

Editorial

Saudi Medical Journal

The New Century

Editors

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The Saudi Medical Journal is entering the new millennium with a tone of optimism. After many strides in the last 10 years, the Journal has been able to achieve 3 major endeavors in the first year of the century.

Indexing. The Journal has now received approval for listing in the National Library of Medicine, and it will be available on MedLine and PubMed. This is an important step for the Saudi Medical Journal (Saudi Med J) as it will now be part of international literature, available worldwide. This has been carried out after thorough and prolonged improvement in the regular circulation of the Journal, speeding up of manuscript acceptance and publication, improving the style of presentation and the number of pages published yearly, as well as increasing the circulation of the Journal to monthly instead of bi-monthly. The Editorial Staff have worked diligently, attending to all papers submitted so as to appear in the best lay-out with minimal or no errors. Proofing of all articles is now mandatory in the Journal, and we use electronic media, express mail and faxing to publish all articles on time. Authoritative reviews and leading articles have been featured in all issues of the Journal. All the above endeavors have resulted in a most difficult task i.e. indexing of our Journal in Index Medicus. We applied for the indexing of Saudi Med J with the MedLine, and this was approved at the beginning of January 2000. We are also currently indexed in Excerpta Medica in EMBASE and cited in Current Contents which is a component of the ISI Web of Science.

Saudi Medbase. The Saudi Med J has committed itself to protect all the literatures from different Saudi Journals and has produced the Saudi Medbase on CD Rom, which contains all the literature published between 1979 to 1995. We are currently updating this to include all literature published from 1979 to December 1999.

Website. We have established a Saudi Med J website (smj.org.sa) which will contain all the articles published from January 2000. This will be available for all our subscribers. It will have a research engine, and it will protect all the SMJ literature for the future.

A revision for the Editorial Board has been carried out and renewal of about half of the Board has been finalized. We would like to take the opportunity to thank the members of the Editorial Board who have completed their terms and these include Abdul-Latif Al-Faraidy, Abdullah Al-Khader, Abdul-Aziz Al-Nasser, Abdulrahman Al-Frayh, Samir Huraib, Abdullah Al-Dalaan, Mahmood Mafee, Ahmed Kissebah, Osman Al-Furayh, Moheeb Al-Abdullah, Musaed El-Fehaid, Gady Magbool, Sulaiman Fedail and Mohammed Abdul Jabbar. Their contribution has been invaluable and greatly appreciated and had a great impact on the Journal over the past years. As the Journal is now international, we have invited many national and international prestigious faculty members from the Kingdom and neighboring countries to join the Editorial Board and these include, Dirk Deleu, Abdullah Al-Mobeireek, Bahaa AbaAlkhail, Menwar Anazi, Ahmed Kurdi, Syed Haider, George Araj, Hassan Bassiouny, Hatem El-Shanti, Ali Ibrahim, Youssef Comair, Tariq Noman. Also, we have established an Advisory Board from prominent faculty who have been an integral part of the Journal for a long time and whose knowledge and expertise is invaluable. These include Khalaf Al-Moutaery, Muhammed Al-Mufti, Mansour Al-Nozha, George Bruyn and Khalid Tabbara.

Our long-term objectives are very ambitious, and we hope to make Saudi Medical Journal an establishment of national pride for the Kingdom and one of the distinguished international media of medical excellence.