

## **Supplementary File 1: NHP Researcher Survey**

### **Natural Health Product Researchers Attitudes and Opinions towards Open Access Publishing and a New Field-Specific Journal Survey**

The following questions were included in a single survey administered via SurveyMonkey.

#### **Survey Questions**

##### **Demographics:**

1) Date on which you are completing this survey: MM/DD/YYYY.

2) What is your full name?

3) What is your email address?

4) What is the department, university, and country of your primary affiliation?

5) What is your age?

6) What is your gender?

- a) Male
- b) Female
- c) Other
- d) Prefer not to answer

7) Please select from the following that best represents your current position:

- a) Graduate Student
- b) Post-Doctoral Fellow
- c) Research Associate
- d) Industry Scientist/Researcher
- e) Government Scientist/Researcher
- f) Lecturer
- g) Assistant Professor
- h) Associate Professor
- i) Professor
- j) Professor Emeritus
- k) Other; Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

- 8) Are natural health products, in any form, one of your research interests? (For the purpose of this question, please use Health Canada's definition of "natural health product" which includes vitamins and minerals; herbal remedies; homeopathic medicines; traditional medicines such as traditional Chinese medicines; probiotics; and/or other products like amino acids and essential fatty acids.)
- Yes
  - No
- 9) If you answered "yes" to question #8, please identify what types of NHP-related studies you have conducted. Please circle all that apply. (If you answered "no" to question #5, please do not complete this survey and click "submit" on the bottom of page.)
- Traditional use, phytochemical composition, and therapeutic properties of NHPs
  - Innovations and best practices in NHP cultivation, harvest, and processing
  - Industrial innovations and emerging technologies in the NHP industry
  - NHP manufacturing and quality control
  - NHP regulatory affairs
  - Adverse effects of NHPs
  - NHP-drug interactions
  - NHPs in clinical settings and healthcare education
  - Use of NHPs in society
  - Other (e.g. medical cannabis, ); Please specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) Where do you work? Please circle all that apply.
- University
  - Government
  - Industry
  - Hospital
  - Research Institute
- 11) How long have you worked in research?
- Fewer than 5 years
  - 5–10 years
  - 11–20 years
  - 20+ years
- 12) How long have you worked in NHP-specific research?
- Fewer than 5 years
  - 5–10 years
  - 11–20 years
  - 20+ years

**Publishing:**

13) How familiar are you with the concept of an “open access” journal? “Open access” can be defined as follows: “Open access refers to freely available, digital, online information. Open access scholarly literature is free of charge and often carries less restrictive copyright and licensing barriers than traditionally published works, for both the users and the authors.” [Source: <https://guides.library.cornell.edu/openaccess>]

- a) Very familiar
- b) Somewhat familiar
- c) Somewhat unfamiliar
- d) Unfamiliar

14) Have you ever been an author on a published article in an open access journal before?

- a) Yes
- b) No

15) If you answered “yes” in question 14, have you ever published in an open access journal related to NHPs?

- a) Yes
- b) No

16) As you answered “yes” in question 15, what was the earliest year you published in an NHP open access journal (i.e. 2019)?

17) As you answered “yes” in question 15, what was the most recent year you published in an NHP open access journal (i.e. 2019)?

18) Do you have a preference between publishing your research in open access vs subscription-based journals, all other factors (i.e. journal quality and reputation) being equal?

- a) I prefer to publish in open access journals
- b) I prefer to publish in subscription-based journals
- c) I have no preference towards either type of journal

19) Please explain why you selected the option you selected in question #18.

20) Which of the following factors do you value when selecting a journal for submission?

- a) Impact factor
- b) Readership
- c) Scope of the journal
- d) Timely publication
- e) Quality of peer-review
- f) Journal reputation

- g) Cost/affordability
  - h) Journal services on viewership/reach for your article
  - i) Journal services for showcasing your article (e.g. media release, social media platform)
  - j) Open peer-review
  - k) Blind peer-review
  - l) Open commentary on published papers
  - m) Indexing (Medline/PubMed, EBSCO, Web of Science etc.)
  - n) Author copyright (i.e. Creative Commons license)
  - o) Other, please specify\_\_\_\_\_
- 21) Which of the 3 following factors do you value the most when selecting a journal for submission?
- a) Impact factor
  - b) Readership
  - c) Scope of the journal
  - d) Timely publication
  - e) Quality of peer-review
  - f) Journal reputation
  - g) Cost/Affordability
  - h) Journal services on viewership/reach for your article
  - i) Journal services for showcasing your article (e.g. media release, social media platform)
  - j) Open peer-review
  - k) Blind peer-review
  - l) Open commentary on published papers
  - m) Indexing (Medline/PubMed, EBSCO, Web of Science etc.)
  - n) Author copyright (i.e. Creative Commons license)
  - o) Other, please specify\_\_\_\_\_
- 22) How do article processing fees influence your decision when choosing a journal to publish your scientific work?
- a) I would not submit to any journal that charged article processing fees
  - b) I would submit to an author-pays journal, but only if it was my only option for getting published
  - c) I would submit to an author-pays journal, but only if it was a highly reputable journal
  - d) I would submit to any relevant author-pays journals with a good reputation
  - e) Author charges do not influence my choice of where to submit my work
- 23) Everything else being equal, I would prefer to submit my scientific articles to:
- a) An open access journal that charges author fees
  - b) An open access journal that makes an attempt to reduce author fees (i.e. publically, donor, or society funded)
  - c) A subscription-based journal that is free to authors

24) In regards to publishing quality, I believe that:

- a) Open-access journals are of lesser quality than subscription-based journals
- b) Open-access journals are of equal quality than subscription-based journals
- c) Open-access journals are of better quality than subscription-based journals
- d) I am not sure whether there is a quality difference between open-access journals and subscription-based journals

25) How important is it to you to have your published scientific work publically accessible?

- a) Very important
- b) Somewhat important
- c) Somewhat unimportant
- d) Not important

26) Please provide detailed comments on how open access publishing, in general, could be improved for researchers.

### **A New, NHP Research-Specific Open Access Scholarly Journal:**

**Instructions: Please take a few minutes to peruse the website of the Journal of Natural Health Product Research (JNHPR) at <https://jnhpresearch.com/> before answering the following questions.**

27) The JNHPR was launched in 2018 in response to the rapidly growing interest in NHPs among researchers and scientists. To our knowledge, it is the first open access journal to focus exclusively on publishing NHP research regardless of academic discipline or methodology. Do you see value in this new journal?

- a) Yes
- b) No

28) If you wish, please explain your selection in question #27.

29) Much NHP research has been conducted outside of academic institutions, such as in government departments/agencies, and especially by industry researchers. As an NHP researcher, please select whether you view the publication of non-academic research published in a journal such as the JNHPR (given that all author conflicts of interest are declared) to be positive, neutral, or negative.

- a) Positive
- b) Neutral
- c) Negative

30) If you wish, please explain your selection in question #29.

31) The JNHPR seeks to implement a donation campaign that would help to support the operations of the journal, serve to (partially or fully) reduce authors' article publishing fees and establish a grant fund for NHP research. Please select whether you view this journal donation campaign to be positive, neutral, or negative.

- a) Positive
- b) Neutral
- c) Negative

32) If you wish, please provide detailed feedback on how the JNHPR can improve its donation campaign. Prior to answering this question, please read the donation campaign here: <https://jnhpresearch.com/index.php/jnhpr/support>

33) Do you believe that more NHP research published in open access journals would benefit the NHP researcher community as a whole?

- a) Yes
- b) No

34) If you were looking to publish your own NHP-related research, would you consider the JNHPR?

- a) Yes
- b) No

35) Irrespective of your answer to question #34, what would better incentivize you to publish your research in the JNHPR?

36) We are seeking to gather a wide variety of responses to our survey. If you know of someone who may have an opinion about publishing in this field, please provide their name and email address below:

37) Some study investigators of this research study are affiliated with the JNHPR. As an NHP researcher, we would appreciate the opportunity to involve you in the journal. This will also provide you with further opportunities to learn more about, and positively impact this new publication, exclusively designed to serve the international NHP researcher community. Do you allow us to follow-up with you?

- a) Yes
- b) No

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Keep an eye open as the results of our study will be published in the JNHPR. If you have any additional comments, please use the space below. Please note that we will not share your contact information with anyone and only people affiliated with the study will see this information. Please bookmark <https://jnhpresearch.com/> if you are interested in learning more about the results of our study as it will be published in the Journal of Natural Health Product Research.