

EDITORIAL

Introspection - JOMFP



Dear Colleagues,

This last issue of the year 2012 presents you a myriad of articles covering most aspects of the field of Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology (JOMFP). As usual, we have one third of articles on research and in the years to come this representation should increase. Latest approaches and newer understanding of hitherto unreported phenomenon are being presented in this issue. Newer perspective of known phenomenon and techniques has been dealt with care. I take this opportunity to congratulate all authors who have contributed to such manuscripts.

Since 2011, till August 2012, JOMFP abstracts have been downloaded 12,485 times, full text viewed 111,512 times and the number of PDFs downloaded was 17,223 times globally. I am happy to state that in this time period JOMFP have handled 622 articles and our rejection rate in 2010 stood at 68%. We had submissions from 17 countries. In 2011, 12.25% of our submissions were from other countries and this had increased to 13.1% till now. This indicates the slow and steady growth of the journal. In years to come, I am sure JOMFP will turn out to be a much sought after journal.

It is after considerable deliberation that I am announcing the retraction of two articles in JOMFP in this issue, the first instance in our fifteen years of publication. All of the JOMFP authors sign the mandatory copyright transfer agreement. In reality, I doubt that many of them have neither read it carefully nor follow them in words and spirit. With a pressure to publish, ghost authorship and complimentary authorship are on the increase. So is the perennial problem of “Redundant publishing”,

“plagiarism”, “salami slicing” and “shot gunning”.^[1] Editors, reviewers, authors, institutions and policy making bodies need to work together to find a solution and ensure that the ethics as well as standards in scientific publishing are maintained. Issue of plagiarism has been repeatedly discussed in several editorials, manuscripts, journals and forums.^[2] Reports of forging signatures of (co)authors has been reported in the general medical literature^[1] while similar activity has not been reported in dental literature till date, particularly in India. I request all author(s) to understand the copyright transfer forms as well as the authorship criteria as defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)^[3] and then sign the copyright forms so as to adhere to them in letter and spirit. Please do remember that ignorance of the law cannot be excused. All Bio-medical journals are expected to follow the ICJME, Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and World Association for Medical Editors (WAME) guidelines. For more interesting knowledge in the subject, please follow the editorials of Dr. Berquist TH and www.icjme.org

It is my humble request to all stakeholders to maintain the highest standards of publication ethics to enrich scientific knowledge in the best possible way.

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