

Inaugural Editorial

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Welcome to your new journal: *Medical Review*

<https://doi.org/10.1515/mr-2021-0030>

The outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in early 2020 has rattled the world with resounding economic, social and political implications [1–4]. On a somewhat positive side of the story, the pandemic has put health and medicine under the limelight and brought the world to look at it from a higher and broader perspective. This rising prominence, however, creates as much opportunity as it poses challenge. It challenges us to break down both the silo that medicine is and the silos that medicine has, so as to improve health care, reduce health burden, advance health technology, identify and respond to emerging health threats, and meet health needs.

Yet the COVID-19 pandemic is by no means all that we face in health and medicine. Even at the height of this global public health crisis, it cannot overshadow the long-standing hazards brought about by non-communicable diseases, such as cancer as well as cardiovascular, cerebrovascular, neurodegenerative, metabolic and respiratory diseases [5–8].

Confronting multi-faceted health issues, the world has come to realize that resonance of these issues goes beyond wellbeing to encompass national security, social stability, economic development, and international politics and relations [9–12]. With this renewed understanding, countries around the world will deploy massive projects, in a bid to meet their strategic needs, respond to new challenges, and discover blue-ocean opportunities at the frontier of medical sciences. These projects will feature disease-orientated approach, advanced biotechnology, interdisciplinarity and disruptive innovation.

In such context, the launch of *Medical Review* (MR) is most opportune. The journal started as a proposal by Prof. Han Qide, honorary president of China Association for Science and Technology and former executive vice president of Peking University. As editor-in-chief, I'm deeply grateful for his proposal and for the collective efforts over the last two years behind the delivery of that proposal.

We envision the MR as a medical journal devoted to reviews, one that is of strategic importance in informing the field of the latest development. It will review representative

studies, track progress, interpret hot topics, and analyze policies. Aiming at leading medical journals in the world, the MR will uphold high standards for individual articles and for the journal itself, through its international editorial board and rigorous peer review.

Your submission and subscription will be most welcome. Either way, it is our hope that you enjoy the journal.

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