

# From the editor

Welcome to the third issue of 2018. This is the first issue of the *Journal of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (JRCPE)* since I assumed the responsibility of the Editor-in-Chief in July this year. I would like to thank the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh for this opportunity and I am grateful to my predecessor Dr Martyn Bracewell for helping me settle in. Taking over a journal's editorship is a work in continuum and I hope to continue to take initiatives to improve *JRCPE*.

The main areas of focus that I and the Editorial Board see are consolidating *JRCPE*'s position among its peers in the academic publishing world, and establishing and strengthening *JRCPE* in countries other than the UK.

We have already taken small but significant steps to improve *JRCPE*, such as updating the Author Guidelines to meet the current standards, reclassifying article categories and streamlining the handling of manuscripts. We are also using a system for regularly commissioning papers from the leaders in their respective fields on a global scale so that our readers benefit from their expertise and experience.

I urge the Fellows and Members of the College to support *JRCPE* by submitting more articles and by encouraging colleagues and trainees to read our papers (free access to all content is available at [www.rcpe.ac.uk/journal](http://www.rcpe.ac.uk/journal)) and submit manuscripts. However, I would like to emphasise that *JRCPE* also welcomes submissions from authors who are not members of the College and from all countries. As *JRCPE* is included in the MEDLINE and Embase indexes, authors can have their work viewed on these major global platforms. This, in turn, may improve the citation of their contribution. Moreover, *JRCPE* follows an open access policy and does not charge for processing and publication of manuscripts. Easy submission, prompt and helpful reviews, and 'mentoring' of the manuscripts by the Editorial Board, as required, are some of the other features that sets *JRCPE* apart.

This issue has several outstanding papers of interest to our readers. Beg and colleagues from Pakistan report on the devastating neurological complications of *Plasmodium vivax* malaria. Chuh et al. from Honk Kong report their appraisal of dermatoscopy in detecting and diagnosing vascular skin lesions. Brett-Major from the USA in an elegant letter highlights the limitations of clinical guidelines and questions

their universal adoptability. Misra and Agarwal from India provide a helpful critique of the secondary analysis of the CANTOS trial, which looks into the decrease in the rate of cardiovascular events due to reduction in inflammation by canakinumab. From the UK, Keevil and colleagues inform us of a trend of high morbidity and mortality amongst care home residents when they are admitted to the hospital in an emergency. Kiely looks at the current understanding of genetic haemochromatosis arthropathy and the conundrums of its anomalous presentation. An interesting case report by Watson-Fargie et al. discusses the improvement in the symptoms and signs of Parkinson's disease in two patients who received imatinib for their gastrointestinal stromal tumour. Other gems in this issue include very informative history and medical humanities papers. Goggins looks at the career of Eric Knott, the last Apothecary at the Royal Public Dispensary in Edinburgh, and Silver and Weiner discuss the development of the treatment of spinal injuries by George Riddoch during the Second World War. In part 1 of series of papers on Alexander Morison, Beveridge looks at Morison's career and his book *The Physiognomy of Mental Diseases*. We also have an Education paper from Isles and colleagues looking at the negative influence on the lay public of cumulative misreporting of medical stories in UK newspapers. As you would note from the aforementioned examples and throughout this issue, the papers have come from several different countries, once again highlighting the scope and reach of *JRCPE*.

I welcome feedback or suggestions regarding any aspect of *JRCPE* by email to [drvinod12@gmail.com](mailto:drvinod12@gmail.com), or to the editorial office at [editorial@rcpe.ac.uk](mailto:editorial@rcpe.ac.uk).

Finally, I would like to extend a special welcome to Ms Nicole Spray as our Senior Production Editor. She has vast experience in medical academic publishing and is already in the thick of the action with direct involvement in many of the developments that I have outlined above.

**Vinod Ravindran**

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