

Dear IAOMR Member,

Greetings from the Journal Committee (JC) of the Journal of Indian Academy of Oral Medicine and Radiology (JIAOMR).

This message is to give you an update on JIAOMR and to let you know the results of the Anil Kumar Bhoweer - JIAOMR Best Article Award for the year 2016. At the outset let me thank all the members of the Academy, once again, for electing me to the post of Editor-in-Chief (EiC), and for your patience which has helped the JC in bringing out the journal with improved quality. I take this opportunity to update you on the happenings at the editorial office:

1. We have noticed that a lot of authors are concerned about the processing time of a manuscript. I would like to make you aware of this fact that the JC is conscious about this issue and be rest assured that, as we go on, we have been and shall be taking steps to reduce the processing time. Since the entire manuscript processing is automated on the online submission portal provided by the publisher, our hands are tied when we intend to bring some changes. To explain, once a manuscript is submitted on the portal, it goes through a technical modification check, which is done by a member of the JC and which involves checking the manuscript for submission errors, plagiarism, etc. In case the submission passes the technical modification check, the manuscript is assigned to one of the editors (again from the JC) for a check of the scientific content followed by sending the manuscript for external review. Ideally, the manuscript is assigned to atleast 2 reviewers (sometimes we need to take the opinion of a third reviewer too). This was a strict policy of the earlier JC (2014-15) who used to clear manuscripts after receiving comments from atleast 2 external reviewers. Now the portal by default gives a time of 21 days (which is the industry standard) to each of the reviewer. If a reviewer does not respond after 21 days, then the system by default, sends the manuscript back to the assigned editor. In this situation the assigned editor has to take a decision on the manuscript either based on his own judgement or on the basis of only 1 reviewer's comments and sometimes without any reviewer's comments (when both the reviewers do not respond on time). An unbiased decision of the assigned editor on such a manuscript cannot be relied on since he/she already knows the details of the authors. To get a journal out with best quality, the JC in 2014 followed a policy of taking a decision on a manuscript only after 2 reviewers responded. So, the manuscript was sent back by the system, when 1 or both reviewer(s) did not respond on time, was again sent to external reviewer(s), putting the manuscript into another 21 days cycle. This piled up the manuscripts and a lot of manuscripts were finally to be internally reviewed and the issues released before the end of the year. So, the JC in 2015, headed by Dr. Sri Krishna, who I feel has

done commendable work in improving the journal, requested the publisher to reduce the default review time to the least possible. The publisher agreed and reduced the default review time to 15 days, saying that 15 days is the bare minimum which can be set as the review time. They further said, anything lesser than that would be a marked deviation from standard publication norms and moreover they would have to reset the entire portal, for the sake of JIAOMR, which would also affect the other 400 odd journals on the portal. When I took over as the EiC, the reset 15 days review time continued. We noticed that the problem was absolutely not solved, and the manuscripts were still going to multiple reviewers, one after the other, since many reviewers couldn't respond on time. In some instances, we have noticed that some manuscripts were moved back to the assigned editor by the system some 6 to 8 times, because 1 of the 2 reviewers could not respond on time, which increased the processing time of the manuscript. So, to overcome this problem, considering the following facts: (a). The automated review time set by the system cannot be reduced further from the present 15 days, (b). The JC cannot compromise on bringing out a quality journal, (c). Not let the assigned editor's bias creep into the making of a decision on the manuscript, and (d) Give adequate time to the reviewers to generate a quality review, the JC on advice from senior members (including the Hon'ble President) have decided to perform an internal review (with a time of 10 days), instead of a repeat external review, which is performed by atleast 2 members of the JC who do not have access to the authors details (which means, they do not have login IDs to login into the system as an editor or administrator). So that way, even if 1 reviewer does not respond, after 15 days, the manuscript lands up for internal review lasting a maximum of 10 days, instead of repeating the external review for another 15 days or more. Essentially, the review time of a manuscript would then last not more than 25 days. We have very recently started this procedure, after noticing that the amendment made by the 2014-15 JC in the system, were not giving the desired results. Hopefully, this should reduce the processing time of a manuscript.

2. The delay in accumulating reviewed and quality content for an issue has resulted in a delay in the publication of issues. Once we start generating reviewed and quality content in lesser time, we shall overcome the delay in an issue getting released. Some time also elapsed in setting up the new editorial office, and renegotiating and signing a new agreement with the publisher for the years 2016 and 2017.

3. It has come to the notice of the JC that members are concerned about the lack of information when an issue is published. Several members, I still believe, are not aware of the following facts:  
(a). The life-time free distribution of the hard copy of the journal has been discontinued for the members of the Academy and instead members are being provided free access to the online version

in terms of free viewing, free download and free print access, unlike the earlier times when the members used to get hard copies with limited access to the online version [where (leave alone printing) even copying of text was disabled in the (password-protected) PDF file] of an article.

(b). The hard copies that are being printed are only being sent to paid subscribers, both institutions and individuals who have subscribed the journal. As on date we have 160 subscribers for the year 2016 subscribing 162 copies.

(c). Members can register free online at [www.jiaomr.in](http://www.jiaomr.in) and get the following benefits: Receive table of contents by email, get email notification on publication of articles of user's interest, have privilege of posting a comment on an article, and more features. These features are not limited to only JIAOMR on registration; in fact, the user can opt for using these features in any of the 400 and odd journals being published by Wolters Kluwer Medknow. Simply put, a member can register on [www.jiaomr.in](http://www.jiaomr.in) and get an 'Issue Alert' containing the 'Table of Contents' of the issue with links to each article in the user's email, where in clicking an article link in the user's email will take the user directly to the article on [www.jiaomr.in](http://www.jiaomr.in).

We believe the functionality of the website is not being used to its fullest by the members of our Academy. I take this opportunity to request all members to register themselves at [www.jiaomr.in](http://www.jiaomr.in). Now that the site has archives from 2003 onwards (Thanks to the earlier JC), you will have free access to a treasure trove of knowledge on our subject. To this effect, the earlier EiC, Dr. Sri Krishna had made efforts to get the members to register on the website, which seems to be partially achieved. So as not to leave things as it is, we have now asked the publisher to send an 'Issue Alert' email to all the members of IAOMR, which has to be done through manual addition of emails on the publisher's server, every time an issue is made online. Only those member's emails which are updated at the Head Office of IAOMR shall receive such alerts. Alternatively, as said earlier, members themselves can register on [www.jiaomr.in](http://www.jiaomr.in) and get alerts.

4. There's good news to all the members of our Academy who do not like point 3 mentioned above, and who instead would prefer to have a feel of holding the book while reading articles from the journal. The Executive Committee (EC) has after extensive deliberations in its meetings directed the EiC to check the feasibility of providing hard copies of the journal to IAOMR members at a discounted price. With valuable advice and constant support and encouragement, from all the members of the EC, particularly the Hon'ble President, Dr. Gopakumar R. Nair, President-Elect, Dr. Gnanasundaram N. and the HGS, Dr. A. Ravikiran, the JC has convinced the publisher to print a limited number of hard copies of the journal every year for the benefit of the members of the Academy after the JC assured the publisher that they shall not be used for commercial distribution. These hard copies shall be available ONLY to IAOMR members at a heavily discounted price of

Rs. 2000 only for 4 issues of the year 2016. The subscription rate for non-members and institutions for the years 2016 and 2017, is Rs. 6800/- and Rs. 7500/-, respectively, working out to a whopping 70% discount on the actual subscription rates of 2016 and 2017, for members of IAOMR. The copies being printed for the members shall be clearly marked as copies for the use of IAOMR members only and not for institutional use, to prevent the misuse of this facility by institutions. Interested IAOMR members will have to fill up a subscription form in this regard which is available on the IAOMR website under the 'Journal' link and post/courier it (along with a copy of proof of being an IAOMR member as mentioned in the subscription form) to the following address of JIAOMR Editorial Office as well as send a scanned copy of the subscription form (and above mentioned proof) to [editor.jiaomr@yahoo.in](mailto:editor.jiaomr@yahoo.in):

Journal of Indian Academy of Oral Medicine and Radiology

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The payment may be made using NEFT/RTGS/cheque/DD/cash in the following account of JIAOMR. While making the payment, please fill the bank forms such that the remitter's name reflects in the statement of account of JIAOMR.

Account Name: JIAOMR (Journal of Indian Academy of Oral Medicine & Radiology)

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Punjab National Bank, KPHB Colony, Kukatpally, Hyderabad

MICR Code: 500024028

IFSC Code: PUNB 0485700

Cheque / DD in favor of JIAOMR, payable at Hyderabad

The subsidized subscription for IAOMR members is only available for the years 2016 and 2017, following which the decision would be reviewed (since a new editorial board would be formed in 2018) and payments from members in this regard shall be accepted only till 31-01-2017 (since the JC has to plan the finances required for printing the same and the JC intends to get copies printed in bulk which will cost less rather than order for prints 'piece-meal', where in the costs of printing would increase). You may please contact the Treasurer, IAOMR, Dr. Sri Krishna K. (0785 888 1234) for more details, if required.

5. Going by the issue and article statistics available on [www.jiaomr.in](http://www.jiaomr.in), the exposure of the journal seems to have increased with more readership base. To cite an example, the 2014, July-

September, Volume 26, Issue 3 issue of JIAOMR after its publication till the time of writing this message, was accessed 23,513 times, and the article titled, "Evaluation of efficacy of turmeric in management of oral submucous fibrosis" published in July-September 2014, issue 3, was viewed 2534 times and its PDF version was downloaded 637 times.

6. Coming to the impact factor of JIAOMR, to better understand the status of our journal and to serve as a guide for improving the journal, we did an in-house calculation of the impact factor for JIAOMR for the year 2015, which came out to 0.503. This impact factor which is way too less, however was comparable to the likes of other journals as mentioned in the 2015 JCR Science Edition impact factor listing for journals on Dentistry, Oral Surgery and Medicine (Source: [https://lib.hku.hk/sites/all/files/files/denlib/impact factor 2015.pdf](https://lib.hku.hk/sites/all/files/files/denlib/impact%20factor%202015.pdf)):

Journal of Clinical Pediatric Dentistry	0.562
Journal of Indian Academy of Oral Medicine and Radiology	0.503
Australian Orthodontic Journal	0.451
Oral Radiology	0.449
European Journal of Paediatric Dentistry	0.421
Swedish Dental Journal	0.381
Seminars in Orthodontics	0.346
Journal of the Canadian Dental Association	0.280
Implantologie	0.052

Having said that, I earnestly request all members to submit high quality articles to JIAOMR instead of submitting 'some' article for the sake of completion of quota (PG students), and for the sake of fulfilling promotion and DCI requirements (faculty). Bring up the journal is not one man's or a group's job. It is only with collective effort from all the members (IAOMR members, authors, reviewers, editorial board, publisher, and the EC) that can make our journal reach new heights.

7. We have also initiated the process of getting our journal into PubMed. The JC is in continuous talks with the publisher in this regard. It is the publisher (since we are under the publisher) who fills an online application on behalf of JIAOMR. Several details pertaining to the journal as well as the publisher are submitted. To make a successful application the publisher has been advising us on various aspects / changes to be done before we actually put in the application. A rejected application results in a bad remark to the publisher too and an embargo on the journal. At the last meeting the JC had with the publisher on 26-10-2016 in Bengaluru, with regard to PubMed indexation, the publisher pointed out the high acceptance rate of our journal. Yes, we do have the requirements of the PG students and the young faculty, and their aspirations from the journal (in terms of their articles getting accepted in JIAOMR), in our minds, but, the time has now come to shed the 'it is my academy's journal, so, my article should be published' attitude. As we go on, we

are ensuring tighter norms in all processes after a manuscript is submitted to bring out a high quality journal.

8. At present we have, as mentioned above, 160 subscribers for our journal. I yet again like the previous EiC, humbly request you to convince the managements of your institutions to subscribe JIAOMR. This is a sincere appeal repeatedly coming from the JC since 2014 and we at the JC ask for your kind help in this regard. I believe a subscriber count of atleast 250 will do a lot for the journal.

9. Finally, the results of the Anil Kumar Bhoweer – JIAOMR Best Article Award: The JC congratulates the following authors for winning the AKB-JIAOMR Best Article Award under the category of Original Article, Review Article and Case Report. Following are the details of the winners-

Category: Original Article

Title: The clinicohistopathologic study of oral submucous fibrosis: A new staging system with treatment strategies

Author-1: Yesha V Jani, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, Ahmedabad Dental College and Hospital, Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Author-2: Bhavin B Dudhia, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, Ahmedabad Dental College and Hospital, Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Published: Apr-Jun 2016, Volume 28, Issue 2

Category: Case Report

Title: Hand, foot, and mouth disease in adults: An enigma among diagnosticians– A case series

Author-1: Benila Mathew, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, PMS College of Dental Science and Research, Trivandrum, Kerala

Author-2: Sunila Thomas, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, PMS College of Dental Science and Research, Trivandrum, Kerala

Author-3: Vivek Velayudhan, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, PMS College of Dental Science and Research, Trivandrum, Kerala

Author-4: Ranimol Prasanna, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, PMS College of Dental Science and Research, Trivandrum, Kerala

Published: Oct-Dec 2015, Volume 27, Issue 4

Category: Review Article

Title: Therapeutic aspects of Tulsi unraveled: A review

Author-1: Naveen Srinivas, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, P.M.N.M. Dental College and Hospital, Bagalkot, Karnataka

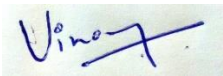
Author-2: Ketki Sali, Private Practice, Bagalkot, Karnataka

Author-3: Atul A Bajoria, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, Kalinga Institute of Dental Sciences, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Published: Jan-Mar 2016, Volume 28, Issue 1

With a promise to perform my best for the upliftment of our fraternity and Academy in the year ahead, I wish all IAOMR members a fruitful and successful conference at Kanyakumari, and wish you all a merry Christmas and a wonderful year ahead.

Jai Hind.



Dr. K. Vinay Kumar Reddy

Editor-in-Chief

Journal of Indian Academy of Oral Medicine and Radiology