

## EDITORIAL

# PJNM on its way of recognition... “three dots” as a symbol of sentiments and struggle.

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*‘Submitting an article to a refereed journal is a wonderful way of getting several distinguished scholars to engage with your work and give you detailed feedback– all for free! Often you will be asked to re-submit with revisions, and though it may be a painful process, the end result is invariably a better understanding of the field you want to excel in.’*

This is the first issue of Pakistan Journal of Nuclear Medicine (PJNM) under new editorial team. New administration of PJNM has introduced electronic file system for article submission and publication. Now, to submit a research paper to PJNM the author registers via an electronic platform, the “eJManager.” This system guides authors through all the steps for submission of an article. After submission is completed properly, an automated intimation is generated by the system to take consent of all the co-authors. The editorial work starts, evaluation, and subsequent revision of the manuscript is completed through e-communication between editor, reviewers, and authors. This protocol, as in practice of all the high standard journals, gives added benefit of speed we can achieve during the editorial work. Publishing through electronic format, a journal provides more flexible ways to present data, including easy linking with other online resources. Encrypted contents can be available immediately after acceptance in proper format so that author can take the advantage for their published work for promotion or attracting funds from sponsoring agencies.

It takes quite a long time for a nascent journal to build reputation in publishing industry and even longer in the presence of tens of reputed journals in the infinitesimal specialty like nuclear medicine. Publishing [1] a journal definitely needs lots of investment in all kinds of resources. Difficulties begin with initial financial investment till final attraction of potential authors. It needs [2] lots of funds which of course either come from buyers/subscriptions or from commercial advertisements. Without record of indexation and impact factor [3], it is difficult to attract researchers as well as funds from donor agencies.

Indexation of PJNM is planned by the end of next year. It is impossible to get approval from international regulating bodies without proper traceable transparent record of publications of any journal. This process, in addition to many other requirements, needs specific format of data and record of all the process from submission, peer review, and compliance to comments there in. We did not find relevant record of previous issues, like process of peer reviewing and comments of referees for the published or rejected manuscripts. We have started generating the required format of all the files. We are keeping all the traceable records so that academic cum administrative audit is possible at any stage by any agency, if deemed necessary. Once we complete the pre-requisites for indexation, especially the number of years of publications, PJNM management shall submit the case without any delay.

PJNM, as the name clearly indicates, is lap child of our small community. It was started from the forum of Pakistan Society of Nuclear Medicine. It has to be taken as ours, Pakistani nuclear medicine professionals’ responsibility to take care of this nascent conifer. No one from international community will submit his/her research unless we do something substantial for this journal. We need to dedicate our resources.

Research is an expensive and demanding “way of life”; [4,5] and publishing research work is even more vital to get benefits of such “way of life.” It needs resources. It consumes time and energies [6]. It requires dedication. But then, we don’t have any other choice. One can be a good clinician, but to get access and respect in international community, we have to work (research) and then very important, we have to publicize our work.

I believe research of any level and at any level can be compiled and published. This brings good for ourselves, and serves good for our national interests [7]. If you have any idea, discuss it with your colleagues to make these ideas executable. Ideas are always priceless unless you work on and publish them. Take smaller steps when ambiguities exist. If for any

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reason you are not yet ready for doing original research, you can even opt for meta-analysis or review articles. Management of PJNM is always ready to help and cooperate with you to accomplish. Dear Colleagues, publicize yourself by publishing your materialized ideas.

PJNM management also needs and awaits cooperation from all of you, you are the stakeholders. We need submissions, we need volunteers for reviewing. We need working hands and

support for gathering academia from abroad as well. Please do help us, help your specialty, help PJNM.

PJNM is YOURS!

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