

Saudi Medical Journal

Maintaining the previous, achieving more

PROGRESS

Saleh M. Al-Deeb, MD, FRCP.

Since it was founded in 1979, SMJ was progressing and advancing from all aspects through the support and hard work of the Editors, Advisory and Editorial Board Members and the staff.

During 2005, we appointed two Associate Editors for Saudi Medical Journal. Dr. Fahdah Alokaily is a Consultant Rheumatologist of the Riyadh Armed Forces Hospital since 2001. She gained Membership of the Royal College of Physicians, London, in 1996 and Arab Board in Internal Medicine. She is currently the Chairman of the Standard of Rheumatic Diseases Committee in the Medical Services of the Ministry of Defense. She is also the Supervisor of the Training Program of Internal Medicine and an active member of academic activities. We also welcome Dr. Sonia Khan as one of the new Associate Editors. Dr. Khan joined the Riyadh Armed Forces Hospital in 1992 as a Fellow in Adult Neurology, and is now the Director of the Neurosciences Department. She gained Adult Epileptology Fellowship, UCLA Medical Center in 1997, and Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, in 1998. Dr. Khan is a Consultant Neurologist, specializing in Epileptology and the Director of the Training Committee of the Neurology Board of the Saudi Medical Council.

Since the Journal was indexed in 2000, we simultaneously established a website, which over the years become very noticeable of its movement in the number of hits. In the year 2005, the Saudi Medical Journal website records more than 150,000 hits per month. The highest hits were from Saudi Arabia and North America followed by Europe, Arab countries and Asia.

A great increment in the number of manuscript received this year from different areas in the world, which eventually leads to increment in rejection rate. The principle is to improve the quality of the published articles by trying to select the best. This will create competition for good quality articles.

In the year 2005, we received a total of 1,374 manuscripts averaging to 100 manuscripts a month while in the year 2004 we received a total of 898 manuscripts. This figures record a 35% increase in the number of manuscripts received. The rejection rate also increased by 35% compared to the year 2004.

The impact factor of the Journal has doubled considerably over the last two years. In the year 2002, the Journal has an impact factor of 0.2 and has increased to 0.4 in the year 2004. Out of the 103 journals, Saudi Medical Journal also ranks fourth in the number of articles published according to the Journal Citation Reports of the ISI.

The journal has published a number of special issues in the past in the Arabic language with the most recent issue called "Health and Life". This endeavor was well supported by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Abdul-Aziz, our Patron, and Ketab Al-Otaibi, our Editorial Director. In addition to this, we are planning to have more supplements on important courses, workshops and symposia. We are willing to publish supplements on important topics and academic activities in the Kingdom or outside.

The Editors would like to thank the outgoing Advisory and Editorial Board members who have now finished their term (*Abdullah Al-Mobeireek, Abdullah Al-Rabeeah, Abdullah Abanmi, Yousef Comair, Hisham Akbar, Rabie Abdel-Halim, Saeed Al-Ghamdi, Maher Al-Hadidi, Hindi Al-Hindi, Abdulrahman Al-Rajhi, Assia Al Rawaf, Ali Hajeer, Aida Al Aqeel, Khalid Qattan, Randah R. Hamadeh and Ahmed Saleh*) and would like to welcome *Tarig Al-Khuwaitir, Mohammed Al-Rukban, Abdullah Alabassi, Zdenek Holub, Abdullah Al-Awashiz, Abimbola Osoba, Mohamed A. Seraj, Mohamed Harakati, Azam Jah Samdani and Abdulmohsen Al-Elq* to the Editorial Board. We also welcome Dr. Nazeer Khan as Statistical Advisor to the Journal. Dr. Khan is an Associate Professor from the Department of Preventive Dental Sciences, College of Dentistry, King Saud University, with a specialized interest in Dental and Medical Statistics.

The participation of a good reviewer has a great input on the quality of the scientific subject published, which further improves the quality of the Journal. We feel very grateful to our reviewers who participated in Saudi Medical Journal for the year 2005, without their help and advice, there will be crises in running the good quality outcome of SMJ.

In the future, we aim to pursue the development of the Journal seeking a wider recognition throughout the world. We will also aim for better quality of publications and more cooperation with the local journals in our area. We hope to widen the scope of the journal's educational value, and to be of interest to all doctors at different levels and specialities; because after all, the main aim of Saudi Medical Journal is to produce an active contribution in the scientific field through regular participation in academic activities and liaising with experienced reviewers to assure quality.

Editorial Message

Our thanks goes to the reviewers who have participated in the excellent review of manuscripts and books for the year 2004.

Ababneh, I
Abba, AA
Abdel-Gayoum, A
Abdel-Halim, RE
Abdel-Rahim, SI
Abdel-Salam GM
Abdelbasit, OB*
Abdelhadi, MS*
Abdo, AA*
Abdolkhaleg, D*
Abdul-Aziz, K*
Abdul-Hathi, MB
Abdul-Jabbar, AS
Abdul-Salim, K.
Abdullah, A
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Abouchala, N
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Mohammed AE*
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Zaidi, SM
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**Reviewers who reviewed 3 or more articles for the year 2005*