

## S14-4 Is a generalist unwelcomed by the pharmaceutical sciences?

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Field of study relating to natural medicines ranges from taxonomy and phytochemistry to molecular biology or proteomics, and all sorts of further studies can be developed from it. Considering that pharmacognosy harbors such deep and wide area, how can each of us manage ourselves as a professional in pharmacognosy either from educational or scientific standpoint? Researchers would spontaneously accumulate much information and acquire special techniques concerning to their targets through research activities, and which made them specialists on the particular matter; however, these specialties may little make it easy to figure out whole extent of pharmacognosy. Merchants dealing with hundreds of crude drug products are also specialists but seemed to have difficulties with understanding all aspects of natural medicines. On the other hand, changes in the educational curriculum for pharmacist forced us to lecture on Kampo medicine in addition to conventional lectures on natural resources, and the social attention on health food has long been enthusiastic, that fields relating to pharmacognosy are growing larger now. Research activities of highly specialized field sounds excellent for a scientific development, while the vast scope of pharmacognosy might provide something unique and original style of research and educational activities. My experience on studies of the medicinal plants based on fieldwork will be shown in the lecture hoping to encourage the conversation on future aspects and to characterize the best possible style of pharmacognosy.