
Description: The objective of this report is to provide a detailed analysis of Alzheimer's disease (AD) and the pharmaceutical drugs and medicinal plants used to treat and prevent it. It also provides an overview of the leading companies serving this market and their current and future product offerings.

This report will prove useful for people dealing with Alzheimer's disease, trying to prevent it, doing R&D on new drugs for it, or investing in this industry.

The conclusion of this report is that the future hope for treating and preventing Alzheimer's disease lies in medicinal plants.

Alzheimer's disease has become a major, public health problem. Globally, approximately 56 million people are estimated to be Alzheimer's sufferers in 2015. An estimated 5.6 million Americans now have Alzheimer's and, by mid-century, fueled in large part by the baby boom generation, the number of people living with AD in the United States is projected to reach 13.8 million.

At the moment, unfortunately, there is no cure available to impede the severe-type of AD, and only symptomatic treatment is applicable for the moderate and mild-types, which often lasts about 2-3 years.

Modern treatment strategies typically comprise of anticholinesterases, antioxidants, alpha and beta-secretase inhibitors, and N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor antagonists. But none of the current AD pharmaceutical drugs has demonstrated a disease modifying effect or is very efficacious at slowing progression. And next-generation treatments capable of slowing the disease progression will not reach the market for 3-5 years.

Further exacerbating the problem, the pharmaceutical industry is facing serious challenges as the drug discovery process for neurodegenerative diseases is becoming extremely expensive, riskier and critically inefficient. Also, a significant shift from a single-target to a multi-target drug approach, especially for chronic and complex disease syndromes, is taking place.

Because of the complexity of chemical content (in terms of both diverse classes and multiple analogues within any class) and variety of bioactivities, medicinal plants offer the prospect of the kind of built in polypharmacology that is increasingly apparent for orthodox drugs.

Also, medicinal plants can serve as chemopreventive agents, which induce therapeutic outcomes that modulate the aggregation process of beta-amyloid, and provide measureable cognitive benefits in the aging process. As a result, medicinal plants may be particularly relevant to long-term, potentially prophylactic use against AD by providing neuroprotection.

This report provides an estimate of global Alzheimer's disease pharmaceutical drug production, as well as estimates for several medical plants production that are useful in treating and preventing AD. A detailed analysis of current and future drug offerings is given, along with the companies producing and doing R&D on them. Additionally, a detailed analysis of medicinal plants that have been clinically evaluated for treating and preventing Alzheimer's disease is provided.

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