

## INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL JOURNAL

### OMAR H. KASULE

This is the first issue of a journal that aspires to be an international leader in timely online publication of quality research in medical and clinical sciences. It aspires to become a world forum for exchange of latest scientific information. It seeks to carve out for itself a niche as a high-quality journal that is author-friendly and helps researchers bring out the best in their works. Being a general journal, it accepts contributions from all medical disciplines and from all countries of the world. All contributions are subjected to a rigorous and unique review process motivated by quality improvement and not just deciding to accept or reject a contribution. The journal will work with the authors to raise the standard of the contribution to the highest scientific and international expectations. In addition to referring each contribution to a panel of international reviewers/subject experts, in-house reviews will be carried to identify areas of improvements in close collaboration with the authors. In-house statistical review unit will re-check statistical analyses and may request some of the raw data for this purpose. In-house literature review will re-check originals of cited works. In some cases in-house laboratories may request samples from authors and rerun some experimental procedures.

This new journal has embraced information technology in grand style. Articles can be submitted from the journal website or as e-mail attachments. Computer generated graphics are most welcome. Online chats will be used to discuss articles among internal reviewers, external reviewers, and authors. The journal website will also support online chat groups that will discuss specific articles or topics of special interest. The journal will try its best to provide links to other online publications relevant to each pub-

lished article. A main motivation of an online journal is the realization that a paper journal takes too long to appear and cannot keep up with the rapid progress of scientific research. There is however a need for paper copies to be shelved in libraries. The journal will therefore bring out a paper version about 3 months after the electronic version.

The following types of contributions are welcome from all Muslim Health professionals: original research articles, case reports, short communications, reviews, and editorials on any subject.

The next issue of the journal will come out on July 1, 2003. Submissions will be accepted until May 30, 2003. Anything submitted after that date will be published in December 2003.

It is our hope and prayer that this journal helps serve the growth of medical research and information exchange in the ummah.

#### Correspondence:

Prof. Dr. Omar Hasan Kasule  
The Editor-in-Chief,  
International Medical Journal,  
Faculty of Medicine,  
International Islamic University Malaysia,  
e-mails: [omarkasule@yahoo.com](mailto:omarkasule@yahoo.com)  
[kasule@iiu.edu.my](mailto:kasule@iiu.edu.my)  
website: <http://www.e-imj.com>