

## PUBLICATION AUDIT FOR THE YEAR 2003

A self-analysis for the Year 2003 shows that we have made satisfactory progress. A total of one hundred six new manuscripts were received for publication from within the country and overseas, an increase of 25% as compared to the Year 2002 (Table-I). This

acceptance, twenty original articles, five case reports and three special communications were accommodated after revision which also shows the hard work and efforts put in by the reviewers and referees (Table-V). The number of manuscripts published from overseas

Table-I: Details of New Manuscripts received during the year 2003

Editorial	04
Original Articles	77
Review Article	05
Case Report	14
Special Communication	03
Short Communication	02
CME	01
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>106</b>

included seventy seven original articles. Most of the manuscripts received from within the country came from Karachi and Lahore as usual (Table-II). However ever since the start of online edition in 2001, the visibility and readership of the journal has increased tremendously with the result that the number of manuscripts received from overseas for publication has also increased by almost 100% as compared to the Year 2002. (Table-III)

There has been a steady increase in the number of original articles published during the Year 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 and over 100% increase in the number of interesting case reports published during the same period<sup>1</sup> (Table-IV). During 2003 while nineteen original articles were accommodated after primary

Table-II: Geographical Distribution of Manuscripts Published during 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003

	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>PUNJAB</b>				
Lahore	14	14	22	10
Rawalpindi-Islamabad	06	05	06	09
Multan	-	01	01	02
Faisalabad	-	01	02	01
Bahawalpur	01	01	-	-
Dera Ghazi Khan	-	02	-	-
Attock	-	-	-	01
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>SINDH</b>				
Karachi	22	20	27	24
Hyderabad	-	01	01	01
Larkana	01	-	-	-
Mirpurkhas	-	01	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>NWFP</b>				
Peshawar	02	03	01	03
Abbottabad	-	-	03	01
Dera Ismail Khan	-	-	-	01
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>05</b>
<b>BALUCHISTAN</b>				
Quetta	02	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

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during the year also increased as compared to the previous years (Table-VI). This also shows the international acceptance of this journal, which is in line with our objectives to make Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences as one of the leading peer reviewed medical journal from this region. The correspondence section also attracted quite a few manuscripts during the year 2003 which is another healthy sign that reflects the interest of the readers. To help achieve this objective, we have now acquired a separate new domain for the journal i.e. pjms.com.pk with more space keeping in view our future requirements. The Online edition now also contains the full text of all the manuscripts published in the journal in the PDF format as well. It will help the authors as well as readers to download the entire manuscript easily and have as many reprints as they wish.

The instructions to authors have also been updated keeping in line with the Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publications as approved by International Committee of Medical Journal Editors

Table-III: Details of New Manuscripts received from Overseas during the year 2003

Country	Accepted (Primary/ After Revision	Rejected	Under Process	Total
Bangladesh	01	-	01	02
Iran	06	01	06	13
Jordan	02	-	02	04
Malaysia	01	-	-	01
Nepal	01	-	-	01
Nigeria	-	-	01	01
Poland	-	-	01	01
Saudi Arabia	03	03	01	07
South Africa	01	-	-	01
Tunisia	-	-	01	01
Turkey	03	-	03	06
U.A.E. (Abu Dhabi)	01	-	-	01
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>39</b>

revised in November 2003.<sup>2</sup> It has been made mandatory for the authors and reviewers to disclose conflict of interest if any, source of funding and the approval of the study by the Ethics Committee/International Review Boards of the respective medical institutions. The Referees and Reviewers will also have to disclose the conflict of interest if any. The authors will be required to carefully follow the criteria of authorship as per ICMJE guidelines.

In order to ensure quick review, all the new manuscripts being received for publication will get through the first internal review process within two weeks time. All those manuscripts, which are not selected for further review process, will be returned to the authors so that they can submit it somewhere else if they wish to without much waste of time. As decided earlier<sup>3</sup> the publication of some special supplements on important subjects will be initiated

Table-IV: Details of Manuscripts Published during 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Editorial	07	06	09	04
Current Issues	-	-	01	01
Leading Articles	01	05	-	-
Original Articles	26	25	33	39
Review Article	05	02	05	02
Case Report	06	06	04	11
Drug Trials	-	02	-	-
Emerging Issues	-	01	-	-
Special Communication	-	-	02	04
Short Communication	05	02	04	01
Symposium / Conference	-	01	02	02
Proceedings / CME				
Correspondence (Letters)	03	04	15	08
Sounding Board for Debate	-	01	-	-
Consensus Report (PAF)	-	-	01	-
Travel Notes	-	01	-	-
Family Practice	-	01	-	-
Students Section	-	01	-	-
Subject & Author Index	-	01	01	01
Book Review	-	-	-	02
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>75</b>

Table-V: Acceptance status of the published manuscript – 2003

	<i>Primary Acceptance</i>	<i>Revision Accepted</i>
Editorial	04	-
Current Issues	01	-
Original Articles	19	20
Review Articles	01	01
Case Report	06	05
Short Communication	01	-
Special Communication	01	03
CME	02	-

Table-VI: Number of Manuscripts Published from Overseas during 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003

	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
Bangladesh	02	02	04	02
Canada	-	-	01	-
Iran	-	-	-	04
Jordan	-	-	03	-
Malaysia	-	01	01	01
Nepal	-	01	-	01
Oman	01	01	-	-
Philippines	-	01	-	-
Saudi Arabia	-	01	02	04
South Africa	-	-	-	01
Turkey	-	-	-	03
UK	01	-	01	01
USA	01	03	02	01
TOTAL	05	10	14	18

during the current year. A special Guest Editor for these supplements will be selected who will be overall responsible for the contents of that particular issue. However, all the manuscripts included in these supplements will go through the same review process to ensure that only quality manuscripts are accepted for publication.

EMBASE/Excerpta Medica of Netherlands besides the WHO Index Medicus IMEMR/ExtraMed is already covering the journal. CAB Abstract and Global Health of UK have also started covering the Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences since October 2003. Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences has also been included in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) <http://www.doaj.org/> Our ultimate goal is to get it included in the Medline for which the National Library of Medicine at Bethesda USA and their Technical Selection Committee is being requested to re-consider the inclusion of PJMS and we are hopeful of a positive decision in the days to come.

## REFERENCES

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3. Jawaid SA and Jafary MH. WHO Regional Conference on Medical Journals: Its impact on publications in general and PJMS in particular. Pak J Med Sci 2003; 19(4) 243-246

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