

EDITORIAL

Introducing the Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine-Editorial

I. Michael Leitman

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, US
michael.leitman@mssm.edu

Although some may argue that there is no need for yet another journal in science and medicine, the unique *Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine* offers more than a publishing venue in this arena. The journal was founded to support several key initiatives in Graduate Medical Education (GME) as well as the movement toward open access publishing as a whole.

First and foremost, the journal's main mission is to support residents accomplish the required scholarly activity set by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) [2] and become a part of 'GME Focus' which now serves as a hub to all research articles published by residents and graduate medical education as a whole.

The emphasis on scholarly activity during residency is not random. Research has shown that there is a correlation between clinical performance evaluations and the number of articles a resident publishes; the number of journal publications by residents was positively correlated with their clinical performance. In addition, these studies have shown that residents that have dedicated time to scholarly activities during their training were more likely to obtain higher leadership roles in their clinical careers [1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9]. Yet, despite the obvious advantages of scientific publishing both for career advancement and accreditation, many residents struggle with the level of expertise required to accomplish these requirements especially considering the limited time they have to do so.

The scientific publishing process is complex with numerous steps that need to be taken even before an article can be published. Formulating research questions, scanning the literature, reference management, scholarly writing, going through submission and the peer review process are only a few of the stages involved in becoming an author of a published research paper. That said, there is very little formal training in scientific publishing available to students and trainees throughout their academic years. *The Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine* aims, among other things, to provide real and practical experience for residents to become fully involved in the editorial and publishing process, learning about it first-hand. The journal seeks to have residents and faculty work together to develop editorial boards, become reviewers as well as author papers while creating high-quality content that will be eventually indexed and tracked by major databases and the ACGME for accreditation purposes. This type of journal, which is managed, overseen and contributed to by residents and GME faculty is unique to Mount Saini and, we believe, GME focused publications over all.

In addition to providing a dynamic, professional and rigorous venue for publishing, *The Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine* also seeks to support the global move toward open science and open access publishing. The latest statement from the EU announcing "Plan S" and "cOAlition S" [6] calling for all government funded research to become Open Access without embargo, is a *game-changer*. Joined by the United States, both continents began working in earnest to transform the scientific publishing into Open Access with the EUUS Science and Technology agreement [3]. These steps, among other things, declare hybrid and embargo publishing models as non-compliant and especially target the high Article Processing Charges (APC)s charged by publishers to provide open content. These latest developments will no doubt change the publishing industry and promote public access to tax payer funded research.

As Carlos Moedas, the European Commissioner of Research, Science and Innovation said in his September 4th announcement:

"With the increasing pace of scientific discovery and growing public demand for reliable information, there has never been a greater need for immediate, universal, access to the latest research findings. But with many scientific journals behind paywalls not everyone can get hold of this knowledge. 'Knowledge is power' and I firmly believe that free access to all scientific publications from publicly funded research is a moral right of citizens. Two years ago, on 27 May 2016, all Member States of the European Union committed to achieve this goal by 2020. It is one of the most important political commitments on science of recent times and puts Europe at the forefront of the global transition to open science."¹

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/moedas/announcements/plan-s-and-coalition-s-accelerating-transition-full-and-immediate-open-access-scientific_en.

Access to resources remains expensive with the costs of subscriptions to journals containing peer-reviewed content continue to rise at a staggering rate. On the other hand, to make content open access, publishers charge outrageous author fees which make this option difficult for those without the necessary funding. *The Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine* was initiated to also address this problem as often residents, who are early in their academic careers, do not have the financial support to publish in these open access journals. The *Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine*, being free for both authors and readers supports the international effort to achieve open access to scientific research by 2021.

Our vision is to develop the *Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine* as a scholarly, research and publishing conduit for residents and fellows that is supported and overseen by them while providing real-life training and guidance so that contributors, whether editors, reviewers or authors gain the experience needed in this arena. Physician in training are a unique group of healthcare professionals, whose educational opportunities, experiences, and professional development may be impacted by today's heightened attention to highly efficient care. Providing an avenue to share ideas about training, patient care, scientific discovery and our system of healthcare with other residents at Mount Sinai and around the world will be of great value to our readers.

We believe that this is the first medical journal devoted exclusively to residents and fellows. The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai has more than 250 programs in all medical, dental and allied medical specialties and greater than 2,500 residents and fellows. We serve an economically and ethnically diverse patient population in New York City.

Finally, we believe that the journal, being open access and free for both authors and readers will become a part of the world-wide movement toward open science and open access to scientific articles.

Competing Interests

The author has no competing interests to declare.

References

1. **Bhattacharya SD, Williams JB, De La Fuente SG, Kuo PC and Seigler HF.** Does protected research time during general surgery training contribute to graduates' career choice? *American Surgeon*. 2011; 77(7): 907–910.
2. **Common Program Requirements.** (n.d.). Retrieved September 24, 2018, from: <https://www.acgme.org/What-We-Do/Accreditation/Common-Program-Requirements>.
3. **EU-US agreement offers new opportunities for research cooperation – News Alert – Research & Innovation – European Commission.** (n.d.). Retrieved September 24, 2018, from: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-171016>.
4. **McClelland III S.** Pre-residency peer-reviewed publications are associated with neurosurgery resident choice of academic compared to private practice careers. *Journal of Clinical Neuroscience*. 2010; 17(3): 287–289. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jocn.2009.07.098>
5. **Rezek I, McDonald RJ and Kallmes DF.** Pre-residency Publication Rate Strongly Predicts Future Academic Radiology Potential. *Academic Radiology*. 2012; 19(5): 632–634. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acra.2011.11.017>
6. **Science Europe – coalition S.** (n.d.). Retrieved September 24, 2018, from: <https://www.scienceeurope.org/coalition-s/>.
7. **Seaburg LA, Wang AT, West CP, Reed DA, Halvorsen AJ, Engstler G, Oxentenko AS,** et al. Associations between resident physicians' publications and clinical performance during residency training. *BMC Medical Education*. 2016; 16(1): 22. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12909-016-0543-2>
8. **West CP, Halvorsen AJ and McDonald FS.** Scholarship during residency training: A controlled comparison study. *American Journal of Medicine*. 2011; 124(10): 983–987.e1. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amjmed.2011.05.018>
9. **Yang G, Zaid UB, Erickson BA, Blaschko SD, Carroll PR and Breyer BN.** Urology resident publication output and its relationship to future academic achievement. *Journal of Urology*. 2011; 185(2): 642–646. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.juro.2010.09.097>

How to cite this article: Leitman IM. Introducing the Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine-Editorial. *Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine*. 2018; 1(1): 1. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.29024/jsim.3>

Submitted: 04 October 2018

Accepted: 04 October 2018

Published: 23 October 2018

Copyright: © 2018 The Author(s). This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC-BY 4.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.



Journal of Scientific Innovation in Medicine is a peer-reviewed open access journal published by Levy Library Press.

OPEN ACCESS 