

The specific objectives of the 58th International Congress and Annual Meeting of the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research will be to promote dialogue and the exchange of medical practices and resources of modern and traditional nations. Alexander von Humboldt - born in Berlin and the foremost natural scientist of the early 19th century - was one of the pioneers of international scientific exchange. The focus was on the scientific exchange across borders - also addressed in the 58th International Congress and Annual Meeting of the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research.

The programme of the Congress is offering nine invited lectures to be delivered by distinguished scientists, 60 short lectures which will be in parallel sessions and more than 650 poster presentations. In addition, seven workshops will be held on specific topics. As Presidents of the Congress, we are very happy that the scientific programme attracted so many scientists from approximately 70 different countries. Many thanks are most sincerely extended to Georg Thieme Verlag KG for the proper processing of the huge number of abstracts and to the agency CTW - Congress Organisation Thomas Wiese GmbH for organizing this Congress.

Prof. Dr. Herbert Kolodziej

Co-ordinator of the 7th Tannin Conference and
President of the 58th International Congress and Annual Meeting of the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research

Prof. Dr. Matthias F. Melzig

President of the 58th International Congress and Annual Meeting
of the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research

Guidelines for Authors

1. Editorial Policy

PLANTA MEDICA – Journal of Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research is published in 17 issues a year. The following areas of medicinal plant and natural product research are covered:

1. **Biological and pharmacological activity**
2. **Pharmacokinetic investigations and clinical studies** (Pharmacokinetic investigations examining the kinetics of drug disposition and bioavailability including the use of *in vitro*, *in vivo* and human studies)
3. **Natural product chemistry**
4. **Analytical studies**

Only papers of highest scientific quality, concisely written and complying with these Guidelines for Authors can be considered for publication. All contributions are peer-reviewed by independent referees.

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The language of publication is **English**. Manuscripts written by authors whose mother tongue is not English should be checked by a native speaker or a professional language editing service before submission. **Manuscripts which do not meet acceptable standards will be returned to the authors.**

Authors investigating the chemistry of a single species should aim to publish their results in a single manuscript rather than in a series of papers. Manuscripts should not report fragmentary parts of a larger study. **Pharmacological investigations of extracts require detailed extract characterisation** (see below).

Submission of a manuscript signifies acceptance of the journal's Guidelines for Authors. Submissions which are not in line with these principles may be returned directly to the authors by the Editorial Office.

A statement clarifying the **conflicts of interests** of all authors must be included at the end of the manuscript (before the references); this will be published. Conflicts of interest also need to be declared during the submission process. Declaration of conflicts of interest is mandatory; if none, this also needs to be stated.

2. Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscripts can be submitted exclusively online at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/plamed> or using the link at <http://www.thieme.de/plantamedica>. Submissions of hardcopy manuscripts or by e-mail will not be accepted.

A **sample manuscript** (for Original Papers) and a **sample letter** are available at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/plamed> → Instructions and Forms, and at www.thieme.de/plantamedica. In addition to the Guidelines, authors are urged to follow these formats when preparing a manuscript.

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Manuscripts will not be considered for publication in *Planta Medica* unless the following conditions, if applicable, are fulfilled:

1. Ethical considerations: Submission of a manuscript to *Planta Medica* implies that it represents **original research** not previously published and that it is **not being considered for publication elsewhere**. Authors investigating the chemistry of a single species should aim to publish their results in a single manuscript rather than in a series of papers. **Manuscripts should not report fragmentary parts of a larger study.**

2. Language of publication is English. Manuscripts written by authors whose mother tongue is not English should be checked by a native speaker or a professional language editing service before submission.

3. Plant material (as well as other organisms) must be properly identified. The scientific name (*in italics*), the author of this name and the family must be given. It should be mentioned who identified the material. The manuscript must include references to **voucher specimens** of the plants (deposited in a major regional herbarium) or the material examined.

4. Isolation of compounds: Extraction and isolation should be described in detail. The kind and amount of material, solvents and extraction methods must be indicated. The description of chromatographic systems should contain the quantitative information that allows the reader to repeat the work. Column dimensions, elution volumes, fraction sizes, etc. should be reported.

5. Analytical studies: Key data on method validation must be provided and should typically include information on specificity, linearity, limit of detection, limit of quantification, accuracy, precision, intermediate precision, and some robustness studies. Information on the purity of reference compounds, and on the methods used for the determination of purity must be given. Recoveries of extraction and sample pre-purification steps have to be indicated. Adequate statistical treatment of data is required. Analytical studies of a routine nature will not be considered for publication.

6. Pharmacological investigations of extracts require detailed extract characterisation. Chromatographic profiling (e.g. HPLC profile with at least the major peaks identified) should be carried out, or qualitative and quantitative information on active or typical constituents should be provided.

7. Pharmacological investigations: *Planta Medica* will only consider manuscripts in which conclusions are based on adequate statistics. In each case **positive controls** (reference compounds) should be used and the dose/activity dependence should be shown.

8. Pharmacological investigations: When working with **experimental animals**, reference must be made to principles of laboratory animal care or similar regulations, and to approval by the local ethical committee. The approval number and the corresponding date must be provided.

9. Clinical studies must be designed, implemented and analyzed in a manner to meet current standards of randomised controlled trials. Reference must be made to approval of the study by the local ethical committee. The approval number and the corresponding date must be provided.

10. Biological screening: Papers dealing with the biological screening of a meaningful number of extracts of plants or other organisms can be considered for publication in *Planta Medica*. Identification of the material must be properly documented, and preparation of the extracts must be clearly described. Biological activities should be reported by listing IC₅₀ values, or at least a dose-response relationship should be shown by using at least two test concentrations. Positive controls (reference compounds) must be included. Results should be presented in a concise format, and the discussion should be kept to a minimum.

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7th Tannin Conference (Presymposium) and 58th International Congress and Annual Meeting of the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research

Berlin, Germany, 29th August - 2nd September 2010

Chairman: Professor Dr. Matthias F. Melzig - Professor Dr. Herbert Kolodziej

58th International Congress and Annual Meeting of the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research

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