**RESEARCH TOOLS NEED ASSESMENTS OF BIOMEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AND RESERACHERS ACROSS AFRICA**

**INTRODUCTION**

This survey is being carried out by the Medicines Utilization Research in Africa (MURIA) Group with the aim of assessing the areas of needs that could be met to enhance research and training capabilities across Africa in Drug Utilization (DU) and other areas of Biomedical Sciences.

A common problem among many African scientists is that of limited resources to develop and maintain strong research programs and institutions even after they might have had opportunities of training in high income countries. A few who have established key research areas in biomedical sciences are often scientifically isolated with limited opportunities or possibilities for interaction to realize and build synergy from the knowledge and technical skills they have individually established.

In response to the above concerns and challenges, The MURIA Group wishes to facilitate access to relevant resources for Drug Utilization Researches (e.g Dictionary of DDDs, ATCs, DU90% calculation tools, Data Management Programs e.t.c) and others focusing on Genomics and Bioinformatics, Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacometrics, Bioanalysis, Drug Analysis and Metabolism, Drug Development , Clinical Trial Sciences and other areas of biomedical sciences via an e-infrastructure platform named ‘**The African Pharmacology Science Gateway (APSG),** a collaborative project initiated by the African Institute of Biomedical Sciences and Technology in collaboration with the ei4Africa consortium, funded by The European Union and the Swedish Research Council **(**Accessible at <http://sgw.africa-grid.org/pharmacology-science-gateway>)

In order to meet the goals of setting up this infrastructure, we therefore request that you kindly indicate your research interests and identified resources that would enhance your research capabilities which you may be lacking at the moment by supplying the information required below.

**SECTION A (PERSONAL INFORMATION)**

1. Name in full: Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms…………………………………………………………………………………………
2. Country of Practice:……………………………………………………………………………………………………..
3. Name of Institution:………………………………………………………………………………………………………
4. Department/Unit:…………………………………………………………………………………………………………
5. E mail:……………………………………………………………..Tel:………………………………………………………..
6. Qualifications with Dates:…………………………………………………………………………………………….

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**SECTION B (CURRENT RESEARCH AREAS AND INTERESTS)**

1. List 3 of your key research areas and academic interests:

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1. Indicate your recent publications/ conference presentations

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**SECTION C (RESEARCH SKILLS AND RESOURCES)**

1. Indicate the skills and techniques you have acquired through your research and training – especially those that you can teach others

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1. What type of tools for DU Research or DU lecturing/training can you provide?

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1. What other resources (financial and personnel) are currently available to you to conduct your research?

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**SECTION D (NEEDS AND KNOWLEDGE GAPS)**

1. Please indicate what resources and tools you require to be more efficient in your research areas which you will like to have access to via the APSG ( please have a look at the APSG to see what tools are currently available, see link above)

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1. What are your knowledge gaps/skills you would like to acquire?

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1. Please indicate any other relevant information

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NB: If not already done so – please sign up for the MURIA group at <http://muria.nmmu.ac.za/Membership>. Our vision is to promote joint drug utilization research across Africa to improve the rational use of medicines. Please also join the discussion about how to use the APSG on <http://www.sci-gaia.eu/> 🡪 user forum.

Thank you.