

**STANDARDIZATION AND AUTHENTICATION OF SEEDS OF  
AJMODA (*APIUM GRAVEOLENS*): THE DRUG ASSESSED FOR  
CHEMO PREVENTIVE ACTIVITY**

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**ABSTRACT**

India is endowed with a rich wealth of medicinal plants. A number of plant extracts are used against diseases in various systems of medicine such as Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani, popularly known as Indian System of Medicine (ISM) which have been widely practiced due to its efficacy and believed to be free off side effects. Literature data revealed that search for anticancer drugs from plant sources started in earliest in the 1950s and *Apium graveolens* seeds have been assessed for chemopreventive activity. Chemopreventive includes use of synthetic or natural agents alone or in combination to block the development of cancer in human beings leading to cancer prevention.

It is also revealed that *A. graveolens* have many pharmacological properties like anticonvulsant, tranquilizing, hypolipidemic, antifungal activities, anticancer and many more. The seeds are also used in bronchitis, asthma, spleen and liver disorders. This has increased the demand for plant raw materials with the result that a large number of traders connected with big industrial houses have started exploiting the plants indiscriminately. The raw materials of herbal drugs, which are mostly, collected wild and the