Ethno-medicinal Survey on Tai-Ahom Community of Assam

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ABSTRACT An ethno-medicinal survey among the Tai-Ahom community of Assam was undertaken to gather knowledge on different medicinal formulations that are prepared and administered by their bejes/bejinis (medicine men/women). In this study, treatments mentioned in ancestral manuscripts, their methods of preparation, formulations and their applications in different diseases have been described. Ways of diagnosing the diseases, precautions to be maintained while on treatment, adverse effects, and follow up treatments have also been mentioned. The objective was to search for novel plants having medicinal value and to understand the importance of their traditional medicinal preparations and their relevance in the modern era. Besides providing information about the properties of some uncommon plants the data offers new insight to the usage of some of these medicinal preparations and reinforces the need for safeguarding these methods for further assessment.