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Diploma in Pharmacy 1st Year
Pharmacognosy
Important Questions
Chapter 1 : Introduction to Pharmacognosy

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Chapter 1

Introduction to Pharmacognosy

IMPORTANT Questions

Q1. Write the scope of Pharmacognosy

Ans. SCOPE OF PHARMACOGNOSY

- Pharmacognosy may be defined as the study of crude drugs obtained from plants, animals and mineral kingdom and their constituents.
- Initially it was known as *Materia Medica*.
- Crude drugs of natural origin that is obtained from plants, animals and mineral sources and their active chemical constituents are studied in Pharmacognosy.
- These are used for the treatment of various diseases, in cosmetics, textile and food industries.
- Pharmacognosy has broad scope in the field of pharmacy such as :
 - Isolation or analysis of Phytochemical
 - Structure activity relationship
 - Drugs obtained by partial synthesis of natural products :
 - Natural products as models for synthesis of new drugs:
 - Drugs of direct therapeutic uses
 - Synthetic Drugs and Antibiotics

Q2. Write down the History of Pharmacognosy.

Ans. HISTORY OF PHARMACOGNOSY

- ❖ Pharmacognosy is defined as the study of the physical, chemical, biochemical, and biological properties of drugs, drug substances, or potential drugs or drug substances of natural origin.
- ❖ The word "pharmacognosy" is derived from two Greek words : *pharmakon* (drug), and *gnosis* (knowledge). The term "pharmacognosy" was used for the first time by the Austrian physician Schmidt in 1811 and 1815 by Crr. Anothcus Seydler in work titled "*Analecta Pharmacognostica*"
- ❖ In about 77 AD, Dioscorides, a Greek doctor, kept a record of about 600 kinds of crude drugs in his compiled book "*De Materia Medica*", a book that had played an important role in pharmacology and botany.
- ❖ Work of Galen (131-200) : Galen was Greek pharmacist; he worked on extraction of chemical constituent from the plants. He developed various methods of extraction

therefore the branch of pharmacy which deals with extraction of chemical constituent from plants & animals is called as Galenical Pharmacy.

- ❖ Hippocrates (460-360. B.C.) : He was Greek scientist; he worked on human anatomy & Physiology Particularly on circulatory system & nervous system. He prepared famous

oath for physicians, which is still taken by the physicians. He is known as father of medicine.

- ❖ Indian History of Pharmacognosy : It is about 5500 years old, in the suktas of Rigveda&Atharwaveda medicinal property of plant is given. There are several medicinal plants, which are given with their use. The old Ayurveda Books, Charak Samhita & Sushrutn Samhita described many medicinal plants

