

## Editorial

### A new approach to research in pharmacy practice

Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacy Practice are closely related healthcare disciplines of the same field of study, which scientifically discuss the rational use of drugs for improving the quality of life. The profession of Pharmacy is classically practiced in the three main areas of Pharmacy Practice: community, clinical, and hospital. It is now generally accepted that the clinic for a pharmacy practitioner is not confined to the hospital wards. Every place (even a community pharmacy) where medication is used for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of any clinical condition, that is considered to be the interface of pharmacist and patient, should be recognized as the pharmacist's clinic. These fields are all directly focused on important issues of patient care and safety. Gradual evolution of the role of a pharmacist, from a drug-oriented to a patient-oriented responsibility, needs the outspread of health system related teaching and educating materials and easy accessible evidence-based research media. Even in the present digital era, peer-reviewed journals still have a pivotal role for the correct delivery of pure knowledge and science for the healthcare professional.

In contrast to the availability of much medical media for medical practitioners and also numerous journal items for the basic and laboratory-based pharmaceutical research, there are still quite a limited number of available peer-reviewed journals that cover the professional aspects of Pharmacy. This limitation increases the unacceptable gap between the scientific aspects of the profession, to what is practically done in the three aforementioned main areas of Pharmacy Practice.

For many years, the *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy* has been considered as the leading communication medium for the clinical pharmacy practitioners in the US, Canada, and certain other areas. However, there is a problem with the trans-

cultural differences between the nature and frequency of issues which pharmacy practitioners are confronted with in other parts of the world.

*Annals of Pharmacotherapy* and also *Pharmacotherapy* are more or less read by the same audience, but they are more clinically oriented and only really useful for clinical pharmacy and pharmacotherapy specialists. *Journal of Pharmacy Practice*, *Pharmacy Practice*, *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*, and *International Journal of Pharmacy Practice* (formerly: *Pharmacy World and Science*) are amongst the successful instances for filling the above-mentioned gap. However, there are still too many health-related drug studies and researches, especially from different cultures and populations, which suffer from priority and space limitations of these well-established journals. Impact factor game and the accumulation of manuscripts sent to the few high impact factor peer-reviewed Pharmacy Practice journals are other serious barriers for the researchers of all Pharmacy Practice professional fields and necessitate the introduction of new relevant journals.

On behalf of the international editorial board members of the *Journal of Research in Pharmacy Practice* (JRPP), I am pleased to announce the launching of the first issue of this quarterly which is an open-access international peer-reviewed research journal. It is designed to cover and extend the capacity of high-quality scientific publication for pure and practical research articles of all drug-related medical and patient-care oriented pharmacy practice fields. We welcome submissions which discuss practical problems in the field of drug utilization both in medicine and pharmacy practice, especially with a global approach. We encourage content that could help our international readers to promote pharmaceutical care and ensure patients' safety. Reflecting the preference of our readership, JRPP does not publish drug-related animal studies or laboratory-based research papers.

The main focus of JRPP will be on evidence-based drug-related human research. However, a wide range of closely related issues will also be covered in a new approach to have a holistic look at Pharmacy Practice. These will include Pharmaceutical Care,

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Pharmacoepidemiology, Social Pharmacy, Pharmacy Education, Process and Outcome Research, Pharmacy Administration, Pharmacoeconomics, Health Promotion and Education, Health Informatics, as well as Poisonings and Clinical Toxicology. JRPP will act as a medium for the exchange of knowledge and scientific experiences for the researchers and practitioners of the aforementioned fields. It considers for publication original drug-related research papers, clinical trials, systematic qualitative and quantitative reviews, brief communications, rare case reports, letters to the editor, news notes, and invited editorials covering issues of modern drug utilization research and practice. The journal considers the principles and regulations of the Committee on Publication Ethics.

All editorial board members of JRPP are independent academic professors and professionals who aim to be loyal to the generally accepted principles of not-for-profit publication and academic independence. Initiating a new journal has its own practical difficulties and intricacies, but the higher goal behind it, for the fulfillment of a scientific need and the professional commitment of the specialists of the field for promoting the evidence-based science and practice, makes its hardship sweet and pleasant. Hence, we trust in God.

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