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My research interests are on medicinal plants. With the long term goals of documenting the safety, efficacy and sustainable utilization of plants in African Traditional Medicine. I completed my PhD in Ethnobotany (UKZN) on ethnopharmacology of commercial herbal products in South Africa. I have experience in toxicology, bioanalysis, microbiology, conservation methods and indigenous knowledge systems of ethnopharmacology in African Traditional Medicine. I serve as a member of the Editorial Board for the South African Journal of Botany, Journal of Bioequivalence & Bioavailability, International Journal of Herbal Medicine and performs peer reviews for a number of rated journals.

## CURRENT RESEARCH

Topic	Methodology	Application
Efficacy and safety of medicinal plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Plant Biotechnology</li><li>Medico-nutritional properties of wild plants foods/feeds</li><li>Biochemistry of natural products</li><li>Toxicology and mutagenicity of medicinal plants</li></ul>	Quality control of herbal medicines

## UKZN Publications (10 most important publications out of 50)

1. Ndhlala, A.R., Stafford, G.I., Van Staden, J. (2013). Phytosynergy in some *Hypoxis* species and pharmacological properties of a *Hypoxis*-based phytopharmaceutical formula. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 150, 492-500.
2. Ndhlala, A.R., Ncube, B., Okem, A., Mulaudzi, R.B., Van Staden, J. (2013). Toxicology of some important medicinal plants in southern Africa. *Food and Chemical Toxicology* 62, 609-621.
3. Ndhlala, A.R., Aderogba, M.A., Ncube, B., Van Staden, J. (2013). Anti-oxidative and cholinesterase inhibitory effects of leaf extracts and their isolated compounds from two closely related *Croton* species. *Molecules* 18, 1916-1932.
4. Verschaeye, L., Mertens, B., Ndhlala, A. R., Anthonissen, R., Gorissen, B., Van Staden, J., (2013). Investigation into the genotoxicity of water Extracts from *Hypoxis* species and a commercially available *Hypoxis* preparation. *Phytotherapy Research* 27: 350-356.
5. Ndhlala, A.R., Van Staden, J. (2012). Smokescreens and mirrors in safety and quality of herbal medicines: A case of commercialized herbal preparations. *South African Journal of Botany* 82, 4-10.
6. Ndhlala, A.R., Ncube, B., Van Staden, J. (2012). Ensuring quality in herbal medicines: Toxic phthalates in plastic-packaged commercial herbal products. *South African Journal of Botany* 82, 60-66.
7. Okem, A., Southway, C., Ndhlala, A.R., Van Staden, J. (2012). Determination of total and bioavailable heavy and trace metals in South African commercial herbal concoctions using ICP-OES. *South African Journal of Botany* 82, 75-82.
8. Ndhlala, A.R., Mulaudzi, R.B., Kulkarni, M.G., Van Staden, J. (2012). Effect of environmental factors on seedling growth, bulb development and pharmacological properties of medicinal *Eucomis autumnalis*. *South African Journal of Botany* 79, 1-8.
9. Nair, J.J., Ndhlala, A.R., Chukwujekwu, J.C., Van Staden, J., (2012). Isolation of di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate from a commercial South African cognate herbal mixture. *South African Journal of Botany* 80, 21-24.
10. Ndhlala, A.R., Stafford, G.I., Finnie, J.F. and Van Staden, J., (2011). Commercial herbal preparations in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa: The urban face of traditional medicine. *South African Journal of Botany* 77, 830- 843.

## Future Interests

Research in pharmacokinetics, pharmacovigilance and bioavailability of natural products

## Extra Interests

Learning techniques in computer hardware and software, Information and technology, Gadget testing