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The 1st International Babylon Conference on Clinical and Experimental Pharmacological Research: mapping the Iraqi pharmacological research activity and priorities

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Abstract
The proceedings of the 1st International Babylon Conference on Clinical and Experimental Pharmacological Research (taking place at the College of Pharmacy of the University of Babylon, in Hillah, Iraq; May 4-5, 2024) are hereby hosted by the *Review of Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacokinetics – International Edition*; a journal that has provided a significant service to the international pharmacological community since 1987. These proceedings include a total of 50 papers (including this editorial) and provide a representative overview of the conference's rich scientific programme. The latter has served two objectives: (i) to facilitate the mapping of the Iraqi pharmacological research and priorities, and (ii) to enable the establishment of international collaborations in the field. In that respect, the proceedings host the inspiring messages of several conference keynote speakers from abroad, and feature a variety of clinical and experimental studies that well relate to the priorities currently set by the Iraqi pharmacological community.

KEYWORDS
Iraq, pharmacological research, ethnopharmacology, antibiotic resistance, nanopharmacology

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MAIN MESSAGE

The 1st International Babylon Conference on Clinical and Experimental Pharmacological Research is an international scientific meeting taking place at the College of Pharmacy of the University of Babylon (Hillah, Iraq) on the 4th and the 5th of May 2024. This international conference has been a long pursuit and ambition of our dear colleague Prof. Hussam Al-Humadi (the Dean of the hosting institution) that has finally come to realisation after several years of postponing due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The event is organized under the auspices of the University of Babylon and its College of Pharmacy, as well as the Al-Mustaqbal University and its College of Pharmacy; all based in Hillah, Iraq. The members of the Steering, the Organizing, and the Scientific Committees of the conference have worked tirelessly in order to organize the first of, hopefully,

many international gatherings of the medical, biomedical, pharmaceutical, and wider scientific communities that are working (either directly or indirectly) towards the improvement of clinical therapeutics in Iraq and abroad; a regular and truly international event in which the members of the local pharmacological community can present their clinical and experimental research work, and a forum from which, potentially, an Iraqi (national) pharmacological society will emerge.

The proceedings of the 1st International Babylon Conference on Clinical and Experimental Pharmacological Research are hereby hosted by the *Review of Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacokinetics – International Edition*; a journal that has provided a significant service to the international pharmacological community since 1987. These proceedings include a total of 50 papers (including this editorial) and provide a representative overview of the conference's rich scientific programme. The latter has served two objectives: (i) to facilitate the mapping of the Iraqi pharmacological research and priorities, and (ii) to enable the establishment of international collaborations in the field. In that respect, the proceedings host the inspiring messages of several conference keynote speakers from abroad, and feature a variety of clinical and experimental studies that well relate to the priorities currently set by the Iraqi pharmacological community. Among these studies, readers will identify that popular themes include the pharmacological study and pharmaceutical analysis of medicinal herb extracts, the study of issues related to the emergence of antibiotic resistance, and the improvement of the pharmacokinetic performance of drugs through the adoption of nanotechnology. These themes align well with the abundance of recent studies on Iraqi ethnopharmacology [1,2], the worrying recent data regarding the antibiotic misuse in Iraq [3,4], and the challenges faced by the Iraqi pharmaceutical sector [5,6], respectively.

Our work as editors has focused on ensuring that the published works in these proceedings are presented with accuracy, clarity, and consistency. In this regard, we are grateful to all contributors for their fruitful collaboration in ensuring that their works are presented to the highest standard possible, despite the limitations imposed by the word count restrictions of the applied manuscript format. We hope that the readers of these proceedings will enjoy the informative nature of the papers included in them, and will benefit from the messages that they convey.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Both of the proceedings editors (and authors of this editorial) serve as members of the Editorial Board of the hosting journal.

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