

FROM THE EDITOR

A Vote of Thanks and an Appeal for Further Support

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As the year 2012 is over completing another year of hard work, Ibnosina Journal of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences completes its fourth year of life. The editorial office and board are so grateful for all authors who supported the Journal and trusted us with disseminating the results of their research work, spreading their thoughts or sharing with our readers their clinical experiences and interesting clinical cases. We received a total of 83 submissions with an acceptance rate of 66% with the use of author mentoring to mature some submitted manuscripts. Each manuscript was reviewed by 2-4 reviewers. We are cordially indebted to the hard work and the outstanding review process undertaken by many of you. We continue to follow the anonymous style for the peer-review process, and we are so far very happy with the this approach as the quality of the reviews seem better when the subjective factor is neutralized, although some journals have now moved away from the blind review process to a more open one. Perhaps at this stage we will stick to the classical method. We do

sincerely appreciate that people are very busy and we are grateful for their taking time to respond to our requests of peer review; notwithstanding this, all we ask is for people to keep us informed about the chances of them being able to undertake the review and the likely time scale of their responses. We hope that you are not annoyed by the repeated “gentle” reminders issued by our section editors.

We are all profusely thankful to all editors and members of the editorial board for their hard work. We look forwards to see the year 2013 with an optimistic spirit and the eager desire to continue the mission we started four years ago (1,2), with a strong determination to nurture young authors and authors from developing countries with a helping hand to get their research findings get published meanwhile building more capacity and instilling more enthusiasm and confidence in more new reviewers by sharing with them comments of more experienced colleagues.

We have been invariably assigning articles for reviewer within 48 hours from their submission and make and communicate editorial decisions once meaningful reviewers' reports were received. We must admit that we are still fairly behind our goals for some statistics. The average manuscript still remains typically for 61 days in review and the mean publication time is 130 days from submission. As we have doubled our registered members and recruited more reviewers, we do hope to significantly decrease the review and publication delay time attributable to us. However, some of our authors are relatively slow in their response to the comments of the reviewers and revision requests made by the editors. Such complacency seriously compound the delays caused by the reviewers.

We wish you a happy, prosperous, and a very productive new year.

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