

## Supplementary material

### Questionnaire: Exploring the knowledge of community pharmacists about the herbal medicines they supplied in their pharmacy outlets in Lagos

We are undertaking this study for academic purposes only. It is a self-sponsored study and data obtained may be published in scientific journals. Your willingness to participate is taken as consent. Be assured that information provided will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Kindly fill in the blank spaces with appropriate responses. Where options are provided, please select one or more appropriate response(s).

#### **Demography**

1. How are old are .....
2. What is your gender? (a) male (b) female
3. How many years ago have you qualified as a pharmacist.....?
4. How many years ago have you been operating your community pharmacy.....?
5. Do you possess any additional qualification? (a) yes (b) no
6. If yes to question 5 above, please indicate the qualification (a) MSc degree (b) PhD degree (c) Diploma (d) Certificate (e) Fellowship

**Types of herbal remedy supplied by the pharmacy**

1. Among the herbal medicines listed below, indicate which one(s) that is (are) supplied to potential buyers by your pharmacy

<b>Herbal remedy</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>no</b>
Yoyo Cleanser bitters®		
Ginseng		
Jobelyn®		
Ciklavit®		
Ginkgo		
Herbal tea		
Aloe vera		
Yemkem® products (FIJK flusher)		
GNLD® products (herbal rest and relax)		
Forever living products® (Forever lite)		
Alomo bitter®		
Tianshi® product (Capsilite)		
Echinacea		
Oroki herbal mixture®		
St John's wort		
Valerian		
Ajase poki-poki®		

2. List other herbal medicines that you supply but not included in the list above

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3. Indicate which category of people are the herbal medicines often purchased for?  
 (a) children (b) middle-aged adults (c) elderly people
4. What is the gender of the potential users of the herbal medicines that you supply?  
 (a) male (b) female

**Pharmacist's opinion of herbal medicine**

1. What is your opinion of the effectiveness of herbal medicines for the purported indications? (a) just effective (b) fairly effective (c) very effective
2. Herbal medicines are usually safe to use (a) yes (b) no (c) uncertain
3. Herbal medicine may be harmful to the users (a) yes (b) no (c) uncertain
4. Herbal medicines may be harmless (a) yes (b) no (c) uncertain

**General knowledge of herbal medicine and knowledge of specific herbal remedies supplied by the pharmacy**

Listed below are general information about herbal medicine and information about specific herbal remedies with regards to their indications, contraindication, and potential adverse effects. Kindly rate your knowledge using a correct mark (v) for the appropriate answer

<b>Question</b>	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Uncertain</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>
Herb-herb interaction may occur with herbal medicine use?					
Herb-drug interaction may occur when herbal medicine is used with a conventional medicine?					
Herbal medicine may be contraindicated in pregnancy?					
Yoyo cleanser bitters® is an immune booster					
Ginseng may increase blood pressure at normal dose?					
Ginseng is contraindicated in diabetes mellitus					
St John's wort is used for controlling mild to moderate hypertension					
St John's wort may increase digoxin blood level?					
Ginkgo may delay onset of dementia					
Ginkgo may increase the risk of bleeding when used concurrently with warfarin?					
Valerian should be used with caution in a patient on benzodiazepines					

**Information sought by a pharmacist before supplying herbal medicines**

1. Do you source information about herbal medicines before supplying the potential users? (a) yes (b) no
2. Listed below is the information a pharmacist may seek from a potential user of herbal medicines. Kindly indicate your practice of each statement as correct with a mark (√).

Question	Always	Regularly	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Pharmacists enquired about herbal medicine prescriber					
Medical history taken from the buyers					
Medication history taken from the buyers					
Consult referenced materials before supplying herbal medicines					
Counsel buyers about administration of the herbal medicine supplied					
Counsel buyers about the potential adverse effects of herbal medicines					
Pharmacists have ever recommended herbal medicines to buyers					
Pharmacists ever received complaints of adverse reaction to herbal medicines from the users					

3. Likely source(s) of information about herbal medicines include (a) pharmacology textbooks (b) scientific journals (c) internet (d) herbal pharmacopeia (e) leaflet insert of the herbal remedy (f) Monthly Index of Medical Specialties (g) promotional hand bills, pamphlets or brochure (h) sales representatives (i) others.....(please specify)
4. Types of information sourced include (a) safety information (b) potential interactions with other herbal medicines (c) potential interactions with conventional medicines (d) potential adverse effects (e) contraindications (f) others.....(please specify)