Editorial: what editors welcome

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Translation: The University of Toledo Journal of Medical Sciences, online journal, launched a few years ago by UT, is accepting again papers in all aspects of medical sciences in four different categories:

(i) original articles reporting results of basic or clinical research;
(ii) case reports;
(iii) reviews;
(iv) and editorials.

I have agreed to take a role of new Editor-in-Chief of this journal, together with the Associate Editors: Dr. Roberta Redfern, Clinical Research Scientist from ProMedica Research Department, Toledo Ohio and Arjun Sabharwal Associate Professor of Library Administration and Digital Initiatives librarian of The University of Toledo, Ohio.

Papers will be peer reviewed by two reviewers and at this moment there are no publication charges. This will provide an opportunity for the medical students, graduate students, residents, fellows and faculty to publish research observation in a timely manner. Manuscripts will be considered with the understanding that they report original work and are not under consideration for publication by any another journal. Furthermore, we would like to complete peer review of the papers in most cases within two weeks upon submission and reach a decision on acceptance soon after.

We would like to continue tradition of this journal to accept scientifically sound papers including controversial reports. This is on the assumption that progress in science can be achieved by meaningful discussion and understanding of the scientists using different paradigms and tactics of modeling and interpretation of medical science. Progress in science, including all branches of medical sciences, is not an endless buildup of data and ideas, but more accurately it is a revolutionary process during which dreams of new findings about the causes, treatment and prevention of disease surfaces. In the last century this process resulted in the golden age of sciences. In the 20th century investment in medical sciences and public health resulted in an unprecedented improvement in the health and wellbeing of people. Between 1900 and 1999 life expectancy increased by 40 %, which is a greater raise than in the past 250,000 years of the human existence (1).

This incredible progress has come with a cost as health care spending gets higher, at levels greater than gross domestic product (GDP). For example Sorenson et al. reports that in 2009 average health spending reached 9.5% of GDP in the USA, rising from 8.8% in 2008 (2). The United States spends approximately $ 3 trillion a year which is more than other high-income countries, and yet our international peers that are spending less provide better health care (3). Thus, rising health expenditure requires complex balancing act between cost controls, fair access to beneficial treatments, hopefully through common public health care coverage.

We believe that by generating new knowledge and fueling innovation we can provide solutions to the problems facing medical sciences of 21 century. This is why science matters and therefore while all papers in the field of medical sciences will be considered, the journal will welcome especially the manuscripts describing new approaches to old problems and these dealing with reduction of health care costs.

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