

Academic Staff Profile

Personal Profile

Personal Details

Name: Dr. Paul Magutu Njaria Title/Qualification: PhD (Medicinal Chemistry); M. Pharm (Pharmaceutical Analysis); B. Pharm (UoN). Department: Pharmacognosy and Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Designation/Position: Chairperson of Department & Lecturer of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Email: magutu.paul@ku.ac.ke Contact Address: P. O. Box 14548 – 00400, Nairobi. Areas of Specialization: - Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance & Control. - Medicinal Chemistry & Drug Synthesis. - Drug Discovery and Development Research Interests: - Development and Validation of Novel Methods/Procedures of Drug Analysis. - Discovery, Synthesis and Development of Novel Drugs. - Genetic Basis of Variability in Drug Responses – Pharmacogenomics. Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&authuser=2&user=WsHOLxYAAAAJ. ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7675-2909.	
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Academic & Professional Qualifications

Academic Qualifications

- 2017: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD in Medicinal Chemistry) - University of Cape Town.
- 2011: Master of Pharmacy in Pharmaceutical Analysis (M. Pharm) - University of Nairobi.
- 2005: Bachelor of Pharmacy - University of Nairobi.

Professional Courses/Short Trainings

- Sep. 2022: Funding Opportunities: Strategies for writing a Winning Grant Proposal; virtual.
- May 2022: New Research Management System (KENRIS) and Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Mainstreaming; virtual.
- Dec. 2019: ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Implementation Course by KENAS; Nairobi, Kenya.
- Nov. 2019: Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Short Course; Nairobi, Kenya.
- Jun. – Aug. 2016: Next Generation Scientist Internship Program at Novartis Pharma Ltd, Basel, Switzerland – Quality by Design (QbD) Strategies in Formulation of Therapeutic Peptides and Oligonucleotides.
- Jul. 2008: Quality Assurance & Good Manufacturing Practices - Quality Control of Medicines and their Efficacy: Stability Testing, Bioavailability and Bio-Equivalence Studies; Nairobi, Kenya.
- May 2013: Modern Technologies in Analytical Instrumentation; Nairobi, Kenya.

- Mar. – Apr. 2012: Strategic Leadership Development Program (SLDP) at the Kenya School of Government (KSG); Nairobi, Kenya.
- June – July 2008: Drug Quality Assurance Practices; Nairobi, Kenya.
- Apr. 2008: Emergency First Aid by St. John Ambulance Kenya; Nairobi, Kenya.
- Mar. 2007: Technical Training on Principles of Water Purification and Handling of Arium® 611 and 61316; Nairobi, Kenya.

Employment History

- Dec. 2020 – To Date: Lecturer: Department of Pharmacognosy and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, School of Pharmacy, Kenyatta University.
- Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2020: Head of Wet Chemistry Unit [Assistant Chief Pharmacist] at the National Quality Control Laboratory for Drugs and Medical Devices (NQCL) under the Ministry of Health.
- Dec. 2011 – Jan. 2014: Head of Quality Assurance Unit [Assistant Chief Pharmacist] at NQCL.
- Dec. 2009 – Nov. 2011: Pharmaceutical Analyst [Senior Pharmacist] at NQCL.
- Feb. 2007 – Nov. 2009: Pharmaceutical Analyst [Pharmacist] at NQCL.
- Jan 2006 – Jan 2007: Pharmacist Intern, Ministry of Health.

Achievements

- Among top 20 PhD students selected globally for the Next Generation Scientist Internship Program by Novartis Pharma AG, Basel, Switzerland in 2016.
- Gold Medal by Laboratory & Allied LTD for being the best final year student in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Gandhi Smarak Nidhi Trustee Fund Prize for being the best final year student in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Pfizer Pharmaceuticals Prize for being the best final year student in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Pfizer Pharmaceuticals Prize for being the best final year student in Pharmaceutical Chemistry in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- PentaPharm Ltd Prize for being the best student in Pharmacy Practice, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Regal Pharmaceuticals Ltd Excellence Award for Pharmaceutics for being the best student in Pharmaceutics in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Strathmore College, School of Accountancy Prize for having been the best overall student in CPA Part 1 internal examinations held in the year 2000.

Publications

Referred Journals

- van der Westhuyzen, R.; Mabhula, A.; **Njaria, P. M.**; Müller, R.; Ngumbu Muhunga, D.; Taylor, D.; Lawrence, N.; Njoroge, M.; Brunschwig, C.; Moosa, A.; Singh, V.; Rao, S. P. S.; Manjunatha, U. H.; Smith, P. W.; Warner, D. F.; Street, L. J.; Chibale, K. Benzoheterocyclic Oxime Carbamates Active against Mycobacterium Tuberculosis: Synthesis, Structure–Activity Relationship, Metabolism, and Biology Triaging. *J. Med. Chem.* **2021**, acs.jmedchem.1c00707. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.1c00707>.
- Mwangi, A. N.; Njogu, P. M.; Maru, S. M.; Njuguna, N. M.; **Njaria, P. M.**; Kiriiri, G. K.; Mathenge, A. W. Meloxicam Emulgels for Topical Management of Rheumatism: Formulation Development, in Vitro and in Vivo Characterization. *Saudi Pharm. J.* **2021**, 29 (4), 351–360. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsps.2021.03.005>.

- Akester, J. N.; **Njaria, P.**; Nchinda, A.; Le Manach, C.; Myrick, A.; Singh, V.; Lawrence, N.; Njoroge, M.; Taylor, D.; Moosa, A.; Smith, A. J.; Brooks, E. J.; Lenaerts, A. J.; Robertson, G. T.; Iøerger, T. R.; Mueller, R.; Chibale, K. Synthesis, Structure–Activity Relationship, and Mechanistic Studies of Aminoquinazolinones Displaying Antimycobacterial Activity. *ACS Infect. Dis.* **2020**, 6 (7), 1951–1964. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsinfecdis.0c00252>.
- **Njaria, P. M.**; Abuga, K. O.; Kamau, F. N.; Chepkwony, H. K. A Versatile HPLC Method for the Simultaneous Determination of Bromhexine, Guaifenesin, Ambroxol, Salbutamol/Terbutaline, Pseudoephedrine, Triprolidine, and Chlorpheniramine Maleate in Cough–Cold Syrups. *Chromatographia* **2016**, 79 (21–22), 1507–1514. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10337-016-3158-1>.
- **Njaria, P. M.**; Okombo, J.; Njuguna, N. M.; Chibale, K. Chloroquine-Containing Compounds: A Patent Review (2010 – 2014). *Expert Opin. Ther. Pat.* **2015**, 25 (9), 1003–1024. <https://doi.org/10.1517/13543776.2015.1050791>.

Books and Books Chapters

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Conference/Workshops/Seminar Papers

Conference Papers

- Antimycobacterial 2-aminoquinazolinones: Synthesis and Biological Evaluation - Gordon Research Conference and Seminar on Tuberculosis; Lucca (Barga), Italy. 24th – 30th June 2017.
- Structure-Antimycobacterial Activity Studies of 2-aminoquinazolinones - Malaria, Tuberculosis and Neglected Tropical Diseases: Progress in Drug Discovery and Development; Cape Town, South Africa. 15th – 18th Nov. 2016.

Workshops Papers

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Seminar Papers

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Student Co-authored Publications

- **Eric Mutua** (2020). A Study of the Quality of Multivitamin Supplements in Nairobi County (Co-supervisor). M. Pharm Thesis, University of Nairobi.

Other Publications

Theses and Dissertations

- **Njaria P. M.** (2017). Antimycobacterial 2-Aminoquinazolinones and Benzoxazole-Based Oximes: Synthesis, Biological Evaluation, Physicochemical Profiling and Supramolecular Derivatization. PhD Thesis, University of Cape Town.
- **Njaria P. M.** (2011). Development and Validation of a Liquid Chromatographic Method for the Simultaneous Determination of Bromhexine, Guaifenesin, Ambroxol, Salbutamol/Terbutaline, Pseudoephedrine, Triprolidine and Chlorpheniramine Maleate in Cough–Cold Syrups. M. Pharm Thesis, University of Nairobi.

- **Njaria P. M.** (2005). A Study of the Quality of Aspirin Tablets in Nairobi City. B. Pharm Project Dissertation, University of Nairobi.

Research

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Funded Projects

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Conferenced/Workshops/Seminars Attended

Conferences Attended

- Oct. 2019: 4th Biennial Scientific Conference on Medical Products Regulation in Africa (SCoMRA IV); Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.
- June 2017: Gordon Research Conference and Seminar on Tuberculosis; Lucca (Barga), Italy.
- Nov. 2016: H3D Symposium - Malaria, Tuberculosis and Neglected Tropical Diseases: Progress in Drug Discovery and Development; Cape Town, South Africa.

Workshops Attended

- Nov. 2009: Workshop on Countering Counterfeiting by AstraZeneca; Nairobi, Kenya.

Seminars Attended

- June 2013: Consultation on New Medicines, Quality Control and Laboratory Standards; WHO, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Sep. 2009: WHO Interregional Seminar for Quality Control Laboratories on Organization of Sampling and Testing Projects; Nairobi, Kenya.

Supervision of Postgraduate Students

Masters

Successful Master's Theses

- **Eric Mutua (2020)**. A Study of the Quality of Multivitamin Supplements in Nairobi County (Co-supervisor). M. Pharm Thesis, School of Pharmacy, University of Nairobi.

Ph. D

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Professional/ Consultancy (Editor/ Peer review in journals, Networks/ Collaborations, External Examiner, Patents)

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Community Service and Other Engagements

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Affiliation of Professional Bodies

- Registered Pharmacist in Kenya by the Pharmacy and Poisons Board
- Member of Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya (MPSK)

National and International awards and Recognitions

- Gold Medal by Laboratory & Allied LTD for being the best final year student in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Gandhi Smarak Nidhi Trustee Fund Prize for being the best final year student in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Pfizer Pharmaceuticals Prize for being the best final year student in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Pfizer Pharmaceuticals Prize for being the best final year student in Pharmaceutical Chemistry in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- PentaPharm Ltd Prize for being the best student in Pharmacy Practice, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Regal Pharmaceuticals Ltd Excellence Award for Pharmaceutics for being the best student in Pharmaceutics in the School of Pharmacy, UoN, 2004/2005.
- Strathmore College, School of Accountancy Prize for having been the best overall student in CPA Part 1 internal examinations held in the year 2000.

Administrative Positions Held

Recognized university administrative positions

- May 2022 – To Date: Chairperson, Department of Pharmacognosy and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, School of Pharmacy, Kenyatta University.

Other administrative positions Held

- Head of Wet Chemistry Unit (NQCL).
- Head of Quality Assurance Unit (NQCL).