

Editorial

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Dear readers and authors,



I am pleased to bring you volume 4, issue 4 of Pharmacognosy Communications. In this issue we present 7 original research reports examining the pharmacognosy of several important medicinal plants including a pharmacognostic and phyto-

chemical study of *Macrotyloma uniflorum*, a phytochemical screening of *Chromolaena odorata* (Siam weed) and an investigation of its effects on the central nervous system, antimicrobial and toxicity studies on 2 species of Australian *Syzygium* and antimicrobial and phytochemical studies on *Tasmannia lanceolata* (Tasmanian pepper). This issue also features a study assessing the antimicrobial effects of probiotic bacteria isolated from several Indian foods against a panel of pathogenic bacteria, and a study to determine the optimum fermentation conditions of the mushroom *Ganoderma lucidum* to improve its antioxidant and antimicrobial content. For the first time, Pharmacognosy Communications also includes a study into improvements in pharmacognosy and pharmacology education. This report

outlines a case study to highlight improved educational outcomes by using virtual laboratories.

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/submitting to the other sections (such as the Dept Review, Janus Corner 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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