

PERSPECTIVE



JCHIMP 7th anniversary

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With this issue, we complete volume 7 of the *Journal of Community Hospital Internal Medicine Perspectives* – JCHIMP. In this perspective piece, we will briefly review the history of the journal and its raison d'être. The *Annals of Internal Medicine* recently celebrated its 90th birthday. We are celebrating JCHIMP's 7th. We will discuss recent changes related to our publisher change at the end of volume 6.

1. Journal history

JCHIMP was conceived at the Minneapolis national meeting of the Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine during its Community Hospital Assembly in 2010. With the expert guidance of David Solomon [1], a pioneer in medical electronic publishing, we selected our publisher – Co-action Publishing of Stockholm, Sweden. Our first issue was posted in 2011 and was largely a Baltimore operation [2].

We experienced excellent growth almost immediately and saw a rapidly expanding readership. After the first few years, there were some transitions for the journal editorial leadership. The editor (Robert Ferguson) changed institutional bases in Baltimore, from Union Memorial Hospital to Greater Baltimore Medical Center (GBMC). These changes led to a slowdown in our growth rate in 2013 and 2014. The new arrangements and logistics transiently reduced the number of issues and publications. The associate editor, Richard Alweis, also relocated from Reading, PA, to Rochester, NY, in 2016. In moving to Rochester as DIO, the journal was able to add that system's sponsorship. The other major change that came to pass was the publisher transfer to Taylor and Francis, a large organization based in the UK and other European countries. The transfer caused significant delays in publications early in 2017 and was partially responsible for the drop in publication numbers as the delays in processes

caused some authors to withdraw (Table 1). We telescoped publication dates later in the year in order to meet our self-imposed quota of six issues in 2017. Looking ahead, we expect a normal every 2 months' publication cycle in 2018, starting with February.

2. Open access publishing and JCHIMP

Electronic open access publishing has many advantages over the paper medium. It is much faster and less expensive to produce. From the beginning, under Dr Solomon's guidance, we have stayed with this approach [3]. Although some in the electronic medium recommend immediate publication of accepted manuscripts [4] as soon as they are type set, we maintain 'issue publications'. We believe, as does the JCHIMP editorial board, that the majority of health care professionals prefer receiving their scientific journals that way. Although bad timing can lead to month long delays, it is still much faster than paper (R4). And when the timing is fortuitous, it can be amazingly efficient. One recent example demonstrated this. We were approached in August 2017 about publishing a manuscript dealing with a survey of 2016 applicants to the internal medicine fellowship match. The 10 authors wanted to expedite publication if possible so that the survey information would be published before the current 2017 fellowship process was completed. The manuscript was published in October, volume 7# 5, less than 3 months after it was initially submitted.

3. Publication statistics

With this issue containing 11 papers, we have now published 447 manuscripts in 7 years of existence in 35 issues. Our acceptance rate in 2017 as of mid-November is 74%. We expect in 2018 to exceed our previous high of 110. It is exciting to see the variety and

Table 1. JCHIMP no. of manuscripts and issues per year.

Year	No. of manuscripts	No. of issues per year
2011	31	4
2012	41	4
2013	30	3 (due to Hiatus)
2014	60	5
2015	90	6
2016	110	6
2017	90 estimated	6

locations of the authors – from 15 states and 3 foreign countries (Table 2).

With the transition to the new publishing platform now completed, we are better able to track article downloads for our papers. During the first quarter of this year, as the platform was continuing its development process, article downloads were down from historical norms, but had returned to pre-transition levels during Quarter 3, with 14,508 article downloads during those 3 months. We anticipate further growth during Quarter 4 and achieving new record levels for the journal. Citations of papers in the journal are also on the rise, and our work has been featured in a wide variety of highly respected journals, such as *Academic Medicine*, *American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, *American Surgeon*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *BMC Medical Education*, *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, *Eye*, *Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research*, *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*, and *Medical Teacher* to name just a few. JCHIMP is now

indexed in the Clarivate (formerly Thomson Reuters) Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI). After 18 months in the ESCI, a journal is automatically reviewed, and, if the citation activity is significant, it will then be included in the JCR, and given an official impact factor. The journal is in a good position to achieve this status at the time of the review, and speaks to the high quality of the work published here.

4. Peer review

A most important part of any peer review journal is the peer-review process which is a major influence on a journal's editorial practices. We now have in excess of 600 individuals on our active peer reviewer list. Many are residents and medical students who have not previously worked in the peer-review process (Table 3).

Inexperienced reviewers are guided in the process [5]. We make certain to not ask them to do more than that of which they are capable. A good review is time-consuming when done carefully and thoughtfully. We don't want to overburden any individual reviewer. Having the critical mass of reviewers that we now have allows us to limit most reviewers to no more than two requests per year. We have also compacted our review times from three weeks to two. This allows us to move on to alternate reviewers if necessary sooner.

Table 2. Institutions published in JCHIMP in 2017.

Abington Jefferson Health, PA	San Joaquin General Hospital, CA
Easton Hospital, PA	St. Francis Medical Center, NJ
Greater Baltimore Medical Center, MD	St. Louis University, IL
Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital, PA	St. Luke's Hospital, MO
Hurley Medical Center, MI	Trinitas Regional Medical Center, NJ
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, NY	Trios Health
Interfaith Medical Center, NY	Universal College of Medical Sciences, PA
Jamaica Hospital Medical Center, NY	University of Alberta, Canada
John T. Mather Memorial Hospital, NY	University of California San Diego, CA
Maryland ACP	University of Central Florida, FL
Medizinische Universität Graz – Austria	University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria, IL
MedStar Harbor Hospital, MD	University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics, IA
New York Presbyterian Hospital, NY	
New York University SOM, NY	University of Maryland, MD
OSF St. Francis Medical Center, IL	
Reading Health Systems, PA	University of Mississippi Medical Center, MS
Rochester Regional Health, NY	University of Tennessee, TN
Saba University	University of Texas Medical Branch @ Galveston
Saint Elizabeth Youngstown Hospital, OH	UPMC Mercy
	Virginia Tech Carilion SOM, VA

Table 3. JCHIMP peer reviewers, 2017.

Ana Abaroa Salvatierra
 Imad Abdulmajeed
 Mohammad AbuHishmeh
 Khalid Abusaada
 Amesh Adalja
 Amitesh Agarwal
 Manyoo Agarwal
 Sharjeel Ahmad
 Badr Othman AlBadr
 Chuck Albrecht
 Osman Ali
 Hassan Alkhawam
 Ahmed Al-khazraji
 Yanal Alnimer
 Richard Alweis
 Karla Arce
 Nobuhiro Ariyoshi
 Hamza Aurakzai
 Fred Balis
 Babar Bashir
 Talha Bashir
 Sijan Basnet
 Karen Beekman
 Ewelina Biskup
 Patrick Brine
 Dolores Buscemi
 Wayne Campbell
 Lucien Cardinal
 Stephanie Chan
 Lawrence Cheung
 Chester Choi
 Dobbin Chow
 John Cmar
 Ricardo Conti
 Gordon Crabtree
 Stefan David
 Janaki Deepak
 Anthony Donato
 Jennifer Dooley
 Shideh Doroudi
 Ryan Steven D'Souza
 Abhiram Duvvuri
 Asher Edwards
 Ahmed Elantably
 Emmanuel Elueze
 Margaret Eng
 Alex Essenmacher
 Robert Ferguson
 Laurel Fick
 Paul Foster
 Andrew Frei
 Ethan Fried
 Joseph Fuscaldo
 Sonal Gandhi
 Vishnu Garla
 George Waldon Garriss
 Ibrahim Ghobrial
 Julieta Gilson
 Venkata Subhash Gorrepati
 Sunil Goyal
 Gaurav Gulati
 Mohammadali Habibi

(Continued)

Table 3. (Continued).

Ali Haq
 Che Harris
 Duosha Hu
 Tom Hu
 Rajasekhar Jagarlamudi
 Elie Jean
 Meherwan B Joshi
 Alan Kaell
 Aditya Kalakonda
 Yugandhar Kandimalla
 Apurwa Karki
 Hameem I Kawsar
 Jason Kliiger
 Ajay Koirala
 Victor Kolade
 Mahesh Krishnamurthy
 Irena Kuca
 Sapna Kuehl
 Dongyan Liu
 John Wesley Logan
 Srinivasa Madhavan
 Bader Madoukh
 Naba Mainali
 Srikrishna Malayala
 Jayaprakash Manda
 Jayadev Manikkam Umakanthan
 Henry Meilman
 Janet Memark
 Ida Micaily.
 Izza Mir
 Dimitra Mitsani
 Penchala Mittadodla
 Mahsa Mohebtash
 Nargiz Nargiz Muganlinskaya
 Marc Mugmon
 Sada Mustafa
 Monica Mutyala
 Swaroopa Nalamalapu
 Salik Nazir
 Swathi Nemani
 Binh Nguyen
 Yuliya Nudelman
 FNU Nutan
 Abdillahi Omar
 David Joshua Ozeri
 Zahra Pakbaz
 Phil Panzarella
 Kinnari Parikh
 Sarah Park
 Richard Pomerantz
 Resham Poudel
 Salil Rajayer
 Rajarajeshwari Ramachandran
 Zahra Rezvani
 Jaclyn Rivington
 Timothy Ryan
 Peter Saikali
 Fardad Sarabchi
 Emily Schehlein
 Sarah A Schmalzle
 Simranjit Sekhon
 Syed Raza Shah

(Continued)

Table 3. (Continued).

Ankita Shashidhar
 Chirag Sheth
 Mansur Shomali
 Nazia Siddiqui
 David Gary Smith
 Shauna Thariath
 Jayaram Thimmapuram
 Jack Tomen
 Dena Tran
 Nay Tun
 Patrick Twohig
 Hakim Uqdah
 Ahsan Wahab
 David Weisman
 Manajyoti Yadav
 Jessica Young
 Amr Youssef

Acknowledgement

Finally, we'd like to thank our readers. Your continued interest in and support of our journal, as well as your patience with the journal during the publisher transition this year, is deeply appreciated. Look for more big things from the Chimp in 2018!

Disclosure statement

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References

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