Change of Editor-in-Chief

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“The old order changeth yielding place to new,
And God fulfills himself in many ways” - *Tennyson*

Dear colleagues,

I have relinquished the office of Editor-in-Chief on 31 December 2019, leaving this position in the able hands of Dr Ashok Khurana. I have served as the founding editor since 2014, when the Journal of Fetal Medicine was started. It has been an emotional and a tough journey, starting the journal from scratch, raising money from the advertisements and appealing to members to subscribe to the journal.

Working for the Journal has been a fantastic learning experience. I leave having acquired a wealth of knowledge about functioning of journals, and at the same time gaining a great deal about the human side of the equation. I will always treasure these memories. The skills I acquired in dealing with the challenges encountered have molded me into a more complete person.

The hardest part was to survive without any financial aid from the Society. The journal would have folded up if Springer had not made a very special offer for providing their services for promoting the journal, for permitting use of the editorial manager to accept and process manuscripts and compose these into the issues for printing. I would like to thank the Springer team for their generous offer. Special thanks are due to Eti Dinesh and Naren Aggarwal, (later Mamta Kapila), and the staff of the manuscript handling and production team in Chennai (Samidurai Priyadarshini

and Suganya Maharan). I am pleased to leave the journal in a happy state of financial surplus, which would go up further after May 2019.

The journey was a roller coaster ride, to say the least. Persuading fetal medicine specialists to contribute articles was a difficult assignment. I am thankful to all the international authors and reviewers who shared their knowledge and contributed to the success of the journal. Special thanks to Howard Cuckle and Peter Benn. Many Indian authors wrote flawlessly about their original research. For some authors I had to rewrite the manuscripts and for others I had to guide them to revise and improve their manuscripts. I hope they did not mind my insistence on correct format of the manuscript. I am confident that what they have learnt will help them to contribute many more articles to future issues, because the joy of seeing one's article in print is immensely satisfying.

We have planned a symposium on perinatal infections, and I am grateful to Drs. Vatsal Dhadwal and Reema Bhatt for planning and editing the same. I am confident that the members will enjoy these articles when they are published.

Dr Ashok Khurana knows all the top fetal medicine experts and he himself is a tour de force in this field. For him to get international and national experts to contribute articles, both original as well as reviews would not be difficult. He wins the prize for being the promptest reviewer of articles sent to him for evaluation. I would also like to thank TLN Parveen, Kanwal Gujral, and Nupur Shah for their continuing help in reviewing the manuscripts.

Thanks are due to the senior and junior members of the staff at the Institute of Medical Genetics and Genomics, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi, for giving me unstinted support in reviewing the manuscripts at short notice and helping with various activities involved with publishing a journal.

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I am grateful to my friends in the industry for responding generously to my call for advertisements to support the publication of the journal. Rajiv Dhir was invaluable as advertising manager, and Vivek Sharma as subscription and accounts manager, and Mr. Vishal Mittal for liaising with the Society.

The Society has made a very gracious offer of appointing me as “Founding Editor” of the Journal. I am glad to accept this. I would be happy to provide any guidance when needed and look forward to a fruitful continuing association with the Journal and the members of the Society. I will contribute occasional articles writing on issues of importance to our specialty.

I am sure the journal will thrive under the leadership of Ashok Khurana, and it will achieve further milestones. I am confident the journal will continue to project Indian contributions in the field of fetal medicine as well as give an opportunity to experts from other countries to publish their research work. I wish him and his team success in carrying forward the journal to new heights.

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Founding Editor-in-Chief

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