

# Pharmacognosy

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[Prof. J. Mwangi](#) [8] - Head of Thematic Unit

### **Introduction**

Pharmacognosy is the study of the physical, chemical, biochemical and biological properties of crude extracts, drug substances or potential drugs or drug substances of natural origin. It also involves the search for new drugs from natural sources.

### **History of the Thematic Unit of Pharmacognosy**

The thematic unit of Pharmacognosy is part of the Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacognosy which was created in 1995 when the Faculty of Pharmacy was created out of the then Faculty of Medicine. Prior to this time, it existed as a course unit under the Department of Pharmacy which was created in 1974.

### **Staff**

The Department has highly qualified members of staff to carry out teaching, research and service provision in Pharmacognosy. This includes 1 full professor, 3 lecturers and 3 tutorial fellow. In addition teaching is supported by technical members of staff.

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### **Alumni**

## Pharmacognosy

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All B.Pharm graduates are alumni of the Pharmacology and Therapeutics thematic unit (click [here](#) [16] for undergraduate alumni).

The thematic unit also has several [post-graduate alumni](#) [17]:

- Onyambu Meshack Ondora (MSc, 2011)
- Maina Benjamin B (MSc, 2011)
- Misonge Jared Onyanacha (MSc, 2011)
- Baragu Benjamin Mwea (MSc, 2011)
  
- Sifuma Shaban W. A. (MSc, 2012)

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