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- To foster multi-disciplinary research and collaboration among pharmaceutical scientists, practicing pharmacists, pharmaceutical industries and the healthcare sector, as well as provide an international forum for the communication and evaluation of data, methods and opinions in pharmacy practice and related disciplines.
- To promote pharmacy practice research for the advancement of the pharmacy profession.
- To enhance the competencies of practicing pharmacists.

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#### Books

1. Cole MD, Caddy B. (1995). *The Analysis of Drugs of Abuse: An instruction manual*, 2nd edn. New York: Ellis Norwood.
2. Sanders PA. (1979). Aerosol packaging of pharmaceutical. In: Banker GS, Rhodes CT, (Eds.), *Modern Pharmaceutics*. New York: Marcel Dekker, pp. 591-626.

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1. Consumers' Association. Patient information: what is the prognosis? Policy report 2003. **Available at:**  
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## EDITORIAL

The goal of the West African Journal of Pharmacy (WAJP) is to publish research findings in pharmacy practice, pharmaceutical sciences, and health research. Furthermore, the journal seeks to foster multi-disciplinary research and collaboration amongst pharmaceutical scientists, practicing pharmacists, pharmaceutical industry, and the healthcare sector in general.

The scourge of Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) with the attending economic, clinical, and humanistic outcomes continues to be a subject of importance the world over. In this issue, **SULEIMAN** *et al* present a detailed review of the epidemiology of antimicrobial resistance in developing countries. The reviewers posit that understanding the epidemiology of the commonly encountered bacterial isolates and their respective susceptibility/resistance patterns is highly essential in supply chain decision-making, patient management, and policy formulation.

It is a well-documented evidence-based phenomenon that engaging in lifestyle modification activities can help in improving the health of the populace. **AKANDE-SHOLABI** *et al*, carried out a study to examine the therapeutic lifestyle strategies taught in Nigerian pharmacy schools. The authors reveal in a short communication, among other findings, that all the schools that participated in the survey taught at least one (1) of the ten specified lifestyle strategies.

Irrational use of antibiotics is a health concern of global proportion, and pharmacists as healthcare practitioners have a professional obligation in addressing this issue. **OKUNLOLA** *et al* carried out a study to assess the knowledge and level of involvement of community pharmacists regarding rational use of antibiotics in the Jos metropolis, Nigeria. The results show that community pharmacists' knowledge of rational antibiotic use was poor, and that years of experience and location of premise were significantly associated with pharmacists' level of knowledge.

Drug Evaluation Use (DUE) studies have documented cases of drug interactions resulting from multidrug prescribing. Many of these studies, however, are designed to address drug use in the adult population. **GANIYU** *et al* carried out an assessment of drug prescribing of physicians and potential drug-drug interactions at the paediatric unit of a secondary healthcare institution in the Niger Delta area of Nigeria. They report that a total of 160 (70.5%) of the 227 prescriptions accessed contained at least one (1) potential drug-drug interaction (pDDI).

Studies on the prescribing pattern of physicians are often conducted to generate important data in drug utilization. **OLUFOHUNSI** *et al* in a survey on antibiotic prescribing pattern of physicians at the general outpatient pharmacy of a tertiary hospital, South-West Nigeria discovered, among other findings, that one thousand four hundred and sixteen (1,416), representing 11.2% of antibiotic encounters, were recorded out of a total of 12,619 prescriptions.

Calabash chalk, which is consumed in many parts of the world for various reasons has been associated with several potentially harmful substances. **OKWUOFU** *et al* evaluated the effect of calabash chalk diet on the neurobehavioral indices, and on histomorphological changes in mice. The researchers conclude that chronic consumption of the diet produced features characteristic of depression, cognitive dysfunction, and hepatic damage in mice.

Heavy metals are known to constitute a health risk to consumers since they accumulate in the body when ingested and are stored faster than they are broken down. **ADEJUMO** *et al* carried out an evaluation of heavy metal contamination and toxicological risk of selected *Moringa oleifera* products in South-West Nigeria. Based on present safety and permissible standards, the authors report that the *Moringa* products selected for the present study were found to be safe for human consumption.

**IBRAHIM** *et al* carried out a study aimed at addressing the drawbacks reported by the existing HPLC methods for the determination of metformin in plasma. The researchers came up with a new RP-HPLC method for metformin determination that was found to be simple, precise, and accurate.

Artificial ripening of fruits is a growing health concern in the country due to the attendant deleterious health consequences. Fruits contain considerable amounts of nutrients, whose quantity and/or quality may be compromised as a result of artificial ripening. **IGBINADUWA** *et al* report the effect of calcium carbide-induced ripening on the vitamin C and mineral composition of banana and papaya fruits sourced from a market in Benin, South-West Nigeria. The researchers discovered that the vitamin C and the mineral content in the calcium carbide ripened fruits were lower than those of the naturally ripened fruits.

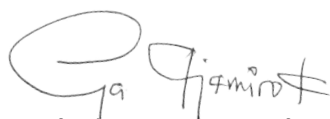
In yet another study by **OKWUOFU** *et al*, the researchers sought to investigate the role of  $K_{ATP}$  inhibitor and activator on the antidepressant activity of creatinine in mice. They conclude that the antidepressant effect of creatinine is mediated by the inhibition of  $K_{ATP}$  channel.

Consumers who take tea as a beverage take it for different purposes. Some recent reports of abuse and toxicity resulting from caffeine, a psychoactive stimulant derived from various products including tea have been documented. **ADEJUMO** *et al* carried out a study aimed at determining the caffeine content in green, herbal, and black tea samples sourced from different supermarkets in southwest Nigeria. Their findings reveal caffeine contents that meet regulatory specifications, a positive implication for public health.

Also in this edition, you will find the conference abstracts for the 34th Annual General Meeting and Scientific Symposium of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists with the theme "Medicine security in the West African Region: Matters Arising", to be held in Lagos, Nigeria from Monday 16th to Thursday 19th May 2022. The results of the Fellowship examination (2021) of the College are also published in this edition.

Finally, I have the pleasure of informing all our readers and esteemed researchers that the website of the College has been upgraded and is up and running. You will now be able to submit and monitor the progress of submitted papers with a click of the button. Also, as earlier reported, articles in the journal will soon gain wider readership due to indexing on the African Journals Online (AJOL).

It is indeed a new dawn at the WAJP!!



**Dr. Olugbenga Fajemirokun**, FPC Pharm.,  
Editor-In-Chief.