

Editorial

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Dear readers and authors,

Welcome to a new and hopefully fruitful year. I am pleased to bring you the first issue of Pharmacognosy Communications for 2018: volume 8, issue 1. In this issue we present 8 new original research reports examining the pharmacognosy of several important medicinal plants including reports on: a review of both the positive actions and side effects of statins; the anticancer properties of *Uncaria tomentosa* Willd. DC. extracts against Caco2 and HeLa cancer cell lines; a comparison of the anticholinesterase, antioxidant and cytotoxic activities of *Allium cepa* and *Ocimum basilicum* and therefore their potential in drug development for the treatment of Alzheimers Disease; the hepato-protective effects of *Monodora myristica* (Gaertn.), *Chromolaena odorata* (Linn), *Bucchozia coriacea* (Engl.) and *Sphenostylis stenocarpa* (Hochst ex A. Rich) following carbon tetrachloride exposure; the effects of herbal combinations on serum lactate dehydrogenase activity and organ weight in a diabetes mellitus model system; a pharmacognostic comparison of the leaves of *Citrus sinensis* var. *jaffa* and *Citrus paradisi* var. *redblush*; the antioxidant, antihemolytic and anti-inflammatory activities of *Santolina chamaecyparissus* extracts; the antioxidant properties and xanthine oxidase inhibitory activity of the Algerian medicinal plant *Paronychia argentea* L..

Our regular features are also continued in this issue. The Janus Corner continues, with short notifications of interest to readers of Pharmacognosy Communications. I encourage all readers to get involved

with this section by sending in short notifications of work that may be of interest to your fellow readers, book reviews and letters to the editor. Two more high quality medicinal plant images are also included in this issue and a listing of upcoming conferences and meetings is also included. I encourage any conference organisers who would like to publicise their event to contact me with details so they can be included in future upcoming events sections of this journal. I look forward to bringing you the next issue of Pharmacognosy Communications. Keep submitting your quality research manuscripts and reviews and consider becoming involved/submitted to the other sections (such as Janus Corner and the medicinal plant images etc) of the journal also. On behalf of myself and the editorial board, we look forward to bringing you the next issue of Pharmacognosy Communications in 3 months' time.

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