
Editorial: Ten Years Journey of Journal of Dow University of Health Sciences

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A dream and a vision saw the light of dawn in 2007 in the form of the first published issue of Journal of Dow University of Health Sciences (JDUHS). The journey began with an aim to provide a platform to scientific community where they could share their findings in the form excellent publications. A decade later, it seems appropriate to reflect on how the journal has developed and progressed. Moreover, the editorial on this occasion provides an excellent opportunity to publically acknowledge and appreciate the participation of members of scientific community who significantly contributed in the regular publication of this journal.

It all began when the Vice Chancellor of Dow University of Health Sciences envisioned to starts a journal which provide an open platform for every medical and scientific scholar to disseminate their findings relevant to our major medical and health related problems. It was a tedious task for me as a Managing Editor at first, but with the mentorship of an experienced and devoted senior Parton-in-Chief and an efficient Editorial Board, it became a highly learning activity.

JDUHS in its very first year (2007) got recognition by IMEMR, PakMediNet and Pakistan Medical & Dental Council (PM & DC). In the year 2011, just within first 5 year of JDUHS' initiation the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan also accepted and recognized the professional credibility of the journal.

JDUHS publishes three (03) issues per year and receives academic contributions from researchers both in clinical and basic sciences arena. At JDUHS, we publish the most authoritative reviews of clinical and ethical subjects that are of societal relevance. To maintain the best publication practices JDUHS exercises strict plagiarism policy as guided by international bodies as well as HEC.

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Furthermore, thorough review is also obtained from leading researchers working in the field for every submitted manuscript. The published version of JDUHS is openly available and accessible without any charges and hard copies are also disseminated nationally and internationally. The archives are also maintained online on regular basis and all past issues are publically accessible.

To date, a total of 275 manuscripts from various scientific disciplines were published in JDUHS, of which 176 were original articles, 19 were short communications and 25 were review articles. The manuscripts acceptance rate in JDUHS is 50%, which is considerably declining over time, signifying the importance given to the stringent peer review process. As a way forward, we are planning to introduce an online manuscript submission system for JDUHS. This will make the entire publication process electronically manageable and will also speed up the submission, review, editing and publication.

Additionally, journal office in collaboration with other departments organized several research related workshops to train and build the capacity to conduct and publish better quality research papers. These workshops included research methodology, quantitative data analysis, epidemiological study designs, writing scientific papers and how to avoid plagiarism and many others.

At the end, I would like to offer my gratitude and acknowledge the efforts of all those who have been a part of this purely academic activity. The section editors, associate editors and assistant editors, who worked hard to improve the quality of manuscripts submitted for the publication through their valuable input in the form of reviews. We would certainly like to thank all the authors for choosing JDUHS to disseminate their research findings. We would also like to acknowledge reviewers for their earnest suggestions and to all editorial office holders as without their support this journey of a decade would not have been possible.