

Instructions for Authors

Pharmacognosy Communications (www.phcogcommn.org) is a new journal published by Pharmacognosy Network Worldwide (www.phcog.net). It is a peer reviewed journal aiming to publish high quality original research articles, methods, techniques and evaluation reports, critical reviews, short communications, commentaries and editorials of all aspects of Pharmacognosy and medicinal plant research. The journal is aimed at a broad readership, publishing articles on all aspects of pharmacognosy, and related fields. The journal aims to increase understanding of pharmacognosy as well as to direct and foster further research through the dissemination of scientific information by the publication of quality manuscripts. The submission of original contributions in all areas of pharmacognosy are welcomed.

The journal aims to report the latest outstanding developments in the field of pharmacognosy and natural products and drug design covering but not limited to the following topics:

- Pharmacognosy and pharmacognostic investigations
- Research based ethnopharmacological evaluations
- Biological evaluation of crude extracts, essential oils and pure isolates
- Natural product discovery and evaluation
- Mechanistic studies
- Method and technique development and evaluation
- Isolation, identification and structural elucidation of natural products
- Synthesis and transformation studies

EDITORIAL POLICY

Manuscripts are accepted with the understanding that the authors have not violated any ethical practice in preparation and publication of their work. The list of practices that are considered unethical are given in the journal website. The author/s is/are responsible for all statements made in their manuscript and should be willing to defend them publicly if challenged. Authors should prepare their manuscripts exactly according to the instructions for authors. Manuscripts which do not follow the format and style of the journal may be returned to the authors for revision or directly rejected. The journal reserves the right to make any further formal changes and language corrections necessary in a manuscript accepted for publication. Manuscripts and figures are not returned to the authors, even if rejection.

DOI: 10.5530/pc.2011.2.15

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

Manuscripts must conform to the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals” (<http://www.icmje.org/>). Manuscripts must be written in English and typewritten (double-spaced) with liberal margins and space at the top and bottom of the page. Submission of manuscripts by the online manuscript management system only is encouraged.

COVERING LETTER

Disclose all possible conflicts of interest (e.g. funding sources for consultancies or studies of products). Full contact details with postal address(es), phone numbers (mobile and landline) and email address(es) of the corresponding author must be supplied. The importance of the paper may be briefly indicated. A list of potential reviewers (not exceeding 5), who should not be from the country of origin of authors, with their contact details may be included. The suggested reviewers must be working in the same area dealt with in the manuscript. Whether their services of the suggested reviewers is used is the discretion of the chief editor.

COPYRIGHT FORM

All manuscripts are considered to be the property of Pharmacognosy Network from the time of submission. If Pharmacognosy Communications do not publish the manuscript, it releases its rights therein at the time the manuscript is rejected following the editorial/peer review, or when retracted by the authors. Manuscripts published in Pharmacognosy Communications become the sole property of the Pharmacognosy Network. The corresponding author, on behalf of all authors, signs a copyright transfer form at the time of submission of the manuscript. The copyright Form can be downloaded from the website.

PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPT

The manuscript should be typed, double-spaced on standard-sized paper (8.5” × 11”) with 1” margins on all sides. Times New Roman font 12 pt should be used. The fonts used in the text as well as graphics should be restricted to Times New Roman, Symbol and Zapf Dingbats.

Title : Should be in Title Case; The first character in each word in the title must be capitalized.

A research paper typically should include the following in the order given below:

ABSTRACT

Should be structured and limited to 250 words. A brief summary of the research should be given under the subheadings Introduction, Methods, Results, and Conclusions.

KEYWORDS

No more than six keywords are needed. Words appearing in the title should not be given as keywords. It is desirable to include alternative words, if any under keywords e.g. the word 'epinephrine'. They should be written left aligned, arranged alphabetically in 12pt Times Roman, and the line must begin with the words Keywords boldfaced. A 12pt space should separate the keywords from the affiliations.

INTRODUCTION

Description of the research area, pertinent background information, and the hypotheses tested in the study should be included under this section. The introduction should provide sufficient background information such that a scientifically literate reader can understand and appreciate the work to be described. A detailed review of literature is not required. The specific aims of the project should be identified along with rationale for the specific experiments and other work performed. The introduction MUST include in-text citations including a few references pertinent to the background and justification for the study.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials and/or subjects utilized in the study, as well as the procedures undertaken to complete the work should be included in this section. The methods should be described in sufficient detail such that they could be repeated by a competent researcher. The sources of all major instruments and reagents used (kits, drugs, etc) must be given with parentheses. Illustrations and/or tables may be helpful in describing complex equipment or elaborate procedures. Statistical tools used to analyze the data should be mentioned. All procedures involving experimental animals or human subjects must accompany a statement on ethical approval from appropriate ethics committee.

RESULTS

Data acquired from the research with appropriate statistical analysis described in the methods section should be included

in this section. The results section should highlight the important results obtained. Data should be organized into figures and tables. Qualitative as well as quantitative results may be included if applicable.

DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION

This section should relate the results section to current understanding of the scientific problems being investigated in the field. Description of relevant references to other work/s in the field should be included here. This section also allows the author to discuss the significance of the results - i.e. does the data support the hypotheses you set out to test? This section should end with new answers/questions that arise as a result of the author's work.

TABLES AND FIGURES

Tables

Tables should be numbered with Roman numerals according to their sequence in the text, and have a short self-explanatory heading. Use SI units. Tables should not include vertical rules, although horizontal rules should separate column headings from the content. Authors should keep in mind the page layout of the journal when designing tables. Tables that fit onto one printed page are preferred. Detailed explanations of symbols, units, and abbreviations should be given below the table.

Illustrations

Figures for final production should be submitted as electronic files with attention to the guidelines below. The editorial office cannot undertake preparation of manuscripts and illustrations not conforming to journal style. Manuscripts of insufficient quality will be returned immediately without refereeing. A high standard of illustration (both line and photo) is an editorial priority. All illustrations should be prepared for printing to fit 80 × 240 mm (column width) or 169 mm by up to 240 mm (full page) size. The authors should keep in mind that the full-page length is not used and the caption will be placed underneath the figure. In the event that full-page length is necessary for plates, captions will have to appear on adjacent pages. Figure(s) must be numbered consecutively in the text. Compound figures with more than one micrograph or photo should be referred by a single figure reference (e.g. Figure 1), and individual parts should be labeled with capitalized letters in the lower left-hand corner. Lettering should be of a sans-serif type (i.e. fonts without serifs such as Arial) with a minimum published size of 4.2 mm (12 pt). Descriptive labeling in the figures should be clearly readable, and all lettering should have a minimum published size of 6 pt (2.1 mm) for labeling items on photographs or in line art is recommended and a maximum size of 10 pt is suggested.

Use a scale bar to indicate magnifications and place in the lower right corner if possible. Computer prepared photographic images must be at a minimum of 350 dpi at the final publication size. These should be submitted as JPEG or TIFF, but encapsulated postscript (EPS) format is also acceptable. Computer drawn figures are accepted provided they are of high quality. Please note that graphs produced by many statistical packages are rarely adequate. In particular, letter quality on axes and captions are often poor. Such figures should be exported into an accepted graphics package and lettering rendered using a text function. Authors should note that .dot, .bmp, and .pat fills should be avoided. Do not use postscript fill patterns. When filling illustrations, use fills such as lines, tints or solids. Line width minimum is 0.25 pt (0.09 mm). Also avoid the use of bitmap scans to render text and detail. Text should be saved as text at a minimum text size of 6 pt (2.1 mm). Submit line art as Corel Draw, Adobe Illustrator, or EPS files. These must be at a minimum resolution of 800 DPI at publication size. High resolution may be necessary where fine line detail is present. For graphs, Excel graphs are also acceptable. Note that vertical axes must all be at the same scale especially when the paper compares them. Otherwise they should be produced as separate figures. Avoid 3D plots when presenting 2D data. All tables and figures must be placed in appropriate places in the manuscript and when this is not possible, appropriate place must be indicated in the manuscript. Please note, good quality figures must be submitted as separate files as outlined above, apart from presenting a copy of the same at appropriate places in the manuscript.

Figures, tables or other materials copied verbatim or adopted from previously published materials, the author must have written permission from the the copyright holder of that material (publisher and/or authors) for reproduction in your article. A copy of the permission release must be submitted with the manuscript. It is the author's responsibility to obtain permission.

Table and Figure captions

Figure captions/legends should be single spaced and typed in the journal format. Explanations should be brief and authors should keep in mind that captions/legends will be placed below figures. Tables are to be incorporated at the end of Manuscript.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Those who have helped the authors carry out the study and/or prepare the manuscript but have not made significant intellectual contribution to deserve authorship must be acknowledged. Mention all applicable grants and other funding that supported the work.

REFERENCES

In-text citation

Correct/Acceptable Format

Natural products have proven to be a great source of new biologically active compounds. Thus, in an effort to discover new lead anti-malarial compounds, several research groups screen plant extracts to detect secondary metabolites with relevant biological activities that could serve as templates for the development of new drugs. Flavonoids have been isolated and characterized from many medicinal plants used in malaria endemic areas.^[1-2] However, controversial data have been obtained regarding their antiplasmodial activity, probably because of their structural diversity.^[3,5,6] More recently, several flavonoids have been isolated from *Artemisia afra*^[7] and *Artemisia indica*^[8] two plants related to *Artemisia annua*, the famous traditional Chinese medicinal plant from which artemisinin is isolated.

REFERENCE STYLE

Journal References

1. Standard journal article

Single/Multiple Authors:

List the first six authors followed by et al. (Note: NLM now lists all authors.)

Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. *N Engl J Med.* 2002 Jul 25; 347(4):284-7.

As an option, if a journal carries continuous pagination throughout a volume (as many medical journals do) the month and issue number may be omitted.

Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. *N Engl J Med.* 2002; 347:284-7.

More than six authors:

Rose ME, Huerbin MB, Melick J, Marion DW, Palmer AM, Schiding JK, et al. Regulation of interstitial excitatory amino acid concentrations after cortical contusion injury. *Brain Res.* 2002; 935(1-2):40-6.

Organization as author:

Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group. Hypertension, insulin, and proinsulin in participants with impaired glucose tolerance. *Hypertension.* 2002; 40(5):679-86.

Both personal authors and an organization as author.

Vallancien G, Emberton M, Harving N, van Moorselaar RJ; Alf-One Study Group. Sexual dysfunction in 1,274 European men suffering from lower urinary tract symptoms. *J Urol.* 2003; 169(6):2257-61.

2. Journal article on the Internet

Saraswathy A, Shakila R, Sunilkumar KN; Phcog.Net. HPTLC Fingerprint Profile Of Some Cinnamomum Species — Pharmacognosy Journal [Phcog J]. Pharmacognosy Journal. 2010 April; 2(8):211-215. Available from: <http://phcogj.com/content/hptlc-fingerprint-profile-some-cinnamomum-species>.

Hussain A, Mohammed S, Rizvi A, Wahab S; Phcog. Net. Pharmacognostical Standardization of Stem Bark of Adenanthera pavonina L. Pharmacognosy Journal. 2010 April; 2(8):240-246. Available from: <http://phcogj.com/content/pharmacognostical-standardization-stem-bark-ad...>

Aboud S. Quality improvement initiative in nursing homes: the ANA acts in an advisory role. American Journal of Nursery [serial on the Internet]. 2002 June [cited 2002 Aug 12]; 102(6): [about 3 p.]. Available from: <http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htm>

3. Book author(s)

Murray PR, Rosenthal KS, Kobayashi GS, Pfaller MA. Medical microbiology. 4th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2002.

4. Editor(s), compiler(s) as author

Gilstrap LC 3rd, Cunningham FG, VanDorsten JP, Editors. Operative obstetrics. 2nd Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002.

5. Author(s) and editor(s)

Breedlove GK, Schorfheide AM. Adolescent pregnancy. 2nd Ed. Wiczorek RR, Editor. White Plains (NY): March of Dimes Education Services; 2001.

6. Organization(s) as author

Royal Adelaide Hospital; University of Adelaide, Department of Clinical Nursing. Compendium of nursing research and practice development, 1999-2000. Adelaide (Australia): Adelaide University; 2001.

7. Chapter in a book

Meltzer PS, Kallioniemi A, Trent JM. Chromosome alterations in human solid tumors. In: Vogelstein B, Kinzler

KW, Editors. The genetic basis of human cancer. New York: McGraw-Hill, p. 93-113; 2002.

8. Conference proceedings

Harnden P, Joffe JK, Jones WG, Editors. Germ cell tumours V. Proceedings of the 5th Germ Cell Tumour Conference; 2001 Sep 13-15; Leeds, UK. New York: Springer; 2002.

9. Thesis

Senol FS. Pharmacognosic research on some Salvia species growing in Turkey. M.Sc. Thesis, Institute of Health Sciences, Gazi University, Ankara, Turkey, 2009.

10. Websites

Website information

Cancer-Pain.org [homepage on the Internet]. New York: Association of Cancer Online Resources, Inc.; c2000-01 [updated 2002 May 16; cited 2002 Jul 9]. Available from: <http://www.cancer-pain.org/>.

Manuscript Submission

Manuscripts may be submitted electronically through the online submission at the journals web site (<http://phcogcommn.org/home>). Alternately, manuscripts may be submitted by email - submissions@phcogcommn.org. All submissions are peer reviewed by the editorial board and a select group of reviewers. Please make sure that all guidelines are followed carefully. All the accepted articles will be queued for publication and will appear in the futures issues based on the priorities set by the editorial board.

CONTACTS

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Ian Cock
editor@phcogcommn.org

Phcog.Net

mueen.ahmed@phcog.net