**DESCRIPTION**

*Phytomedicine Plus* is a companion title to the well-established and respected journal *Phytomedicine*. It is an open access, quarterly, international, complimentary and integrative medicine journal.

*Phytomedicine Plus* has a broader scope than *Phytomedicine* and considers articles on all aspects of pharmacognosy, traditional herbal medicine, rational phytotherapy as well as complimentary and integrative medicine. The main aims of *Phytomedicine Plus* are associated with the integration of phytopreparations into conventional/official medicine.

Topics included, but not restricted to, are: Pharmacological studies on isolated natural products, medicinal herbs, plant extracts and herbal mixtures (including pharmacological mode of action analyses, systems biology and network pharmacology) Preclinical safety and toxicity studies (including drug-herb interactions, herbal drug contaminations and adulterations) Phytochemistry (including bio-guided screening, extraction, separation, purification, and structure elucidation of natural products) Phytochemical analytical methods (development, validation and application) Botanical identification, standardization, quality control studies and biomarker evaluation Plant biotechnology related to medicinal herbs Plant biochemistry and plant molecular biology related to medicinal herbs Biopharmacy and pharmaceutical technology related to natural products and medicinal herbs (including formulation, delivery systems and nanotechnology, antibody-natural product conjugates etc.) Pharmacokinetic studies Retrospective and prospective clinical trials, observational studies and case reports Prevention and intervention studies Studies on ethnomedicine and ethnomedicine Traditional medicine (including terrestrial and marine plants, fungi, and algae) Rational approaches of complementary medicine Integrative medicine Nutritional, agricultural and horticultural products with defined health claim Legislative and regulatory affairs Systematic reviews

*Phytomedicine Plus* aims to publish high quality papers. Therefore, manuscript will be desk-rejected that: Do not contain positive control experiments Contain phytochemically non-sufficiently characterized extracts of herbs and herbal mixtures (chemoprofile by HPLC, GC, NMR etc.; quantitation of markers). Report only on trivial bioactivities (e.g. antioxidant activity) Report on in vivo activities with not more than one applied drug dose

*Phytomedicine Plus* favors herbal medicinal products with evidence-based therapeutic efficacy, but not dietary supplements and nutraceuticals.
The journal covers the following sections: Behavioral, mental, affective, and stress-associated disorders Age-associated disorders Neuropharmacology Endocrine pharmacology Metabolic syndrome and obesity Cancer Immunopharmacology, inflammation Infectious diseases Pulmonary, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular and urogenital diseases Pharmacological mode-of-action analyses Systems biology and network pharmacology Preclinical safety and toxicology assessment Pharmacokinetics of natural compounds Clinical pharmacology and toxicology (randomized, placebo controlled, double blind, and observational open label studies) Biotechnology, plant biochemistry and molecular biology Identification, standardization and quality control of herbal preparations Legislation of botanicals and regulatory affairs Biopharmacy and Technology with natural products and herbs Invited systematic reviews

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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INTRODUCTION

Scope
Phytomedicine Plus favors herbal medicinal products with evidence-based therapeutic efficacy, but not dietary supplements and nutraceuticals.

The journal covers the following sections: Behavioral, mental, affective, and stress-associated disorders Age-associated disorders Neuropharmacology Endocrine pharmacology Metabolic syndrome and obesity Cancer Immunopharmacology, inflammation Infectious diseases Pulmonary, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular and urogenital diseases Pharmacological mode-of-action analyses Systems biology and network pharmacology Preclinical safety and toxicology assessment Pharmacokinetics of natural compounds Clinical pharmacology and toxicology (randomized, placebo controlled, double blind, and observational open label studies) Biotechnology, plant biochemistry and molecular biology Identification, standardization and quality control of herbal preparations Legislation of botanicals and regulatory affairs Biopharmacy and Technology with natural products and herbs Invited systematic reviews

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**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

**Article requirements**

Please note the following requirements for consideration of an article, upon submitting your manuscript:

Is your article within the scope of Phytomedicine Plus?

Your article must meet the scope of Phytomedicine Plus (please see above). **Articles that are not in the scope, will be rejected immediately!** Articles on the isolation and structure elucidation of novel bioactive compounds or the development of new analytical methods do not fall into the scope of Phytomedicine Plus. However, pharmacological and clinical studies of novel natural products, where new compounds or methods of analysis of active of pharmaceutical ingredients in herbal preparations and biological fluids and tissues are reported (e.g. in pharmacokinetic studies), are welcome. Dietary Supplements, "Botanicals" or "Functional Food" are not within the scope of Phytomedicine Plus unless they are specified/standardized and pharmacologically investigated analogues to herbal drugs and if the evidence presented is comparable to therapeutic outcomes with a positive control. Studies on pure compounds are not accepted if their origin is not clearly related to the plant kingdom. Pharmacological studies of isolated compounds in various forms (salts, ethers, etc.), which do not exist in nature are out of scope of Phytomedicine Plus. Screening results of a large number of plant extracts or plant constituents for pharmacological activities will not be considered unless they are focused on those plants or constituents which show superior activities in comparison with generally accepted positive (reference) compounds. Does your article comply with the standard requirements of Phytomedicine Plus?

Your article must meet the criteria assuring reproducible quality and efficacy of herbal preparations. Plant name and herbal substance Latin binomial name and the author, local name and English name and plant part(s) used must by specified for all plants used in the study. It should be stated that the plant name has been checked with http://www.theplantlist.org. The authentication of fresh plants or dried herbal drugs, including those of formulas, must be carried out by means of macroscopic and/or microscopic, molecular biological, chemical, chromatographic and/or other suitable pharmacognostic methods. Voucher specimens of plant materials used for all studies must be deposited and identified with a voucher number, the date and location of collection. The plant material may derive from natural origin, from cultivated plants, or from an herbal drug market. In case of commercially procured material the source, batch number, and quality control data should be specified. All scientific names of the plants must be written in italics through the whole manuscript! Herbal medicinal products and herbal extracts Herbal medicinal products or herbal preparations must be declared in accordance to EMA guidelines. In particular, herbal extracts must be clearly and comprehensively described with respect to the plant part used, the drug extract ratio, type and concentration of extraction solvent, extraction conditions etc. They must be sufficiently characterized (e.g. by HPLC fingerprints) and specified for the content of marker compounds to ensure a consistent quality and reproducible pharmacological activity. The choice of marker must be justified. The analytical methods have to be validated for selectivity, accuracy and precision and briefly described, providing the most important information necessary to obtain reproducible results. Traditional and commercial names of herbal preparations should be mentioned in the Introduction of the manuscript, but not in the title. Phytomedicine Plus accepts only international standard terminology - binomial Latin names of the plants and their combinations.

**Herbal combinations**

**Herbal combinations** Studies with herbal drug combinations (e.g. 2-5 plants) will be accepted only if each herbal drug undergo the same authentication and standardization process as described above, each single herbal extract is HPLC fingerprinted and relevant marker constituents are quantified before and after the extracts are mixed. Authors must clearly demonstrate which analytical marker specifically indicates the presence each of herbal ingredients in the combination. Additionally, we encourage the use other relevant and validated physiological, biological, or biochemical methods, which ensure reproducible pharmacological activity of multi-herbal drug combinations.
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