Phytomedicine is primarily a therapy-oriented Journal. Phytomedicine publishes innovative studies on efficacy, safety, quality and mechanisms of action of specified plant extracts, phytopharmaceuticals and their isolated constituents. This includes clinical, pharmacological, pharmacokinetic, and toxicological studies of specified herbal medicinal products, herbal preparations and purified compounds which have a defined and consistent quality assuring reproducible pharmacological activity.

Phytomedicine was founded in 1994 to focus and stimulate research in this particular field and to set internationally accepted scientific standards for pharmacological studies, proof of clinical efficacy and safety of phytomedicines.

The main aims of Phytomedicine are associated with the integration of phytopreparations into conventional/official medicine.

The journal covers the following sections:
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- Pulmonary, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular and urogenital diseases
- Systems biology
- Safety assessment, pre-clinical toxicology, interaction with drugs and adverse events of herbal preparations
- Pharmacokinetic of natural compounds
- Standardization of herbal preparations
- Legislation of botanicals
- Invited reviews

The directions of Phytomedicine are known to provide profound scientific background in Herbal Medicinal Products, their reproducible Quality and evidence based therapeutic efficacy. Since then quality criteria and standardization methods were defined and the European Medical Agency has elaborated numerous guidelines for the conduction of clinical studies and preparation of Herbal Medicinal Products. In total 107 ESCOP monographs have been produced and submitted to EMA. Many new analytical methods and instruments were implemented both for analysis and standardization of herbal Substances, herbal preparations and their bioassays and tremendous work has been carried out to remain aligned with these intentions during the last 18 years.

Nowadays important topics remain to be approached, such as harmonization of the regulatory frameworks in Europe, America, Asia and Australia or the legislation of various "botanicals", where strict differentiation of requirements for health claims of herbal medicinal product, dietary supplements and nutraceuticals are required.
AUDIENCE

Pharmacologists, toxicologists, pharmacists, pharmacognosists, phytotherapists (clinicians), biochemists, botanists, general practitioners

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INTRODUCTION
PHYTOMEDICINE

International Journal of Phytotherapy and Phytopharmacology

Scope

Phytomedicine is primarily a therapy-oriented Journal, which publishes innovative studies on efficacy, safety, quality and mechanisms of action of specified plant extracts, phytopharmaceuticals and their purified constituents. This includes clinical and preclinical studies of properly standardized herbal medicinal products, herbal preparations and isolated compounds, which have reproducible pharmacological activity.

The journal covers the following sections: Trends in Phytopharmacology: innovative technologies and emerging concepts - Reviews Clinical pharmacology and toxicology Pre-clinical pharmacology and toxicology Mechanisms of action of herbal medicines and their active constituents Neuropharmacology Endocrine pharmacology Cancer Inflammation Infectious diseases Cardiovascular diseases Ageing associated disorders Quality of Herbal preparations/botanicals: adulteration, standardization, analysis Legislation of Herbal preparations/botanicals Current issues in Phytomedicine research (various topics which are not covered in all other volumes).

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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Hyun A Oh\textsuperscript{a}, Dae-Eung Kim\textsuperscript{b}, Hyuck Jai Choi\textsuperscript{c}, Nam Jae Kim\textsuperscript{c}, and Dong-Hyun Kim\textsuperscript{c,*}

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