
EDITORIAL

The 46th Myanmar Health Research Congress, organized by the Ministry of Health and Sports was successfully held in Department of Medical Research from 8th to 12th January, 2018 with the theme, "*To prevent, Detect, Treat & Live with Cancer*" in order to promote the awareness on increasing burden of the cancer in our country. A total of 110 research papers and 80 posters were presented by local and international researchers. During the academic session, not only cancers, but also the various disciplines of research areas including malaria, tuberculosis, hepatitis, dengue, maternal and child health, snake bite, food and drug administration, traditional medicine, reproductive health and environmental health, were presented in the congress to achieve the highest quality in health care by promoting research capacity strengthening of the healthcare personnel. Apart from the paper and poster session, 12 symposia and 4 scientific talks on current health issues in Myanmar were presented and discussed by the researchers to share and exchange their knowledge, comprehensive views, opinion and valuable experiences.

Although presentation in the Research Congress is one of the routes for disseminations of the research findings, the researchers should be aware of the importance of contribution in way of the academic publications in local as well as international peer-reviewed journals. We have warmly invited all researchers who presented their research findings in Myanmar Health Research Congress to submit their papers to our Journal, Myanmar Health Sciences Research Journal.

At the same time, the annual meeting of the MHSRJ editorial board members including the participation of International Editorial Board Members was held on January 10, 2018. In this meeting, we decided to promote the status of the journal by linkage to PubMed in the coming years by encouraging the researchers to submit the original as well as

review articles to MHSRJ taking the advantages of open-accessed and "free-of-charge" journal and ensuring the highly qualified peer review process.

In this issue, we would like to highlight the important considerations on optimizing the use of antibiotics, as the pharmacologists' perspective with a leading article, "Evaluation of Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Levofloxacin in Patients with Acute Exacerbation of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease". This hospital based analytical study indicated that the adequacy on pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamics of levofloxacin in patients with acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease was found to be low to achieve the targeted value even in clinically cured cases. Rational use of antibiotics with correct dose is crucial to prevent antimicrobial resistance.

Moreover, a total of 13 original research articles and 2 short reports were published in this issue providing the relevant up-to-date research findings on various topics such as vector control, serological aspect of malaria, metabolic syndrome in diabetes, paediatric and adult malignancies, cardio-vascular diseases, gestational trophoblastic diseases, influenza-like illness, multiple myeloma, physical fitness of the elderly people, lead poisoning and disclosure in HIV status. Moreover, short reports on applications of alumina nanoparticles from coal fly ash and iodine deficiency among pregnant women living in coastal region in Myanmar, are also reported.

As every article in this issue provides considerable value in their respective research area, we believe that knowledge of the researcher would be improved to utilize the research findings in daily practice in health care with innovative ideas in various ways. Moreover, we would like to invite all readers to visit our MHSRJ web page, "www.myanmarhsrj.com" to access the archive of previous published articles.