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The African Journal of Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicines (AJTCAM) is a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary, international journal that provides rapid publication of articles on phytomedicines, ethnomedicines and veterinary ethnomedicines. The Journal welcomes submission of manuscripts that meet the general criteria of significance and scientific excellence. Papers will be published approximately two-to-three months after acceptance.

The Mission and Vision statement of ATHMSI is to encourage herbal, complementary efforts by indigenous communities, in the management of human and animal diseases. The aims of the NGO are to:

- i. exchange information on ethnomedicines through networking at local, national, regional and international levels:
- ii. facilitate collaboration and constant flow of information between Traditional Medical Practitioners and Orthodox Medical Practitioners;
- iii. promote integration of Traditional Medical Practitioners into healthcare delivery system;
- iv. facilitate the training of Traditional Medical Practitioners through organization of courses and workshops
- v.
- vi. with emphasis on standardization, safety, efficacy and quality of their products;
- vii. encourage registration of Traditional Medical Practitioners as cooperative groups with the appropriate authorities at the Local, State, Regional, National Government Levels and at International terrain;
- viii. facilitate activities that would fill the gaps that exist in research and development, in the various communities on one hand, and large-scale industrial production of plant products which could be bridged through commercial-oriented research, on the other hand; and
- ix. disseminate relevant scientific information through appropriate journal publications.

Publication of articles in AJTCAM, like in other reputable scientific journals, involves many parties, each of which plays an important role in achieving the objectives of the journal. It, therefore, follows that all players in the publication process, especially the author, the journal editor, the peer-reviewer, and the publisher are expected to meet and uphold standard norms of ethical behaviour at all stages of their involvement, from submission stage to publication of the article stage.

ATHMSI is committed to meeting and upholding standards of ethical behaviour at all stages of the publication process. We provide authors with links to industrial associations that set standards and provide guidelines for best practices in order to meet these requirements, such as the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines, and other relevant bodies, e.g., Elsevier's Publishing Ethics Resource Kit (PERK) https://www.elsevier.com/editors/publishing-ethics/perk; International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICJME) http://www.wame.org/about recommendations-on-publication-ethics-policies. Below is a summary of our key expectations from editors, peer-reviewers and authors.

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(http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/consultations/draft_provisions/draft_provisions.html and http://www.who.int/medicines/library/trm/researchdocs.shtml). Authors should make sure that they have acquired appropriate "prior informed consent" (PIC) of patients or volunteers used in their **clinical** studies. This means that the onus is on the authors, and not on the journal, regarding this important ethical issue. Moreover, authors should state this as a part of the protocol describing how this type of study or survey is made. Papers that violate these principles will neither be accepted nor considered for publication in AJTCAM.

Author contributions: Each author should state his/her contribution to the article.

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At the time of submission, authors are requested to provide two-to-three potential reviewers (with their names, affiliations and e-mail addresses) who could expertly review their manuscripts.

However, the Editors reserve the right to choose or not to choose any from the authors' suggested reviewers.

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Reviewers are expected to maintain confidentially about the manuscripts that they review. Authors should receive initial decision on their manuscripts within 4-8 weeks after submission. If revision of the manuscript is required, the authors must submit their revised manuscript within 2-4 weeks of the request.

The Editorial Board may require authors to revise their manuscript/s more than once.

Article Processing Fee (APF) and Extra-Page Charges (EPC) will apply to all manuscripts submitted to AJTCAM including: Original articles, review articles, case reports and short communications. The APF is USD300.00. This includes up to 10 black and white published pages. EPC of USD30.00 will be charged per additional black and white page, while a once-for-all Submission Fee (SF) of USD20.00 will be charged for every manuscript submitted to the journal.

Original/Regular Articles: These articles should describe original investigations and research works that represent new and significant contributions and advances to the field of Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicines (TCAM). Such articles should contain 4000-6000 words, 4-8 figures/tables and a maximum of 35-40 references.

The structured abstract should be 200-250 words.

Review Articles: should bear reviews on major areas or sub-areas in the field of TCAM. Reviews should describe current, new developments, summarize progress, and analyze published works in the field. Such articles should contain 5000-8000 words, 4-8 Figures/Tables and a maximum of 40-50 references. The structured Abstract should be 200-250 words.

Short Communications: These articles are brief reports of preliminary or limited results of original research, observations or case series on TCAM. Total word count should not exceed 3000 words. The total number of figures and tables should not exceed 4, while references should not be more than 20. The structures Abstract should not exceed 250 words. Short communications are peer-reviewed.

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- 1. Title page
- 2. Abstract
- 3. Key-words
- 4. Abbreviations
- 5. Introduction
- 6. Materials and Methods
- 7. Results
- 8. Discussion
- 9. Conclusion
- 10. Conflict of Interest/Competing Interests
- 11. Acknowledgements
- 12. References

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1. Kamanzi-Atindehou, K., Koné, M., Terreaux, C., Traore, D., Hostettmann, K. and Dosso, M. (2002). Evaluation of the antimicrobial potential of medicinal plants from the Ivory Coast. Phytotherapy Research, 16: 497-502.

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