
From the Chief Editor's Desk

Zafar Ullah Chaudhry

Dear Readers,

The current issue marks the first issue of the 29th volume of the Journal of the College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan (JCPSP). The past year witnessed a tremendous increase in manuscripts submission, which comprised of 1,378 manuscripts from 1st January till December 2018. Out of which, 673 (49%) were from Pakistan, 358 (26%) from China, and 183 (13%) from Turkey with a smaller proportion submitted from the rest of the world. Among those submissions, 69 have been published within the year 2018, while 164 (12%) have been accepted and lined up for publication in 2019. To overcome the anxiety of waiting for hard copy publication, the JCPSP has introduced an e-pub ahead of formal publication section. Even more importantly, the average processing time from manuscript submission to acceptance has been reduced to 133 days on an average, against the standard timeframe of 180 days. The next target is to reduce it to 90-100 days. The Impact Factor for JCPSP for the year 2017 was increased in June 2018 as 0.439 for the total citations of 1,488.

JCPSP has also made a number of changes in categorising different articles submitted for publication, based upon the importance of the subject and the study design. Higher Education Commission and Pakistan Medical & Dental Council give credit to only original category of articles, about which there have been some reservations, as lot of hard works goes into collecting, analysing data, and writing of an article. Being a training institution, CPSP has to cater postgraduates junior and senior teaching staff who write all these categories in

bulk. In order to accommodate these studies, JCPSP has introduced different categories. The authors are advised to follow instructions to authors before submitting the manuscript so as to comprehend format requirement for each category. It would avoid the unnecessary delay and will help in quick processing of articles. JCPSP indigenous online submission and tracking system is in testing stages now, and will soon be implemented.

JCPSP provides honorarium to the reviewers for their intellectual contribution. It is their hard work that helps us in maintaining high quality of published articles. Publication of such a flourishing journal would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of reviewers. Taking note of their efforts, the amount of honorarium is being considered to increase in near future. Moreover, CPSP is accredited with Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) of U.S.A as a CME Provider; and this activity carries 3 AMA PRA category 1 CME credits that are internationally acceptable.

I hope that the readers and contributors will find these changes more friendly towards the end-users.

Wish you a happy new year!

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