

Editorial Article

Setting up Pioneering Research in Medicinal Plant: A Multidisciplinary Approach

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We live in an era which necessitates integration between different branches of sciences to tackle human health problems. This is highlighted with current major problems associated with the fast growing incidence of diseases such as cancers, Alzheimers/Dementia, not forgetting the global problem of resistance to antibiotics. Thus multidisciplinary teams of scientists including physicians, pharmacologists, biologists and chemists should work alongside the pharmaceutical industry to develop novel treatments or approaches in treating human diseases. With an increase in drug resistance and side effects associated with current medications more and more scientists are convinced that natural plants should be the focus of our effort in designing and identifying novel treatments. It is therefore not surprising that the World Health Organization (WHO) has published new guidelines on the development of medicinal plants/traditional medicine [1]. This has allowed scientists to focus on standardizing the active ingredients extracted from the plants and has encouraged pharmacologists to investigate their mechanism of actions in biological models. There is growing evidence that medicinal plants are a very good source of antioxidants and they can induce anti-microbial, anti-cancer, anti-diabetes effects as well as neuro-and immune-protective, anti-inflammatory and preventive effects [2-9]. Attention to medicinal plants has also increased the impact of journals publishing data on the effects of plants/extracts in a variety of pharmacological and biological models.

In this journal attempts are made to ensure the publication of high standard peer-reviewed articles which would be useful for a broad spectrum guidance in healthcare, academia and industry. Indeed, discovery of the medicinal properties of plants is the main focus of this journal which would hopefully encourage further collaboration with other colleagues in other areas.

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