I would like to wish all readers and contributors a very happy New Year. The Journal of College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan (JCPSP) is publishing its 27th volume in 2017. JCPSP – a prestigious journal with Impact Factor – provides a portal through which contributors can share their research without any charges, a service unimaginable in present day business-oriented world.

Our policy is to ensure that this Journal upholds the highest scientific and ethical standards and keeps pace with the rapidly advancing world in the field of biomedical sciences. Our editorial board not only maintains quality of articles but also provides guidance to novice in the field of research through its parent body – The College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan. Quality assurance of published articles needs an explicit definition and criteria, especially in the background of number of medical journals in the field. Currently, no work is being done in this regard; though based upon unknown criteria, categories have been assigned to various journals by accreditation bodies by constituting committees based upon experts, the selection process of whom is yet to be defined.

Review process at JCPSP is a matter of concern as there is a long delay in processing of articles. Multiple factors are behind this delay, foremost of which is tardy response from worthy reviewers and then the long time taken by authors themselves in addressing the observations of editorial board and reviewers. We are trying hard to give an impetus to our review process without compromising on quality of the manuscript.

Recently, a poll has been conducted, the results of which are being compiled. It is suggested to reduce the number of hard copies of the Journal and make the articles accessible through internet free of cost. This will reduce on the College economic burden of hard copy printing, binding and mailing, which at present amounts to millions of rupees. Recently, JCPSP has launched its App for smartphones. It can be downloaded free of cost and users will be able to access the articles and enjoy reading with ease. We also plan to launch the online submission and tracking system for the authors from this year.

In the year 2016, the number of manuscripts received from all over the world and the citation frequency of published articles have increased. This reflects the global awareness of the presence of JCPSP. Similarly, the number of visits on JCPSP website has further increased with larger number of downloads. We hope to continue to attract high-quality papers from all over the world across various disciplines in 2017, as well. I wish happy reading to all of our Fellows, contributors, healthcare providers, and policy-makers.

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