

## EDITORIAL

Since publishing the inaugural issue of the *Malaysian Journal of Medicine and Health Sciences* (MJMHS) last January, the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences has been receiving very encouraging support for its journal. Manuscripts have been received not only from within UPM, but also from other institutions of medicine and health sciences as well as related research institutions throughout Malaysia. It is heartening to note that to-date approximately 50 manuscripts have been submitted for the two issues of the MJMHS. These manuscripts encompass wide-ranging topics in medicine and health sciences with data engendered from surgical wards, clinics, laboratories and households in different types of communities.

In an effort to ensure that the MJMHS contains credible articles with content of scientific merit, the Editorial Board had the unenviable task of having to reject some articles, which failed to meet the expectations of the journal, particularly those suffering from methodological flaws, or lacking in originality, scope or depth of work undertaken.

As the MJMHS grows from infancy to early childhood, it is our aspiration to strengthen further the scientific rigour of the articles. We hope to have them reviewed, not only by reputable reviewers from Malaysia but also from overseas. We should take pride that our empirical work can stand up to the scrutiny of critical reviews from within and outside the country. In the same spirit of expanding ourselves, we should also work towards attracting articles from abroad, perhaps from the region for a start. Clearly, as the readership of the journal grows, the likelihood of the MJMHS articles being cited increases.

As the MJMHS establishes itself as a credible journal, it is also our aspiration to apply for the journal to be indexed, for example in the *Medline*. However, before indexing can be sought, a great deal of work is needed to build up the scientific worthiness and timeliness of the journal, among other imperatives. It is a road map that we should set our vision on especially in light of the high value being placed on citations of publications in the ranking of universities worldwide. It is through citations that others become aware of our work. Citation implies our data are worth quoting. Most importantly, through publications and citation, we as authors indicate that we are prepared to defend the intellectual content including the results and conclusions.

In conclusion, we wish to thank all manuscript contributors, reviewers and all who have given their support to the MJMHS in one way or another towards ensuring its continued success.

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