

A time to reflect as we end 2022

As we enter the month of December, activities tend to wind down as we take the opportunity to rest, recharge and reflect. The first milestone and highlight of this year for *Singapore Medical Journal (SMJ)* is the achievement of a historic impact factor of 3.331. The second milestone is our transition in July 2022 to partnering with a publisher, Wolters Kluwer Medknow, in order to improve our operational efficiency.^[1] We continue to work on improving the quality of the journal and will need all your support, our valued editorial board members, reviewers, authors and readers. Another change that will take place is the transition of *SMJ* to an online-only journal without distribution of print copies.

The December 2022 issue will mark the final time that *SMJ* will be distributed as a print copy. In recent years, we have already moved towards reducing the circulation of print copies, as the demand had dropped drastically with the ease of Internet access to our online articles. From January 2023, *SMJ* will only be available online, and the circulation of print copies to Singapore Medical Association (SMA) members who had previously chosen the option of receiving print copies by post will be discontinued. We understand that some of our loyal readers who are used to receiving print copies may be disappointed, but this decision was made only after much deliberation, both internally within *SMJ* and in consultation with the SMA Council. We needed to address the issues of production costs, environmental concerns, and the value proposition and relevance of continuing with print copies in light of reduced demand and the ease of online access. *SMJ* will remain freely accessible online, as it is our mission to serve as an educational platform for our local and international medical communities. Published articles are downloadable from our website and can be saved as PDF files for storage or printing. In selected circumstances, we remain open to the possibility of having print copies for distribution, such as in the context of special commemorative issues.

We would like to thank the authors, reviewers and editorial board members for their strong support and contribution towards the *SMJ* over the past one year. We hope that you will continue to submit your high-quality manuscripts to us. Although commentaries and reviews are usually commissioned by the editorial board, we are open to exploring unsolicited state-of-the-art reviews that are impactful, and your suggestions are welcome.

We remain committed to reducing the manuscript turnaround time, and indeed, significant progress has already been made in clearing the backlog that had accumulated. As the year draws to a close, we wish all our readers a joyful holiday season and a wonderful new year ahead.

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