

Seaweed Exhibits Therapeutic Properties against Chronic Diseases: An Overview

Publons ID	52587619
Wos ID	WOS:000771198200001
Doi	10.3390/app12052638
Title	Seaweed Exhibits Therapeutic Properties against Chronic Diseases: An Overview
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Publish Date	MAR 2022
Journal Name	APPLIED SCIENCES-BASEL
Citation	9
Abstract	<p>Seaweeds or marine macroalgae are known for producing potentially bioactive substances that exhibit a wide range of nutritional, therapeutic, and nutraceutical properties. These compounds can be applied to treat chronic diseases, such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, neurodegenerative diseases, and diabetes mellitus. Several studies have shown that consumption of seaweeds in Asian countries, such as Japan and Korea, has been correlated with a lower incidence of chronic diseases. In this study, we conducted a review of published papers on seaweed consumption and chronic diseases. We used the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) method for this study. We identified and screened research articles published between 2000 and 2021. We used PubMed and ScienceDirect databases and identified 107 articles. This systematic review discusses the potential use of bioactive compounds of seaweed to treat chronic diseases and identifies gaps where further research in this field is needed. In this review, the therapeutic and nutraceutical properties of seaweed for the treatment of chronic diseases such as neurodegenerative diseases, obesity, diabetes, cancer, liver disease, cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, and arthritis were discussed. We concluded that further study on the identification of bioactive compounds of seaweed, and further study at a clinical level, are needed.</p>
Publish Type	Journal
Publish Year	2022
Page Begin	(not set)
Page End	(not set)
Issn	
Eissn	2076-3417
Url	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000771198200001
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