PHARM.D • YEAR 2

Pharmacognosy & Phytopharmaceuti

CHAPTER 2

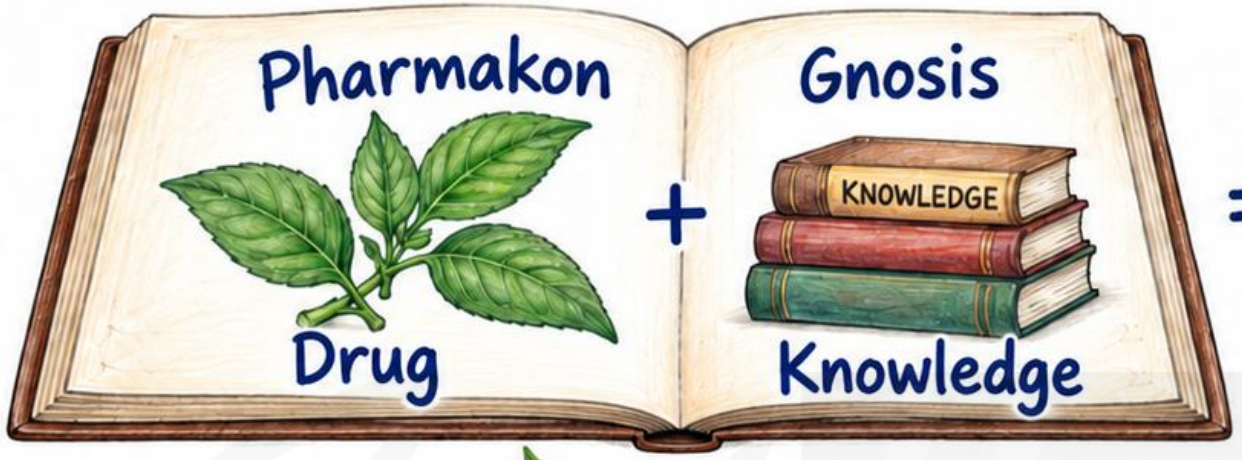
Definition, History and Scope of Pharmacognosy

PPT CHAPTER COVER



DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

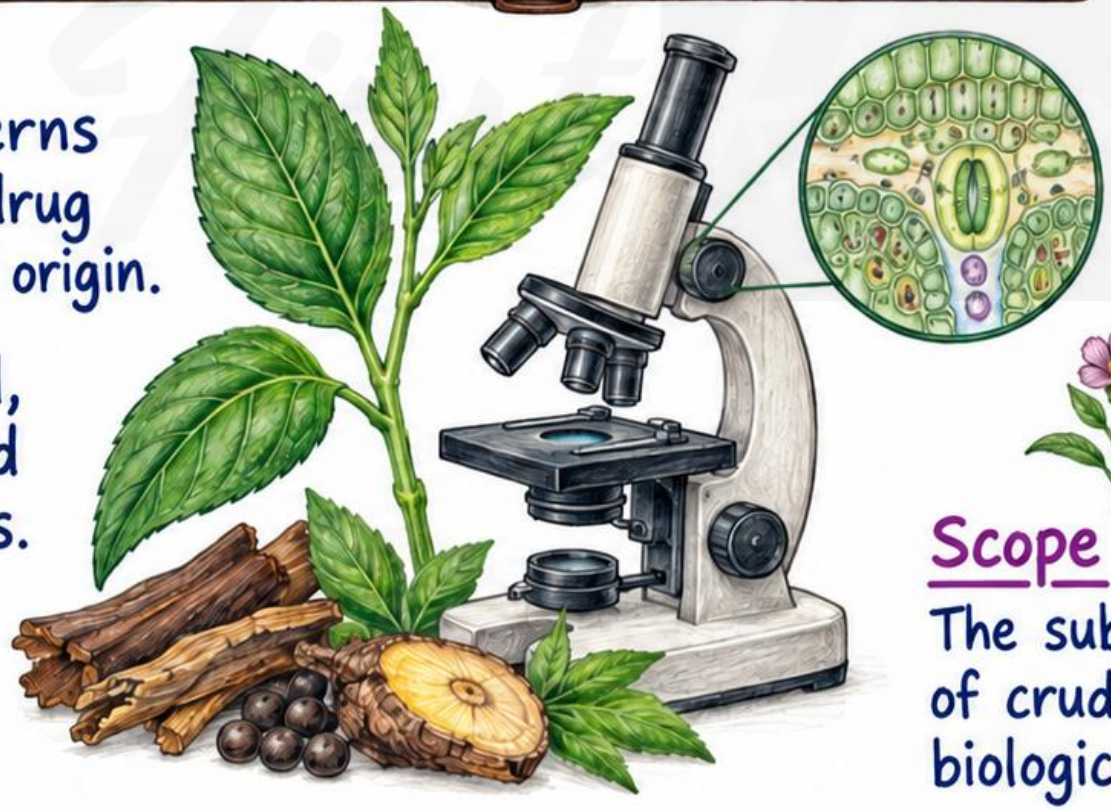
Meaning and scope of pharmacognosy



What is it?

Pharmacognosy concerns drugs and potential drug substances of natural origin.

It examines biological, physical, chemical and biochemical properties.



Sources

Sources include plants, animals, microorganisms, marine organisms and other natural materials.



Scope

The subject connects recognition of crude drugs with analysis, biological evaluation and development.

Early records of natural medicines

Ancient practice

Natural remedies were used in Egypt, India, China and Greece.



Written records

The Ebers Papyrus, about 1500 BCE, records Egyptian remedies.



Charaka Samhita and Sushruta Samhita

describe Indian medicinal materials and formulations.



Dioscorides wrote *De Materia Medica*

in the first century CE.

These records preserve historical knowledge.
They are not, by themselves, modern proof of efficacy.

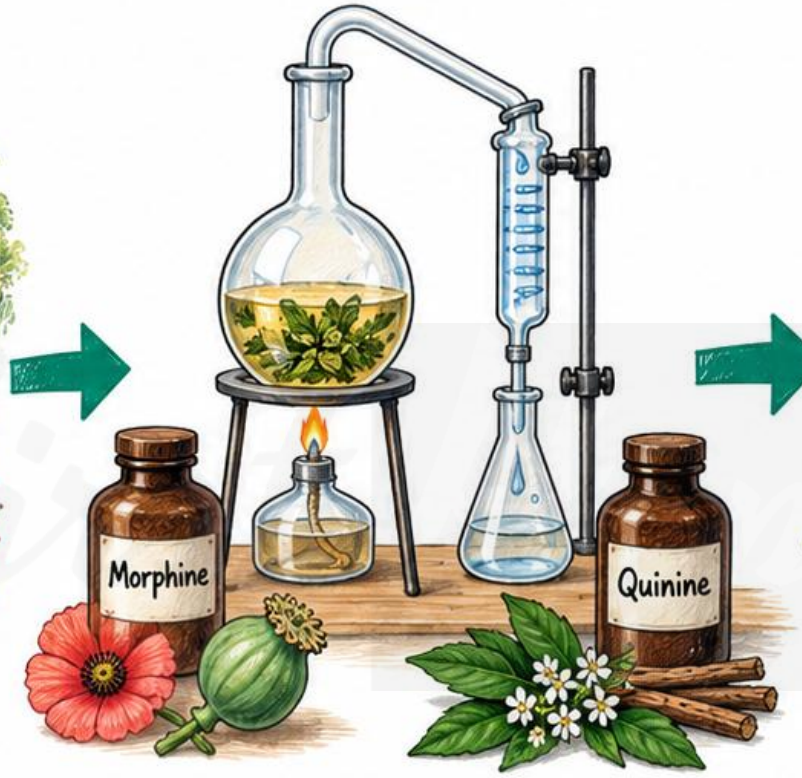
From herbals to laboratory science



Middle Ages and Renaissance

Herbalists and apothecaries preserved medicinal-plant knowledge in herbals and manuscripts.

Botanical gardens supported observation and systematic plant study.



Eighteenth and nineteenth centuries

Advances in chemistry enabled isolation of constituents such as morphine and quinine.



Twentieth century onward

Phytochemistry and molecular biology expamded the search for natural-product medicines.

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