Readers should have noted the increased number of editors listed on the contents page. The call for new editors received an overwhelming response, and we now have more than 45 editors coming from all the 15 Colleges of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. With this pool of talent, I am sure the Hong Kong Medical Journal (HKMJ) is ready to sail in new waters.

I explained the plans to improve the quality of original articles in the last editorial. A methodological review process to ensure validity of results published in HKMJ has been put in place, and we hope authors appreciate the comments and suggestions as constructive and helpful. The Editorial Board has agreed on a new requirement for submitted manuscripts of original articles to be highlighted with two boxed texts: ‘New Knowledge Added by This Study’ and ‘Implications on Clinical Practice or Policy’. We are expecting one to three points to be acknowledged for each box from the author(s) of every original article.

To further enhance the educational value of the journal as a useful source of medical information on advances in medical research and clinical practice, we have plans to strengthen the contents of other sections. The Senior Editors will be coordinating this. Prof Michael Irwin will take charge of planning in-depth reviews on topics of interest and importance to readers. Input from the Colleges will be solicited, and you are welcome to contact him directly if you have ideas for material that could be submitted. Prof PT Cheung will lead the Medical Practice section, and invite submission of papers introducing new technological advances that may have wide applications in medical practice, or that summarise state-of-the-art guidelines on managing common medical problems. Dr Chun-bong Chow, a senior paediatrician and new Senior Editor, will work with Dr Albert Chui to manage submissions of case reports. The four Senior Editors will be assisted by other members of the Editorial Board in perfecting the final products.

A series of Clinical Epidemiology Workshops will start in the next issue for capacity development in writing and reviewing medical journal papers on original research covering different aspects of clinical practice. We hope that these workshops will further enhance the important roles of authors and reviewers in elevating the HKMJ to the next platform.

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References