

Editorial

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Dear readers and authors,

With this issue, Pharmacognosy Communications has completed 4 years of publication and we enter into our fifth year. Our manuscript submission numbers continue to increase with every issue and we aim to continue to publish interesting, well written articles of high quality. I request that authors only submit manuscripts that have been thoroughly checked for grammar, syntax and spelling. We also aim to ensure that Pharmacognosy Communications is a highly cited and respected journal in the field of pharmacognosy and medicinal plant research. If a previously published Pharmacognosy Communications article illustrates a point in your manuscript, then we request that you consider citing it instead of, or in addition to alternative citations from other sources.

In this issue we present a mixture of regular papers as well as several publications from the recent Congress of the International Society for Ethnopharmacology held in Petra, Jordan in May 2015. We feature original research reports examining the coumarin components of the Tunisian plant *Pituranthus chloranthus*, the antioxidant content of aqueous *Crataegus oxyacantha* leaf extracts, the effects of *Citrullus colocynthis* and *Acacia radiana* on calcium phosphate crystallization, antimicrobial activity of *Galium* spp., the antipsychotic activity of *Maytenus macrocarpa* bark extract, the sedative effects of *Asperula odorata*, as well as an examination of Lebanese wild harvested *Ziziphora canescens* bioactivities. The effects of bee pollen on rat intestinal morphology and the effects of isolated phytochemicals (1,8-cineole, 1-heptanol, α -pinene, cis-3-hexen-1-ol and trans-2-hexenal) on neurotransmission and contraction of mouse and rat vas deferens are also reported.

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.

Dr. Ian Edwin Cock
Editor-in-Chief

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