

Journal of parasitic diseases reinvigorated

It is my privilege to write the Editorial for the 'Journal of Parasitic Diseases' a prestigious journal founded and published by The Indian Society for Parasitology. The Indian Society for Parasitology was established in 1973 under the Societies Act XXI, 1860. The main objectives of the society were the advancement of the science of Parasitology and promotion of research and development through human resource development. This dream was fulfilled with the launch of the publication of Indian Journal of Parasitology in 1976. The name of the journal was later changed to Journal of Parasitic Diseases (JPD) in 1995. In 2009 a new and innovative advancement has taken place with the publishing process of JPD; it is my pleasure to announce that 2009 onwards JPD is being published in partnership with Springer India Pvt. Ltd. under the memorandum of understanding signed initially for a 3-year period. Springer a 165 year old company is the second largest STM publisher in the world. It publishes 5000 new books and about 2000 journals every year.

Before the publication of this journal, work of Indian parasitologists remained scattered and largely inaccessible to the worldwide scientific community. Important parasitic diseases like malaria, lymphatic filariasis, kala azar, guinea worm were tackled by organizing vertical programmes, but a common platform to study parasitic diseases was lacking, and so also the achievements of Indian scientists required better exposure and dissemination. Therefore an important function of the Society was to bring together like-minded parasitologists on one platform, provide them an opportunity of self expression and stand united in fighting parasitic diseases. The Society over the years spearheaded the field of Parasitology to newer heights. As for example in 1997 a week long celebrations were held in Secunderabad, Hyderabad to celebrate the 100 years of Sir Ronald Ross's demonstration of mosquito transmission of malaria. We have had several such successes before and after this event, we hope that in future also such opportunities would become routine under the auspices of the Indian Society for Parasitology.



Dr V.P. Sharma, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Parasitic Diseases (JPD) releasing the first ISP-Springer publication of the JPD on 14th Nov. 2009 during the 21st National Congress of Parasitology held in Zoology Department at Panjab University, Chandigarh

Scientific publications related to basic and applied aspects of parasites afflicting humans, domesticated animals, wild life and plants have been covered by the Journal of Parasitic Diseases. This has provided a unique opportunity to the members of our society to update themselves and share their findings with the Indian scientific community. We have therefore consciously decided to extend the scope of this journal equally to global community through our partnership with Springer.

The journal has a new Editorial Board and Editors headed by the Editor-in-Chief. The editors and the editorial board members are all highly competent and professional parasitologists. The Editorial Board of JPD will be soon expanded to also include international experts. Therefore, our efforts would continue to internationalize the journal and encourage parasitologists regardless of their location and affiliation to publish in JPD.

Editorial manager is an easy, user friendly, economical and fast online article submission system brought in by our partnership with Springer. This will ensure improved communication with authors and all queries will be attended promptly. Editorial manager will allow submission of new and revised articles of unlimited size and multiple types. It will help authors in tracking the progress of their article in review process till decision is made. Articles can be uploaded and status can be checked “Any-time, any-where” through this system. It is cost effective since it saves the postage cost and is paperless. It also brings in a rapid review system, and editors are prompted to take timely decision on the publication of manuscripts to avoid delays. Within 20 days of article approval an article will be uploaded through online first on Springerlink which will give your article exposure even before it is printed. Furthermore international standards of publication would be implemented and maintained on a sustainable basis for the journal.

Journal of Parasitic Diseases will now be hosted on Springerlink.com and marketed and packaged with all other leading journals in the respective specialty. Springerlink is accessed by 320 indexing agencies and hence the journal will be widely indexed through this facility.

To know more about the journal please visit: www.springer.com/12639.

This year unfortunately, shortage of quality articles has led to the combining of June and December issues. With important decisions already in place, we are confident that JPD would be published as per schedule henceforth. I am sure that you all will agree with me that the scientific quality and success of JPD depends on the joint efforts made by all of us. The onus lies on each one of us to make sure that the research findings published by us are original, results are properly analyzed statistically, well discussed in light of the latest information on the subject area and presented with precision and brevity. We propose to invite Reviews on important subjects, Original research articles, Short communications, Opinion articles on papers published in the journal, Book reviews, Obituaries, etc. I assure you that we as the editorial board will ensure that all publications submitted to us go through a rigorous peer review process to guarantee high quality of the content and to make sure that only currently relevant issue are being published.

We appeal to all parasitologists in the country and abroad to kindly submit their research findings to Journal of Parasitic Diseases.

Vinod P. Sharma
Editor-in-Chief