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ABOUT PHCOG.NET

What is Pharmacognosy Network?

Pharmacognosy Network Worldwide is a non-profit network dedicated to Natural Products Research in order to develop promising drugs. Natural products are the most consistent and successful source of drugs. In India, Ayurveda remains one of the most ancient and living traditions, which is practiced for the treatment of various diseases and disorders. India has many number of plant species and medicinal properties have been assigned to several thousands. Many major institutes and research centres are currently involved in exploring this opportunity to investigate newer drugs from ancient principles of ayurveda. Further researchers believe in combining the strengths of ayurveda with modern scientific techniques such as NMR, MS and chromatographic techniques to provide new functional leads with high therapeutic value in a short span of time. But Natural products research often comes across many hurdles, which dims the drug development goals.

As a first step towards fulfilling this unmet need, **Prof. Shivananda B.G.** and **Mr. Mueen Ahmed K K**, Dept. of Pharmacognosy, Al-Ameen College of Pharmacy (AACP), Bangalore have been involved in establishing a non-profit, research dedicated information centre. At AACP, we believe that natural products research information can potentially benefit many researchers involved in this area. Also we believe that the research on natural products is often staggered due to lack of required information available for medicinal plants. In order to combat these problems, AACP has started a centre called as **Pharmacognosy Network Worldwide (Phcog.net)**, which makes innovative use of best tools for information dissemination and solve the hurdles in Pharmacognostical Research.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide specific natural products information upon request from faculty, researchers, and students involved in phytopharmacological research.
- To develop a web portal providing basic screening information for plant extracts, this will further link to useful resources.
- To facilitate the dissemination of information regarding techniques & methods involved in natural product research.
- To advance the quality of research in phytopharmacology.
- To work collaboratively with R & D Centres, Industries and describe its contribution in the field of phytopharmacology.
- To establish a discussion group to address difficulties & problems in natural product research.
- To provide documentation and information services such as library search/database search facilities including web-based information retrieval.
- To develop close co-operation among National libraries/other information centres for exchange of information and resource sharing.

Mission

Our main mission is to enable those who want information on herbal drug research and make them available in different formats to suit their individual needs. Our long-term objective is to provide high quality, accurate and required information to enhance herbal drug research. We invite you to join this network and make your research the best. By joining Phcog.net,

- You can interact with other researchers all over the globe.
- You can post your research achievements in our research updates column.
- You can ask an expert about advancement of your research.
- You can contribute your knowledge for the development of pharmacognosy by joining our expert group.
- Over all, you can become an active member of this network and represent your countries.
- You can publish your research papers in our journal **"Pharmacognosy Journal".**
- You can post your messages in our phcog.net E-Publication **(PHCOG MAG.)**.

What Phcog.Net can do for you?

An Official Website has been launched for the Pharmacognosy Network Worldwide. Over 750 core medicinal plant researchers have already been registered and a searchable database of researchers will be available shortly.

The Phcog.net is an online community formed for the purpose of collaborative discovery. The breadth of our members' experience is truly amazing! From Pharmacognosist to Botanist, our members work in every conceivable environment from prestigious universities and research centres.

Although our members are acknowledged and give due credit each and every time they participate in a study, we have come to realize that viewpoints and catalogue items are not what motivate a busy professional to participate in Phcog.net. The common thread that binds all of our members is a deep-seated belief that their opinions matter and that by interacting together they can make a difference.

Phcog.Net is designed to facilitate communication among our members by providing news, links and other valuable information. Over the next several months, we will implement programs designed to encourage members to contribute their experiences, opinions and insights in new ways that will promote interaction and discussion with colleagues around the world.

For more details visit www.phcog.net