products aimed at enhancing skin appearance without needing a prescription, has surged among children and teens, raising concerns among dermatologists. Cosmeceuticals sit between cosmetics and drugs in how they are regulated by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA). While drugs are meant to treat medical conditions by changing how the body works, cosmetics only change how things look.

Cosmeceuticals combine aspects of both; they often have active ingredients that are classified as drugs while also claiming to offer cosmetic benefits. Although cosmeceuticals with active ingredients must follow FDA rules, just having these ingredients doesn't mean they will work since not all of them have proven benefits. These products can be sold without a prescription because their active ingredient levels remain below limits set by the FDA. However, many of these ingredients haven't been thoroughly studied for their safety and effects on young skin before puberty and during puberty, so we don't fully understand the risks they may pose to young users.^{17]}

II. CONCLUSION

The Usage of herbal cosmetics has been increased to many folds in personal care system and there is a great demand for the herbal cosmetics. The use of bioactive ingredients in cosmetics influence biological functions of the skin and provide nutrients necessary for the healthy skin or hair. There is tremendous scope to launch numerous herbal cosmetics using appropriate bioactive ingredients with suitable fatty oil, essential oils, proteins and additives. Uses of cosmetics has been increased to many folds in personal care system and there is great demand for the herbal cosmetics. Use of bioactive ingredients in cosmetics influences biological functions of skin and hair that products nutrients necessary for the healthy skin and hair. There is tremendous scope to launch numerous herbal

cosmetics using appropriate bioactive ingredients with suitable fatty oils, essential oils, proteins, additives

REFERENCES

- [1] Siavashhosseinpourchermahini, Fadzilah Adibah Abdul Majid and Mohamad Rojisarmidi journal of medicinal plants research, Volume 5, PP, 3074-3077, 18 July 2011
- [2] Karl Lintener, Claire Mas-chamberlin, Philippe mondon, Olivierperschard, lowislamy, volume 27, Issue 5, sep-october 2009, Page 461-468
- [3] Shreya Kaul, Neha gulati, Deepali Verma, Siddhartha mukherji, Upendranagaich, volume 2018, Issue 1, 27 March 2018
- [4] Jesus olivero-verbel, Patricia Quinterorincon and Karina Caballero-Gallardo, Volume 260, 5 November 2024
- [5] Talita Pizza annunciato, Pedro Alves da Rocha filho, Volume 11, Issue 1, 24 February 2012
- [6] Mohyeddin Assali, Abdel-Naser Zaid, Volume 30, Issue 1, January 2022, Page 53-65
- [7] Martina Kerscher, Heike Buntrock, Volume 9, Issue 4 Page 314-328, 3 February 2011
- [8] Chantalle Crous, Judey Pretorius, Anel Petzer, Volume 4, Issue 2, April 2024, 7 February 2024
- [9] Ulya Badilli, Ozge Inal, Volume 17, Issue 6, 14 March 2025, 18 March 2025
- [10] Clifford P. Clark, Ashley Goldston, Volume 2, Issue 4, December 2020, 23 September 2020
- [11] Chun-Man Lee, MRCP, Volume 15, Issue 4, Page 527-539, 6 August 2016
- [12] Purva Vaishampayan, Meenal M. Rane, Volume 22, Issue 11, Page 5464-5483, 14 July 2022
- [13] Xing-Hua Gao, Li Zhang, Huachen Wei, Hong-Duo Chen, Volume 26, Issue 4, Page 367-374, July-August 2008
- [14] Fatma Sezer Senol Deniz, Ilkay Erdogan Orhan, Hayri Duman, Volume 45, Page 171-183, October 2021
- [15] Saranagat Singh Watts, Kaushik Pal, Nidhi Asthana, Monika Bhattu, Meenakshi Verma, Volume 1305, 5 June 2024
- [16] Sayeda Parveen Qureshi, Aparna Yadav and Chandan R. Sakanharkar, Volume 6, Issue 6, June 2019
- [17] Gabrielle Keller Goff, Sarah L Stein, Volume 42, Issue 2, Page 221-227, 9 February 2025