

Time for need of a new journal



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I take this opportunity to congratulate the Editorial team of the JDS and the publishers for this new venture. The last decade, with publishing in Scholarly Journals being made mandatory by University Grants commission, the Medical Council of India and Dental council of India, saw proliferation of numerous scholarly journals.

With the plummeting of scholarly journals, issue of quality of journals cropped up^{1,2}. Numerous societies and individuals formed journals. A couple of them did not survive the challenge due to financial hardship while a section of them did not meet the stringent ethical standards. As I read the situation, there are certain foremost aspects that need immediate attention¹.

1. **Access:** Free access of knowledge shall not be denied. I have been a strong supporter of free access policy. Knowledge that is generated with participation of public and public money should be made free. Of course, to sustain the journal for running cost, the journal may charge the authors and that shall be too a "Not for Profit Motive"
2. With innovations in digital media and access, the publication has transcended from library prints to computer access. This has made even printing and publication easier. Today, it is possible for a couple of dedicated people to run a journal
3. **Ethics:** Publication and scientific misconduct are happening. It is not because of a genuine error or an intentional problem but due to ignorance of basic facts. In India, students are needed to be taught research and publication ethics at the undergraduate level. This is a genuine problem that needs to be addressed.

4. **Scientific Publication:** Science and literary writing are two different concepts and the difference need to be highlighted from UG level itself
5. **Habit of reading:** The student needs to be molded for a lifelong reading and learning process. Journals are the shortest route for the same.

I would be extremely happy if the newly proposed journal gives all the above due concern and implement the same. An exclusive student's section, where fresh ideas would be encouraged will be an added attraction. Mentorship of faculties and student led research will turn the journal in to a more student friendly one.

I wish the editorial team and publishers the very best.

REFERENCES

1. Rehn J, Pollock BG. Why do we need yet another journal? IADR, 2012,1(1),9-10.
2. Eaton KA, Giannobile WV, Sourgen DL, Balaji SM, Honkala E, Lynch CD. Improving the quality of papers submitted to dental journals: Transcription of session for editors, associate editors, publishers and others with an interest in scientific publishing held at IADR meeting in Cape Town on Wednesday, 25 June 2014. J Dent 2015; p ii: S0300-571200036-6.