


Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Environment for Microalgal Source for Production of Nutraceuticals



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Abstract

With the growing implementation with the AI and virtual environment there is a better scope for the production of highest quality of nutraceuticals. Microalgae, capable of performing photosynthesis, are important for life on earth which provides a well-balanced mixture of nutrients to the organisms higher in the food web. Microalgae are considered as a potential source of protein, carbohydrate, fatty acids, vitamins, amino acids, carotenoids, phycobilliproteins, astaxanthin, lutein and antioxidants which provide health benefits such as controlling blood pressure, strengthening immune system, reduction of coronary heart diseases, serves as anticancer agent, and antioxidant etc. Nutritional value of microalgae varies from species to species depending upon the culture conditions. Thus the biochemical composition of microalgae determines their nutritional quality and utilization as food. Several reports suggested the commercial use of microalgal strains such as Spirulina, Chlorella, Klamath, Dunaliella, Haematococcus and Aphanizomenon, as nutraceuticals and nutritional supplements. The advantage of using microalgae is its high productivity on arable and non-arable land; therefore, they don't compete with agricultural crop production. Nutritional value of microalgae and its industrial commercialization today is still in its infancy and can be seen as a gateway to a multibillion dollar industry.

Therefore, there is a huge scope for future research on the identified microalgal species with respect to their nutritional value for different groups of animals as a food supplement and other commercial applications under varied environmental conditions. Intense effort is now on all over the world to devise suitable systems to make large scale (Raceway pond/Photo bioreactor) cultivation and harvesting of these microscopic aquatic organisms, having nutritional potentiality, in a cost-effective manner.

Keywords: Microalgae; Nutraceutical; Virtualisation; Virtual environment; Robotic virtual machine

Introduction

The developing industrialization has affected the lifestyle of human beings to a great extent. Food habitats in the lifestyle are mostly affected. The frequent consumption of packaged and junk foods, fast eating food habitats, long scheduled work, sedentary lifestyle, etc. has led to increase in prevalence of various diseases like diabetes, obesity, various cancer and cardiovascular diseases [1]. Therefore, there is an increasing global concern on implementation of healthy foods in diet that will help to maintain a healthy lifestyle [2]. Thus, to reduce the possibility of health problem consumers are preferring to use foods rich in adequate nutrients (nutraceuticals). The increasing demand for nutraceuticals is propelling its expansion in the global market [3,4]. The term Nutraceutical is coined by Stephen L. DeFelice in 1989, from 'nutrition' and 'pharmaceutical' [5]. Nutraceuticals are described as biologically active compounds possessing disease preventing and health promoting properties.

Nutraceuticals have proven to provide therapeutic benefit with lesser side effects compared to other therapeutic agents [6,7].

Nutraceuticals contain several products such as vitamins, minerals, enzymes, antioxidants, probiotics, etc. Depending upon their functions nutraceuticals are grouped as dietary supplements, medicinal food, functional foods, etc. [8]. More than 470 nutraceuticals and functional foods are being available in market, proven to provide health benefits [9]. Sources of nutraceuticals include animals (polysaccharides), plants (vitamins, phytochemicals), marine sources (chitosan, glucosamine), and microbes (poly amino acids, etc.) [10]. Microalgae are considered as most promising resource for various bioactive compounds [11]. Microalgal metabolites are gaining interest in global nutraceutical market [12]. Health benefits provided by algal nutraceuticals are immunity improvement, maintaining teeth and bone health, brain development, weight loss, cho-

lesterol reduction, maintaining heart health and digestive system, controlling blood pressure, antioxidant property, etc. [13].

Microalgae as Source of Nutraceuticals

Microalgae are rapidly growing photoautotrophic organisms having the ability of synthesizing a variety of bioactive compounds. These are considered as a sustainable resource for nutraceutical due to their higher productivity and ability to grow in arable and non-arable land potentially avoiding competition with agricultural crops. Moreover, microalgae play a key role in reducing atmospheric CO₂ by photosynthesis thus mitigating GHG (greenhouse gas) effect [1]. Bioactive compounds produced by microalgae involves vitamins (A, B1, B2, B6, B9, B12, C, D, E, and H), minerals (sodium, potassium, calcium, zinc, copper, etc.), proteins, omega 6, pigments/carotenoids,

polysaccharides, PUFAs, phenolic compounds and sterols [14]. To meet the increasing demand of nutraceutical production more research is required on the commercial implementation of primary and secondary metabolites of microalgal origin. Only few of the identified microalgal species are studied to evaluate their nutraceutical content. And a very less number of these studied species are being commercially exploited. There is a need for more research in isolating, identifying, and optimizing the growth of locally available microalgae species. Major challenge involves the high cost of production and recovery of desired compounds. To overcome this problem more research is needed in construction of raceway ponds/photobioreactors using cost intensive and eco-friendly materials. Energy efficient and inexpensive harvesting and extraction technique should be developed [14,15] (Figure 1).

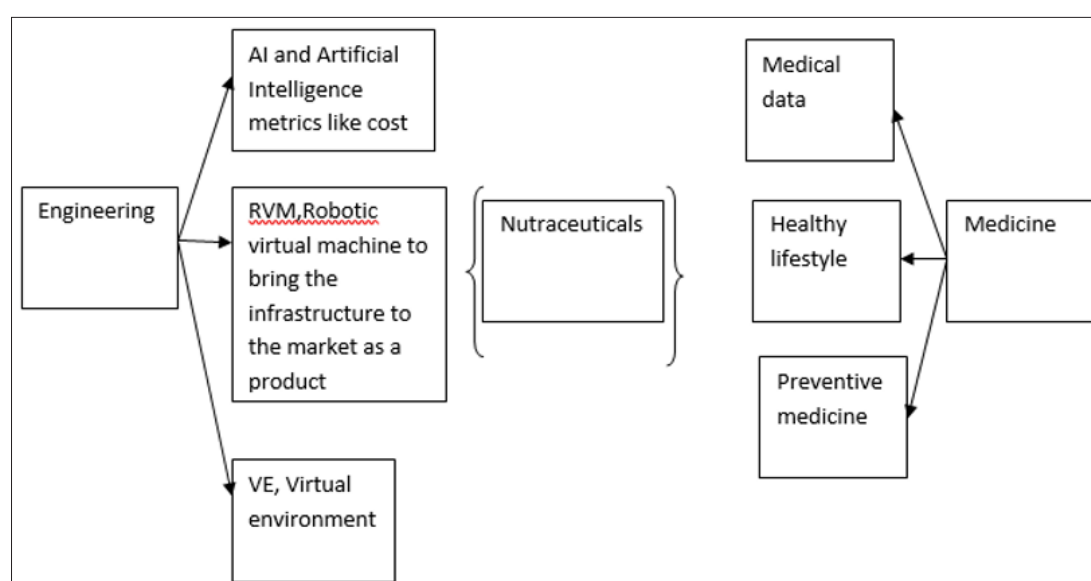


Figure 1: Diagram of relation of healthy lifestyle, preventive medicine and medical data when comes to picture AI, RVM and VE. Let us put the puzzle together for a complete picture as to role of AI in the role of nutraceutical procurement with better AI metrics.

Nutraceutical Values of Different Microalgae

Marcello Nicoletti reported three strains, i.e., Spirulina, Chlorella, and Klamath mostly used for marketed production of nutraceutical products. Dried spirulina used as food supplements consists of 60% of protein, which is superior to the protein derived from plants [16-19]. West M. Bishop and Heidi M. Zubeck in their review explained the nutraceutical utilization and health benefits of Aphanizomenon, Chlorella, Spirulina Dunaliella, and Haematococcus [20]. Chlorella consists of protein (55-67%), dietary fiber (9-18%), and chlorophyll (1-4%), including several vitamins and minerals [21]. Chlorella is known as large producer of lutein, which possess anti-cataract properties and used for treatment of macular degeneration [22]. Besides this Chlorella also possess antitumor [23,24], antioxidant [25], anti-inflammatory [26], and antimicrobial properties [27]. It also decreases cholesterol and blood pressure levels, improves immunity and fastens wound healing [28]. Dunaliella is documented to produce various carotenoids including alpha-carotene, beta-

carotene, lycopene, and lutein [29]. Beta-carotene is an antioxidant which prevents several cancers (cervix, lungs, pancreas, stomach, rectum, colon, ovary, prostate and breast) [30].

Haematococcus is the highest producer of astaxanthin, comprising 1.5-3% of its dry weight [31]. Astaxanthin have 10 times stronger antioxidant property than beta-carotene and it is 1000 times more efficient when compared to vitamin E [32,33]. Besides its antioxidant property it protects human from UV radiation and oxidation of PUFAs, pigmentation, enhances immunity and vision, etc. [34-37]. It is used for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and various central nervous system damages [38,39]. Any negative consequences upon the use of Haematococcus algal extract containing astaxanthin have not been reported [20]. Aphanizomenon contains chlorophyll i.e. 1-2% of the dry weight (which increase bile secretion and stimulates liver functioning) [40], C-Phycocyanin, having anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties. It also possess high hypo cholesterolemic activity

(reduction of triglyceride and blood cholesterol levels) [41,42]. Aphanizomenon is reported to increase the number of natural killer cells which leads to the programmed cell death in cancerous and virus-infected cells [43].

The BCC Research shows that the global nutraceutical market grew to \$46.7 billion in 2002, at an AAGR (Annual Average Growth Rate) of nearly 7%. In 2007 nutraceutical sale is projected to reach \$74.7 billion at an AAGR of 9.9% [44]. The global nutraceuticals market is estimated at about \$151 billion in 2011 and it is estimated to reach nearly \$207 billion by 2016 at Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 6.5% between 2011 and 2016 [1,45]. Jose L Garcia et al. reported Spirulina to be the largest product of microalgal origin in the nutraceutical market with a production rate of 12,000 ton per year. About 70% of spirulina biomass is reported to be produced in India, Taiwan and China. Chlorella production is estimated to be 5000 tons per year. The market volume of other microalgae is followed by *D. salina* (3000 tons), *A. flosaquae* (1500 tons), *H. pluvialis* (700 tons), *C. cohnii* and *Shizochytrium* [46].

Concept of Ai, Virtualization and Virtual Environment in The Field of Medical Data and Preventive Medicine For Better Lifestyle

Time immemorial has iterative methods been success. The outcome being medicine and engineering research that have come a long way together with the evolution of Artificial intelligence, RVM [47] robotic virtual machine and virtual environment. Robotic virtual machine is a software and a software that will help find better medical data This software will replace the hardware and even physical robots as no pieces to lose [48] is the epitome of any qualification. Virtual environment is for robotic virtual machine is the playground to play with different metrics like scalability. The success of virtualization lies in better results of the metrics like scalability, reliability and cost. After the success of virtualization of RVM, microalgae solution is inevitable with the stream of engineering and computers in it. Here replacement of the word computer with RVM and engineering stream along with the playground concept is called virtual environment. The success of microalgae is not independent of microalgae solution. The author of three publications on the newly coined word RVM robotic virtual machine and virtual environment would like to emphasize on the how critical its role in is reinventing the preventive medicine and medical data related to diagnosis and patient outcome result that this study is inclusive with the rest of health lifestyle and healthcare questions in this publication.

The mention of AI (artificial intelligence) is to importance lay down of relationship between the preventive medicine or techniques of treatment and the outcome result of patients. AI has helped analysis of study of the same. Study of concepts like AI, RVM and VE make this paper ever so enthralling that the readers would want for more. So here I go, Healthy lifestyle with its qualification suggest their capability in qualifying for VE.

Conclusion

With the increase in human population the demand for healthy and nutritive food products also increases. Microalgae have proven to be a great source of nutritive food that can meet the growing nutraceuticals demand. Microalgae are being utilized in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, colorant, food, feed, aquaculture, nutraceuticals, etc. Researchers are aiming to search for microalgal strains with enhanced potential to accumulate high valued product. More research should be dedicated towards the development of cost intensive techniques of cultivation, harvesting and extraction. How is it related to its work? Thus, with the concept of the virtual environment the future of nutraceuticals is secure as the metrics are working well. AI has played an important role in analysis of medical data thereby encouraging healthy lifestyle. Thus, it is complementary and not supplementary as the jobs of human doctors would not be taken. The RVM intends to complement the work of human doctors who have been working in the field of preventive medicine and nutraceuticals. Also, it is the purpose of complementing their research and not banishes them.

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