

# British Journal of Pharmacy

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## Editorial

### BJPharm Volume 4 Issue 2: A Global Open Access Pharmacy Research Journal

With the ever-growing number of options available for publishing research it is fantastic to see the growth of the British Journal of Pharmacy over the past few years. In this issue, we have six papers submitted by groups across four continents, and as the journal grows, we are continuing to see a diverse and cosmopolitan range of submissions. Like the previous issues of BJPharm, this issue is assembled from articles that span a variety of pharmacy topics, with articles on Inter-professional education of prescription safety for Non-medical prescribers and pharmacists, through to an article on the physicochemical and rheological properties of modified starches from novel sustainable sources. In my opinion, this breadth of topics covered by BJPharm and potential board readership, sets the journal apart from others in the field, with articles of interest to those working in all areas of the Pharmacy profession.

In this issue we have an article from the Vita Nova Institute in Brazil on the development of long-acting anti-retroviral therapies for HIV, by particle engineering the anti-retroviral drug dolutegravir. Keeping with the modified release theme, there is an article on chronopharmaceutical drug delivery that uses press-coating technology to coat diclofenac tablets with blends of hydrophilic biopolymers. There are also papers that explore sustainable excipients from natural sources in developing countries. These investigations are designed to discover materials that can achieve equivalent or even improved function to that of mass produced semi synthetic excipients. These studies are fuelled by reliance on expensive imported excipients, which can often drive up the cost of medicines in developing countries making them inaccessible to the majority of the population. There are also environmental benefits to such studies, not least the reduction in the carbon footprint achieved by using locally sourced materials and the potential for local economic benefits. In this issue, the novel

sources investigated for such materials are starches from African rice and Fonio, along with starches extracted from the tubers of the Livingstone potato *Plectranthus esculentus*. Last but certainly not least, we have an interesting personalised 'case study of Parkinson's associated tremor and the observed reduction when taking paracetamol in combination with levodopa. This work opens a potential avenue for further research into the possibility of repurposing paracetamol or other similar drugs to extend the effectiveness of the levodopa in Parkinson's disease.

Finally, I and all the members of the editorial team would like to express our thanks to all the authors who submitted their work to this issue and to all the expert reviewers who took the time to ensure the quality. I am sure you will enjoy reading this issue of the British Journal of Pharmacy, the editorial team are fully committed to making this journal a success across the Pharmacy discipline. I therefore encourage you to consider submitting your research to this rapidly growing journal and support free open access publishing. The editors would be delighted to hear proposals for themed issues by guest editors and contributions to future issues on subjects across the board spectrum of Pharmacy Practice, Pharmaceutical Science and Pharmacy Education.

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