

*GUEST EDITORIAL*

## **Special Issue on Defence Against Biological and Chemical Agents**

WELCOME to the inaugural issue of the Defence Life Science Journal. The Defence Life Science Journal (DLSJ) is an international journal and is published by Defence Scientific Information & Documentation Centre (DESIDOC) on behalf of Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO). The journal is dedicated to publishing research covering a wide spectrum of applications in the emerging field in the field of defence/military life support system. Broadly it will cover; Molecular biology, biophysics, biochemistry, psychology, physiology, biotechnology, pharmacology and toxicology (animals, plants, microbial and viral cells), and related areas like bio-medicine, bio-engineering, bio-electronics, etc.

The major goal of the DLSJ is to provide an effective communication channel for researchers concerned with all aspects of life sciences. The journal will publishes original articles, letters to editor, and reviews in the interdisciplinary science of Life Sciences linking and integrating molecular biology, biophysics, biochemistry, enzymology, physiology, biotechnology, pharmacology and Toxicology in a dynamic cell and tissue biology environment, applied to human, animals, plants tissues as well to microbial and viral cells. The Defence Life Science Journal is therefore open to intense interdisciplinary exchanges in medical, veterinary, pharmacological, botanical and biological researches for the demonstration of these multiple links.

In keeping with our mission to provide a forum for papers aimed at solving problems in the defence life sciences research particularly related to biological and medical sciences, the inaugural issue includes papers covering various basic and applied research

and topics including: new paradigm in drug discovery utilizing Human pluripotent stem cells (hPSC)-derived cell types as drug discovery platforms, use of a peptide sequence as a neurite growth enhancer for viability of neurons in neurodegenerative diseases, diverse role of Histone fold motif (HFM) the plant kingdom, site-specific targeted delivery of drugs using nanoparticles, suitability of blood lymphocytes as a surrogate to monitor toxicity of airborne toxicants particularly fine and ultrafine Diesel Exhaust Particles, in silico approach to identify for molecular diagnosis of *B. Pseudomallei*, ethnobotanical approach for a sustainable remedy for management of leech infestation, and various mechanisms for targeted therapeutics against growth factor in cancer and their future prospective. In this issue, a number of papers were obtained from the various renowned researchers in various prestigious research institutes in India through the regular peer-review process.

It is an honour to serve as a Guest Editor of the inaugural issue of the DLSJ. I appreciate the contributions of the authors, and would also like to thank the Editor-in-Chief, the Editorial Board, and the staff of the DLSJ for all their support.

Finally, a call to our readership: the success of the DLSJ depends on you. We encourage you to submit your valuable work for possible publication in the journal. Also, we always need your ideas to help improve the DLSJ and make it a journal that meets your needs. I look forward to a distinguished future for the DLSJ. There is every reason to expect that the DLSJ will be an eminent resource for defence scientists significantly advancing research and applications in life sciences and solving problems in the biological and medical sciences.

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