Journal of Research in Pharmacy: COVID-19 Dedicated Issue

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The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has been a global health problem. During this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic, diagnosis and treatment modalities for the care of COVID-19 patients have fluctuated frequently. The information and guidelines have changed drastically, sometimes week to week. Therefore, we have decided to dedicate our November 2021 issue to COVID-19. In this dedicated issue, we have a carefully selected collection of COVID-19 articles which provide information to help pharmacists and other health care personnel understand, prevent, diagnose, treat and fight COVID-19.

We are honored by the massive number of submissions and the international support we have received from the medical and pharmaceutical communities for this dedicated issue. Unfortunately, we had to reject some submissions which did not meet our publishing criteria or fit within the scope of this dedicated issue. In total, this issue includes 26 articles from 116 authors from 13 countries; namely, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey and the United States. These articles consist of review articles, commentaries, surveys, and research studies.

The review article by Asefy et al. discusses novel and promising approaches to COVID-19 treatment. Rusdiana et al. focuses on the use of anticoagulants in patients. T. Üzbay’s article sheds a light on the mechanisms of brain injury caused by SARS-CoV-2 and the neurological and psychiatric consequences of these injuries. The research article from Bangladesh by Bulbul et al. analyzes outcomes COVID-19 patients as correlated between hematological inflammatory markers. A study about the socio-demographic determinants of the acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccine in Nigeria shows that the level of education positively correlates to the acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccine. While there is an ongoing debate on the efficacy of vaccination programs, Perttiwi et al.’s short summary of the dendritic cell-based COVID-19 vaccines provides a brief insight into the vaccine itself.

Two commentary articles by Bairagdar et al. and Ugur et al. discuss roles of hospital and community pharmacists in the fight against COVID-19 in the United States. Additionally, articles from Ethiopia, Pakistan, Turkey and Bangladesh provide perspectives on the perceptions and actions by pharmacists and other healthcare workers fighting the pandemic in their respective countries. The research article by Banwait et al. presents the outcomes of corticosteroid use in COVID-19 patients in 178 hospitals across the United States. The clinical study from Iraq by Khalaf et al. analyzes the efficacy of aminophylline as an anti-hypoxic add-on therapy. Two survey studies by Bulut et al. and Eraslan et al. evaluate the use of herbal supplements as treatment options for COVID-19 patients.

The in silico research studies from India, Turkey and Indonesia aim to demonstrate the potential of bioflavonoids and other rationally-designed compounds against the SARS-CoV-2.

We hope that you find these articles useful and compelling. Please feel free to share this dedicated issue with your colleagues and students in the scientific community. Thank you for the current and future support to our journal.