There has been a significant interest in the use of herbal medicines during past two decades. World Health Organization has issued guidelines for assessment of quality, safety and efficacy of these medicines and emphasized on the need of standardized preparations for health benefits from consumer and health care point of view. The botanicals employed in herbal medicines should be well authenticated and documented. Desirability of good manufacturing practices, knowledge of active and characteristic constituents, standardization of manufacturing process, identification of active or characteristic substances by chromatographic printing to ensure consistence quality of the preparation are some of the approaches suggested for quality and safety of medicaments. Physical and chemical stability of the product, establishment of shelf life and studies from standpoint of pharmacological and toxicological activities may provide further strength in safety of herbal drugs. A country like ours, which have a very strong tradition in Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha medicine can be beneficial of renewed global interest in herbal medicine by taking extensive research work in standardization and quality control of herbal products. Drugs affecting CNS are high demand areas where herbal medicine may contribute substantially.

In the first chapter a brief introduction on standardization and development of herbal formulation for CNS activity summed-up with guidelines of WHO and FIP. The detailed literature review on selected drugs presented in second chapter. Chapter three comprises of quality control and phytochemical standardization of crude drugs. Chapter four contains extraction and pharmacological screening of herbal extracts. Chapter five deals with phytochemical studies and biopharmaceutical characteristics of herbal extracts. Chapter six describes the isolation, estimation and characterization of marker compounds. Chapter seven encompasses the development and evaluation of polyherbal formulation. The essence of work presented in the chapter number eight.

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