

Editorial

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Editor-In-Chief

Dear readers and authors,

I am pleased to bring you volume 6, issue 2 of Pharmacognosy Communications. Our regular readers may have noticed a few changes to the format of our recent publications. These changes are to address the latest trends in how readers gather information as most readers now access publications via the internet. Searching nowadays generally involves inputting keywords into search engines such as Google scholar, rather than having to laboriously search through the tables of contents of the journals which we deem relevant to our fields. With the explosion of information available via the internet, the publishing and editorial teams at Pharmacognosy Communications have decided to add some changes to improve the presentation of each manuscript, thus allowing the reader to quickly gauge its relevance to them, thereby increasing the publications exposure. To this extent, Pharmacognosy Communications now includes 'Graphical Abstracts' which allow authors to provide potential readers with a quick understanding of the importance and relevance of the study, facilitating rapid selection of those relevant to their own research fields. We encourage authors to provide good quality Graphical Abstracts which summarise the contents of the paper in a concise visual format. Ideally, the Graphical Abstract will also be visually interesting as well as informative to capture the attention of the readership and thus increase the exposure (and therefore the future citation) of your valuable research.

For the same reasons, we are now also including a concise 'Research Highlights' section with each manuscript.

This is a short section containing 4-6 dot points that summarise the core findings of the study. This also provides another way for readers to quickly decide whether to read a manuscript. As well as these new methods of summarising your findings, Pharmacognosy Communications is now also providing the opportunity for authors to include an author profile, with or without accompanying photographs of the authors. This is by no means compulsory. It is the author's decision whether or not they choose to include a profile of 1, some, or all authors. However, the editorial team believes that this is a further positive measure and hope that it will further increase your exposure in the scientific community and thus the exposure of your research. We ask all authors to give these new initiatives some consideration. You can either submit them with your manuscript, or alternatively, the publication team will request them at the accepted galley proofing stage. So we suggest that you plan accordingly and have quality, visually appealing material ready.

In this issue we present 8 new original research reports examining the pharmacognosy of several important medicinal plants including reports on: the antimicrobial activity of a panel of plants native to temperate regions of Australia; the modulation of advanced glycation end products in a diabetes model system by *Cucurbita pepo*; an examination of the analgesic, antipyretic and anti-inflammatory effects of a methanolic *Macrothelypteris torresiana* extract; the physiological effects of *Maytenus macrocarpa* and propranolol; the the growth inhibitory activity of extracts prepared from several Indian *Terminalia* spp. against the a bacterium associated with streptococcal pharyngitis, impetigo and rheumatic heart disease; a toxicological evaluation of *Moringa olifera* methanolic extracts; and the ability of *Syzygium australe* and *Syzygium luehmannii* to inhibit *Clostridium perfringens* growth and thus block Clostridial myonecrosis and enteritis necroticans.

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. I would also like to acknowledge and thank Dr Mitchell Wright of Griffith University, Australia for providing the artwork for the new and improved Janus Corner banner. Two more high quality medicinal plant images are also included in this issue and a listing of upcoming conferences and meetings is also included in this issue. 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.