



International Journal of Homoeopathic Sciences

E-ISSN: 2616-4493
P-ISSN: 2616-4485
Impact Factor (RJIF): 5.96
www.homoeopathicjournal.com
IJHS 2025; 9(4): 551-553
Received: 09-08-2025
Accepted: 11-09-2025

Dr. T. Ilayapallavan
BHMS, Associate Professor,
Department of Homoeopathic
Materia Medica, Dr.
Hahnemann Homoeopathy
Medical College and Research
Centre, Rasipuram, Namakkal,
Tamil Nadu, India

Dr. AT Senthil Kumar
M.D. (Hom), Professor,
Department of Homoeopathic
Materia Medica, Dr.
Hahnemann Homoeopathy
Medical College and Research
Centre, Rasipuram, Namakkal,
Tamil Nadu, India

Srija SK
CRRI, Dr. Hahnemann
Homoeopathy Medical College
and Research Centre,
Rasipuram, Namakkal, Tamil
Nadu, India

Corresponding Author:
Dr. T. Ilayapallavan
BHMS, Associate Professor,
Department of Homoeopathic
Materia Medica, Dr.
Hahnemann Homoeopathy
Medical College and Research
Centre, Rasipuram, Namakkal,
Tamil Nadu, India

Piper Methysticum

T Ilayapallavan, AT Senthil Kumar and SK Srija

DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.33545/26164485.2025.v9.i4.I.1962>

Abstract

A perennial shrub with cultural and historical significance, *Piper Methysticum* is native to the Pacific Ocean. Kavalactones, which have anti-inflammatory, anticonvulsant, analgesic, sedative, anxiolytic, and anti-ischemic properties, are said to be present in it. The purpose of this study was to perform a systematic review of the effects of supplementing with *Piper Methysticum* on neurological disorders. (1)KEYWORDS: *Piper Methysticum* (kava-kava), Neuroprotection Anxiety, Neurodegenerative diseases ^[1].

Keywords: *Piper Methysticum* (Kava-kava), Kavalactones, Neuroprotection, Anxiolytic activity, Neurodegenerative disorders, Anti-inflammatory effect, Analgesic property, Sedative effect

Introduction

In neurodegenerative diseases, piper methylsticum showed notable beneficial effects in lowering neuroinflammation and oxidative stress. Furthermore, by blocking the Na⁺ channel voltage, *Piper Methysticum* extract can have anti-ischemic and anticonvulsant effects. It can also cause significant sedation and behavioral changes akin to those of anxiolytics. Conclusion: Taking into account that *Piper Methysticum* is effective and has the potential to be used as a phytotherapeutic adjuvant or substitute for current medications.

^[1] SYNONYMS: Pip-m., Kawawuzel, Kava-kava, Macro *Piper Methysticum* ^[3].

Homoeopathic Uses

Albuminuria, Anus prolapsed, Brachialgia, Brain-fag, Catalepsy, Cystitis, Dysuria, Emaciation, Gonorrhoea, Headache, Ichthyosis, Intoxication, Neuralgias, Neurasthenia, Orchits, Paraplegia, Prostate disorders, Rheumatism, Skin disorders, Toothaches, Urethritis, Uric acid excess ^[9].

Sphere of action

Nervous system, Serous and Mucous fluxes, Genito urinary, Gastro intestinal ^[4].

Characteristic symptoms

Mental tension is the sensation that one's head is about to burst. Diversion of mind alleviated the mental symptoms, such as excitement or depression, as well as the headache. This is one of the keynotes, and it has helped to identify Piper m in conjunction with other symptoms. The forehead was full. "Solid with pain:" This spread to the occiput and cervical spine, where it became a compression, extending as a constricting sensation to the stomach and chest. The sensation of head enlargement was strong and persisted. According to Farrington, catalepsy-like convulsions occur.

Cerna (quoted H. W. xxvi. 556) as a result of his investigations found Piper m. a general and local anaesthetic It diminishes reflex action by its action on the cord, and kills by paralyzing respiration. Cerna illustrated its relationship to Cubeba by citing cases of gonorrhoea, acute and chronic cystitis, gleet, prostatorrhoea, vaginitis, cured with it ^[9]. The essential characteristics here seems to be that the pain are relieved by temporarily turning the mind to another light topic ^[15].



Fig 1: Inflorescence of *Piper methysticum* (Kava-kava) showing characteristic red spike on a green leaf.

Mental Generals

When concentrated, intoxication happens almost immediately; with a typical dosage, it takes around 20 minutes to become intoxicated. When taken in moderation, kava is a tonic-stimulating beverage that provides support against extreme fatigue and produces a pleasant excitement. When taken in larger quantities, this root produces an intoxication that is entirely distinct from that caused by alcoholic beverages and has a melancholy, quiet, and drowsy quality. After taking kava six or eight times a day, regular users experience a nervous trembling that makes it difficult for them to raise the cup to their lips. Although the intoxication lasts no more than two hours, the effects may last for twelve hours if taken infrequently. On other days, the intoxication lasts for six hours.

The drinker stays in a deep torpor when made from the root that is grown in moist soils, and even the slightest sound irritates them. When the dosage is too high or too low, the result is frequently intoxication rather than sleep, along with wild ideas and a strong urge to hop around, even though one is momentarily unable to maintain his balance.

It's been a while since I've finished my daily chores with the same ease and joy as now. I've been happy and entertained since 10 a.m. by the unusual energy, excitement, and life I've encountered all day. Just after 10 PM, I felt energized and alert. Felt bright and lively after emission^[10].

Head

A dull, aching sensation accompanied by a feeling of pressure localized in the upper orbital region, often associated with pronounced sleepiness. Cognitive fatigue ("brain fog") is most notable in the morning, with improvement upon rising and becoming active. A generalized sense of tiredness is more prominent during the evening hours.

A sensation of fullness, variable in location, sometimes affecting one area and at other times another, with exacerbation in the forehead region. Accompanied by feelings of uneasiness and heaviness. There is a distinct sense of intoxication, characterized by imaginative or fantastical thoughts and a compelling desire to move about, despite an inability to maintain balance or stand steadily. Vertigo is experienced from 5:00 to 9:00 P.M., and is also present upon waking in the morning while in bed, with associated frontal pressure^[10, 11].

Congestion localized to the posterior regions of the brain and spinal cord, accompanied by a headache with a sensation of intoxication^[22, 21].

Eye

Conjunctivae noted to be red. a sensation of pain along the

right optic nerve occurs when reading at 3:00 p.m. a deep, pressing pain is felt in the left eye, as though the eyeball might be displaced, observed while walking on the street at 5:30 p.m. a state of dizzy blindness accompanies vertigo during dressing, which improves with the closing of the eyes, focusing attention on the head, and exerting mental effort. this is followed by a rush of blood and a feeling of fullness in the forehead, which is then mirrored in the occipital and basilar regions^[10, 11].

Ears and face

"Sensation of singular pressure in the lobules of the left ear, with outward pressure in the face around 7 p.m."^[10, 11]. Curious sensation of fullness in face^[17].

Stomach

Marked hunger at noon, yet unable to eat much. At supper, appetite present but could take little food. Formidable appetite at 8 p.m. Sour eructations, especially about an hour before meals, sometimes rolling and rumbling from the stomach upward, mostly breaking at the throat-pit in frequent succession. Sensation in the throat-pit as if something should be swallowed; temporarily relieved by eructations but soon returning. At night, eructations with unpleasant sensation at the throat-pit and root of the tongue, partially relieved by Pulsatilla. Stomach bloated at 11 p.m. A sensation of warmth in the stomach followed the ingestion of the drug.

Sensation of warmth in the stomach, soon passing away. Cramp-like pain in the stomach, lasting about half an hour, relieved by pressing the stomach against the edge of a table (tenth day). Sensation as though the mucous membrane of the stomach, mouth, and tongue were covered or furred, with loss of their natural sensitiveness, though the tongue was not coated^[10, 11].

Abdomen:

Slight pain in the abdomen above the umbilicus, disappearing soon after the first stool in the forenoon. Frequent colicky pains with a distressing sensation of fulness in the bowels. Colic relieved by motion. Pain in the right groin while walking^[10, 11]. Abdomen trembling sensation of^[22].

Urinary organs

Burning sensation in the urethra during micturition. Observing a marked change in the urine, a clinical record was maintained. At 4:45 a.m., passed a small quantity of urine. During the morning, urine increased in quantity, normal in colour and odour. Reaction nearly neutral, acidity scarcely perceptible; at night, urine hot and distinctly over-acid^[10, 11]. Increased, cystic, chordae^[13]. Burning during micturition^[16].

Extremities

Excruciating pain in the right arm, as if the marrow were affected; the pain shifts along the entire length of the arm, from shoulder to fingertips. The hands, at times paroxysmally, feel almost paralyzed, rendering it difficult to hold a pen. Simultaneously, pain is experienced in the right great toe. Relief occurs only after administration of Bryonia and Calcarea; medicines taken only when the pain became almost intolerable. The pain in the right great toe, at first severe, subsides, but is followed by a less intense pain about

the right fibula. Subsequently, pain reappears in the right hand, especially in the metacarpal region adjacent to the little finger ^[10, 11]. Pain in thumb joint ^[19]. Pain in right arm thumb joint loss of muscular power hand feels paralyzed ^[20].

Skin

Skin dry, scaly, cracked, and ulcerated, particularly on thickened parts such as the hands and feet. A painful lump appeared on the right forehead, above the inner canthus of the right eye and just above the brow, threatening to form an abscess. The swelling persisted, though the redness subsided and the pain ceased. Lump on the forehead swollen and tender to touch; swelling continued with diminished pain. The lumps on the forehead and back gradually decreased in size, and the threatening boils on both sites disappeared. A small, painful swelling appeared at the lower corner of the left ear (twenty-sixth day), later becoming harder and less painful ^[10, 11]. Fall of scales leave white spots which often ulcerated ^[24]. Prolonged use may lead to inflammation of the body and eyes, resulting in the formation of unsightly ulcers, with dryness, parching, and peeling of the skin ^[25].

Sleep

Marked sleepiness at 9 a.m., and again in the afternoon and evening, accompanied by dullness and frontal headache. About 10 p.m., sudden liveliness and irresistible wakefulness set in. Drowsiness in the afternoon with laziness on waking, followed by evening sleepiness. Heavy sleep occurring several times during the day. Deep, heavy sleep with disturbing but unremembered dreams. Difficulty in falling asleep and restless sleep during the latter part of the night ^[10, 11].

Fever

Chilliness for several hours, about 8 p.m. At 9 a.m., flushes of general heat. Heat in face and hands, more marked in the left hand, with flushing of the cheeks. Sensation of heat in the left ear flap and left hand, especially in the fingers, at 10 a.m.; later, heat felt over the upper part of the body in the evening ^[10, 11].

Compare

By motion, Rhus. Feeling of buoyancy. Coff. (But with Coff. the reverse condition of brain-fag does not quickly follow). Neurasthenia, Pic. ac., Arg. n., Avena. - Unbearable pains, Coff. Aco. Cham.

Conclusion

This systematic review demonstrates that *Piper Methysticum* and its isolated active constituents exhibit significant efficacy in both *in vivo* and *in vitro* models of neurological disorders. The plant shows multifaceted pharmacological actions, including anxiolytic, sedative, analgesic, anti-inflammatory, anticonvulsant, and anti-ischemic effects, influencing various neurochemical and behavioural mechanisms underlying these conditions. The evidence suggests that *Piper Methysticum* holds promise as a potential therapeutic alternative in the management of neurological pathologies, offering fewer adverse effects and notable clinical and economic benefits compared to conventional therapies.

Conflict of Interest

Not available.

Financial Support

Not available

References

1. Author unknown. Study on *Piper methysticum* and its therapeutic effects. ResearchGate; 2020 [cited 2025 Nov 4]. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339572226>
2. Petersen FJ. Materia Medica and Clinical Therapeutics (RADAR).
3. Varma PN, Indu V. Encyclopaedia of Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia (RADAR).
4. Murphy R. Homeopathic Remedy Guide (RADAR).
5. Wikipedia contributors. Kava [Internet]. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia; 2025 [cited 2025 Nov 4]. <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kava>
6. O'Connor J. The American Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia (RADAR).
7. Choudhuri NM. A Study on Materia Medica (RADAR).
8. Vermeulen F. Concordant Materia Medica (RADAR).
9. Clarke JH. Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica (RADAR).
10. Allen TF. Encyclopaedia of Pure Materia Medica (RADAR).
11. Allen TF. Handbook of Materia Medica and Homoeopathic Therapeutics (RADAR).
12. Blackwood AL. A Manual of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Pharmacology (RADAR).
13. Boericke W. Pocket Manual of Homeopathic Materia Medica (RADAR).
14. Bradford TL. Index of Homoeopathic Provings (RADAR).
15. Farrington EA. Lesser Writings with Therapeutic Notes (RADAR).
16. Gentry WD. The Rubrical and Regional Textbook of the Homoeopathic Materia Medica: Urine and Urinary Disorders (RADAR).
17. Hale EM. Special Symptomatology of the New Remedies (RADAR).
18. Hansen O. A Textbook of Materia Medica and Therapeutics of Rare Homeopathic Remedies (RADAR).
19. Kamthan PS. Homoeopathic Therapy Capable to Remedy and Remove Gout, Arthritis and Rheumatism (RADAR).
20. Kamthan PS. Remedies for Pain and Warts (RADAR).
21. Morrison R. Desktop Companion to Physical Pathology (RADAR).
22. Lilienthal S. Homoeopathic Therapeutics (RADAR).
23. Murphy R. Homeopathic Medical Repertory (RADAR).
24. Van Woensel E. RADAR Keynotes Version 4: Characteristics.
25. Varma PN, Indu V. Side Effects (RADAR)

How to Cite This Article

Ilayapallavan T, Senthil Kumar AT, Srija SK. *Piper Methysticum*. International Journal of Homoeopathic Sciences 2025; 9(4): 551-554.

Creative Commons (CC) License

This is an open access journal, and articles are distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0) License, which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as appropriate credit is given and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.