



Editorial

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Quality of the medical research article; whose responsibility? A necessary enquiry

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Editorial

Medical journals played a landmark role in the development of the modern medicine. It started from the first English medical journal which was *Medicina Curiosa* [1]. Medical journals are considered to be the most reliable and easy accessible sources of information for knowing the efficacy of new inventions in medicine and pattern and trend of diseases. Which will improve the quality of human lives.

Now a day, universities and research institutions evaluate the researchers and faculties by their scientific publications. Each university has their own mandatory rule for the number and quality of publications in each level of promotion. This made a sudden and tremendous increase of medical journals all over the world. Several journals publish the manuscripts without proper editorial and peer review procedure, this end up with plagiarism and fraudulent medical information, it has to be taken seriously by the world association of medical editors otherwise it can lead to life threatening medical practice of the new generation physicians [2].

Suggestions

1. Government should promote relevant medical research associations activities, which will have international and national resource persons to transfer knowledge. They can conduct conferences, symposiums, workshops and short courses to the mass of reseaserchers.
2. Universities should introduce sufficient research curriculum in the undergraduate level degrees. There should be a advanced level training programme of research methofology in Maters and doctorate level, where thesis is evaluated by the examiners. There should be a continuing education programme on research methodology and scientific writing for scientists, faculties and researchers in the institutions.
3. Evaluation of the scientist/ academic teacher should be done with the quality of the research article with the help of subject experts, instead solely rely upon indexation and publication type [online/print] of the journal.
4. Each Institution should posses a research department, which can give technical advice to the researchers and evaluate the quality of research works.

5. Medical journals should not publish the research articles, which does not have ethical clearance from the concerned authority.
 6. All the medical journals should check the plagiarism in the initial editorial review and reject the manuscript which has more than 10%.
 7. It is the chief editor's duty to assign the manuscript to a specialised academic editor and the reviewers. But one of the reviewer should be a statistician. Chief editor has to keep in mind that peer review is at the core part of editorial process of any journal [3]. Ability of the peer reviewer will decide quality of the article according to which author will get future research grants, academic promotions, awards and Nobel prizes. Chief editor should make sure the peer review process done by the reviewers and the decision of academic editor is scientifically sound. Most of the journals peer reviewers are not paid, which can result in a poor quality peer review.
 8. Chief editor should not accept the low quality manuscripts with the absence of good quality.
 9. Managing Editor has to invite qualified Editorial board members and reviewers to maintain the overall quality of the journal.
 10. Author should select his journal by assessing the scientific quality of the previously published articles, editorial board members and visibility of the journal.
 11. Authors should perform a critical appraisal of their manuscript before submitting to any journal [4].
 12. Authors should try to avoid print only journals because it is very difficult to find out the plagiarism in print only journals. Online version will have more visibility compared to traditional print only. Apart from these, the readers will report, if the article is plagiarised. There are several international organizations like INASP which is an international development charity working with a global network of partners to improve the quality of the journals published in the world. Their primary aim is to make the print only journal to be online.
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