

## Editorial

# INDIAN JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES: A NEW BEGINNING

ASHISH GULIA

The 500 BC saying of Heraclitus “The only thing that is constant is change” still holds well today. The mother nature or our life works on the “law of change,” be it the changing seasons or phases of life, changes get freshness. Something similar is happening with the “Indian Journal of Medical Sciences.” The Indian Journal of Medical Sciences, which was conceptualized by Professor J.C. Patel in the year 1947, was meant to serve as a medium for the advancement of scientific knowledge to a new independent India. Today, we stand at the 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this educational revolution which gives us a glance at its astonishing journey.

Medical journals are known to influence our lives. The effects of an impactful medical journal range from practice changing protocols to reporting break through which impact public life significantly. A medical journal should strive to reach its aim to publish true science and research which can impact our treatment guidelines leading to overall improvements in patient care. The publications should not only provide scope for showcasing new treatment strategies but it should also be able to challenge age-old myths which are not supported by adequate evidence and hence influence health policies for a global impact. As we stand in an era of “information burst,” it becomes customary for a medical journal to filter the information and provide robust data to caregivers. The journal should also provide an opportunity for dissemination of research and knowledge all across irrespective of the development status of any part of the world.

It is important that the criteria for selection of research paper in the medical journal should be centered in sync with the psych of the local population because the general population is the central factor of all medical research. It would not be inappropriate to say that if a study or research does not impact them, then the study is obsolete. Hence, indigenization of research for local needs should also be popularized.

To meet the requirements of the changing society and the growing demands of the medical fraternity, the young crop of medical professionals under the guidance of senior researchers should be brought at the forefront. At present, fraction of young researchers taking part in quality medical

research is not considerable. This warrant a streamlined, organized approach to stimulates the young brains for basic or useful clinical research. This will not only fill the lacunae in the present hierarchy but will also infuse a whole ray of new ideas for future research.

Studies pertaining to local issues should be given priority. We have to understand that just making path breaking discoveries or innovations will not solve the purpose unless it reaches the patients’ bedside and that too without much financial burden for the patients. Research should be focused more toward quality, affordability, and accessibility. We should have a fine balance between well-designed clinical research and emerging basic research.

The Indian Journal of Medical Sciences believes in encouraging young researchers to change the course of medical research by promoting innovative clinical oriented research.

We would strive to carry forward the legacy set forth by Professor Patel, who led the highly successful journal for a remarkable 57 years till 2003 when he edited the 2003 versions of the journal too. After which his legacy was carried forward by Professor B.C. Mehta, who took the journal to great heights.

Just as they say obstacles are those things which you see when you take your eyes off your goals, we would like to focus on our path ahead by moving past a minor obstacle faced some time ago. The Indian Journal of Medical Sciences has risen like a phoenix and promises to be a game changer in the field of healthcare. We invite researchers from all over the world to share their ideas which can change the course of medical care in the days to come.

Cheers to change!!!  
Ashish Gulia

Editor  
Indian Journal of Medical Sciences

Department of Orthopedic Oncology, Tata Memorial Hospital,  
Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.  
E-mail: [aashishgulia@gmail.com](mailto:aashishgulia@gmail.com)

**How to cite this article:** Gulia A. Indian journal of medical sciences: A new beginning. Indian J Med Sci 2016;68:1.

**Source of Support:** Nil. **Conflict of Interest:** None declared.

Copyright: © the author(s), publisher and licensee Medip Academy. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 License, which permits unrestricted noncommercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.