

EDITORIAL

“Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose.”

- Zora Neale Hurston

Scientific research relies on the application of the scientific method, a harnessing of curiosity. This research provides scientific information and theories for the explanation of the nature and the properties of the world. It is Council's constant endeavor to promote scientific research & work exhaustively towards establishing the scientific aspect of Homoeopathy. This issue of IJRH will showcase articles/ papers which will be curious enough to poke and pry one's mind and to make them understand different aspects of homoeopathic science in a better way.

Homoeopathy is a vitalist philosophy that interprets diseases and sickness as caused by disturbances in life force (vital principle). It sees these disturbances as manifesting themselves as unique symptoms. It is thus, a unique science which has a lot to offer to mankind and thus help in reducing the suffering of people.

Council's constant efforts in establishing the efficacy of homoeopathic drugs is represented in the current issue as well. The paper of drug proving on 'Asclepias currasavica- A multicentric, randomized, double-blind Homoeopathic Pathogenetic Trial' elicits pathogenetic responses during the proving trial and expands the scope of use of the drug Asclepias currasavica and will benefit the research scholars and clinicians. Clinical verification will further enhance its therapeutic application.

Focusing on individual homoeopathic medicines, yet another important & potential drug, Syzygium jambolanum is placed in the current issue under the section drug standardization. The observed chromatographic behaviour during the study may be taken as characteristic standard for identification of the drug. Apart from its known action on diminution & disappearance of sugar in urine, it is also useful in common skin conditions like acne, pimples, comedones etc.

Acute respiratory infections are the most common causes of both illness and mortality in children. There are evidences in literature that homoeopathy has the potential to manage acute respiratory illnesses. Keeping the same in mind, another article in the form of 'A prospective multicentre observational study to evolve the usefulness of group of homoeopathic medicines in the management of acute tracheobronchitis' adds value to the literature.

The present issue also highlights an interesting and informative study on 'Neuroprotective effect of Bellis perennis and Hypericum perforatum on PC12 cells'. Council is grateful to Department of Medical Elementology and Toxicology, Jamia Hamdard University, Delhi for agreeing to work in collaboration with the Council. The study establishes the efficacy of homoeopathic medicines in the reduction of formation of free radicals.

Clinical verification programme is an ongoing research programme of the Council since its inception, under which many Indian and rarely used drugs in Homoeopathy have been verified. It is through clinical verification only that we are able to determine grades to a rubric before finally incorporating it in repertory. The article on 'Alfalfa - A multicentric clinical verification study', is the representation of an observational study where data of the drug proving conducted by Council, was subjected to verification on sick persons.

We have introduced another section "Book Review" in which we present the review on two volumes of clinical verification, which are priced publications of the Council.

I express my sincere gratitude to the Chief Editor of International Journal of High Dilution Research along with the authors of the paper on 'Germination and vigor of lettuce seeds (Lactuca sativa L.) pelleted with homeopathic preparations Alumina and Calcareo carbonica subjected to toxic levels of aluminum', for giving their consent to reprint the article in our journal. This study can contribute to the development of a technology to facilitate the germination of plants in not so favorable environment, as well as to the introduction of an innovative method to employ homeopathic preparations, such as seeds pelleting.

My sincere thanks to all the readers from the fraternity for giving their valuable time and suggestions in making this journal a successful publication. Council hopes to receive impartial and valuable feedback from the readers.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by 'lok Kumar'.

(Dr. Alok Kumar)