

## Rational Use of Drugs: A Possible Role of Open Access Journals

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### Editorial

Rational drug use is defined by WHO as that the patients receive medications appropriate to their clinical needs, in proper doses, for an adequate time, and at the lowest cost [1]. Irrational drug use is a major health problem worldwide, with far reaching health and economic consequences including rise of antimicrobial resistance. It has been reported that more than 50% of all medicines are prescribed, dispensed or sold inappropriately, and 50% of all patients take them incorrectly [2].

Irrational use of drugs takes several forms including; over prescribing, multi-drug prescribing, inappropriate use of antibiotics, and use of unnecessary expensive drugs [2].

There are many factors behind the irrational drug use; including self-medication, insufficient neutral unbiased drug information, in-access to the increasingly relevant clinical research and therapeutic guide lines [2]. Moreover, absence of support to researchers, especially

in developing countries, might cause release of weak studies [3]. Consequently, there is an urgent need to fasten and widen the spread of relevant scientific medical research.

The advent of open access medical journals may fill the gap between the rapid progress of drug research and poor knowledgeable researchers and drug consumers. Facilitation of access to drug researches has several advantages not only to researches at smaller institutions, where their library cannot afford the journal but to Patients and those caring for them, who will be able to keep abreast of medical research.

### References

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