

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	Journal of Complementary and Alternative Medical Research
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JOCAMR_110029
Title of the Manuscript:	KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF ARTISANS AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS TOWARDS HERB-DRUG INTERACTION AND ITS OUTCOMES IN IBADAN METROPOLIS: AN INTERVENTION STUDY
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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### **PART 1:** Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<b><u>Compulsory</u></b> REVISION comments		
<b>1. Is the manuscript important for scientific community?</b> (Please write few sentences on this manuscript)	<p>This is an interesting and specific research topic. The paper effectively encapsulates the research focus and participating subjects involved. Descriptive and informative, the paper has provided a catchy idea for the scope of the study. There are three interesting points that the paper has offered: (1) The survey-based study could evaluate knowledge by assessing familiarity with herbal medicine, understanding of potential risks, and sources of information. (2) The attitude assessment could explore beliefs, perceptions of efficacy, and reasons for using herbs. (3) To study interactions between herb-herb and herb-drug, the survey might inquire about concurrent use, perceptions of safety, and experiences with adverse effects or interactions. It could also gauge awareness of consulting healthcare providers about herb-drug combinations.</p> <p>There is need to modify the title of the paper. In a way, teachers, drivers, and mechanics could be considered modern-day artisans. They all possess specialized skills, expertise, and often work with their hands or knowledge to craft, instruct, or repair something valuable. They should classified as three different groups of subjects in the study: Group A-Teachers, Group B-Drivers, and Group C-Mechanics. The title of the paper will read better if it is modified as follows: "A Survey Research on Knowledge and Attitude of Artisans towards Self-Phytomedication in Ibadan Metropolis, Nigeria."</p> <p>Yes.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Done revision</p>
<b>2. Is the title of the article suitable?</b> (If not please suggest an alternative title)	<p>Yes.</p> <p>It is descriptive and informative as a paper. To say it is "scientifically correct" may not be the best phrase to use since the "scientifically correct" findings come from the participants' responses ad must be statistically evaluated.</p>	<p>Thanks</p>
<b>3. Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?</b>	<p>Up-to-date references. It is good the author(s) kept to one particular referencing style be it APA, MLA, Harvard or others.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<b>4. Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b>	<p>As mentioned by the author(s), there is an increased use of herbal medicines globally. This is often stemmed from a desire for natural remedies, cultural traditions, and perceived effectiveness. However, misconceptions exist regarding their safety and efficacy due to limited regulation and varying quality standards. In phytomedicine, to have a holistic picture of the study, may I suggest that it should include interactions between herbs, drugs, and food can have various findings due to potential effects on health outcomes: (1) Herb-herb interactions might involve enhancing or inhibiting effects when combined. (2) Herb-drug interactions can affect drug metabolism, potency, or side effects. (3) Herb-food interactions can impact absorption or utilization of nutrients. This is an important aspect to be thoroughly explored in the survey-based study.</p>	
<b>5. Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?</b>		

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<p>6. Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form.</p> <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<p>In Nigeria and many other places, people use herbs alongside conventional medicines for various reasons (e.g., cultural beliefs, accessibility, and sometimes due to a lack of awareness about potential interactions). This concurrent use can lead to potentially harmful interactions between herbs and prescribed drugs, causing adverse effects or reducing the effectiveness of medication should be highlighted.</p> <p>The paper focuses on the reliance of participating subjects on phytomedicine for self-medication but the author(s) need to seriously consider or may want to include the following challenges to make the study even more robust (as a suggestion for the authors, and should be kept within the limited length/number of words permitted by the journal):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dosage and Potency: To determine the right dosage and potency of plant-based remedies can be challenging due to variations in plant strength and individual reactions.</li> <li>2. Safety Concerns: Some plants might have side effects or interact negatively with other medications, underlying health conditions, or allergies.</li> <li>3. Quality and Purity: To ensure the quality and purity of herbal supplements is crucial; contaminants or mislabeled products can pose risks.</li> <li>4. Lack of Regulation: The regulation of herbal remedies varies across regions, leading to inconsistencies in quality control and safety standards.</li> <li>5. Efficacy and Evidence: Limited scientific evidence or clinical studies might exist for certain herbal remedies, making it hard to gauge their effectiveness for specific conditions.</li> <li>6. Self-diagnosis and Misinformation: To raise the issue of self-medication with phytomedicine might lead to incorrect self-diagnosis or reliance on misinformation, potentially delaying appropriate medical treatment.</li> <li>7. Cultural and Individual Variations: To take into consideration the different socio-cultures have varied approaches to herbal medicine, and individual responses to herbs can differ widely.</li> </ol>	<p>Revised</p> <p>Effectuated</p>
<p><b>Minor</b> REVISION comments</p> <p>1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>Adequate.</p>	
<p><b>Optional/General</b> comments</p>	<p>To make the paper more complete, the author(s) should consider stating the limitations of the survey-based study on knowledge and attitudes towards phytomedication by inclusion of the following points as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reliance on self-reporting: Responses might be influenced by recall bias or subjectivity, impacting the accuracy of reported interactions.</li> <li>2. Limited depth: The survey might not capture nuanced details or specific interactions, missing out on the complexity of herb-herb, herb-drug, and herb-food interactions.</li> <li>3. Generalization: Findings might not represent the entire population, as responses could be biased based on demographics, cultural beliefs, or personal experiences.</li> <li>4. Lack of verification: Self-reported information might not be verifiable or validated through clinical evidence, leading to potential inaccuracies.</li> <li>5. Incomplete information: Participating subjects might lack comprehensive knowledge about interactions, impacting the reliability of the conclusions reported in the study.</li> <li>6. Temporal aspect: The field of phytomedication evolves rapidly, so survey results might not capture the most current information on interactions.</li> </ol> <p>To mitigate these limitations, the author(s) might want to suggest that in future studies, combining survey data with clinical studies or utilizing more objective measures could provide a more holistic understanding of these interactions.</p>	

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PART 2:

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b>	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	