CJASN: What’s Behind and What’s Ahead

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The past 12 months have been busy at the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology (CJASN), because this past year, we received the highest volume of submissions for peer review since the inception of the journal. We begin 2018 grateful for the tireless efforts of our editorial team, the trust reposed by authors in submitting their high-quality work to CJASN, and the countless hours of volunteer work by members of our editorial board and reviewers. We are also grateful to our readers, as CJASN remains the most widely read peer-reviewed research journal in nephrology.

The primary focus at CJASN has always been on publishing the highest-quality original research papers that move the field forward in a meaningful way. We are committed to maintain that as the primary focus of what we do. To promote rigorous and fair peer review, at least two editors evaluate every manuscript submitted to CJASN before deciding to send for external peer review. Three experts in the field evaluate most papers sent for external peer review, and the full editorial team evaluates favorably reviewed papers. Through this process, we are committed to giving each paper that we receive a thorough and fair assessment and publishing the highest quality of clinical and translational research in nephrology.

At the same time, we are mindful that the effect of the work that we publish is dependent on our ability to draw the attention of busy professionals to the content of CJASN. In these past 12 months, we have launched two initiatives to broaden the reach of our publications—podcasts and visual abstracts. Each month, we identify two research articles for podcasts that are submitted by the authors as an audio file, which is then edited by Sara Leeds at the American Society of Nephrology. In this coming year, we plan to continue with the podcasts but shorten them to run for 2–3 minutes. CJASN was the first nephrology journal to launch visual abstracts, and we are grateful to our team of five talented editors who are arguably the pioneers for such presentations in our specialty—Bea Conception, Pablo Garcia, Edgar Lerma, Michelle Rheault, and Joel Topf. We plan to continue to lead the way on this initiative, and in this gap, we have nominated three highly engaged patients who have faced the challenge of kidney disease from around the world to write an editorial providing a patient’s perspective on one article that we publish every month. We hope that these editorials will provide valuable feedback to clinicians and researchers on the importance and limitations of nephrology research and what more needs to be done. Each Patient Voice Editor has agreed to author one of the first three monthly articles, and the first editorial appears in this issue of the journal (1).

We at CJASN remain committed to publishing high-quality and impactful clinical and translational research that furthers the goal of improving the health and wellbeing of people living with kidney diseases as judged by both nephrology professionals and patients.

Disclosures

R.M. is the Editor-in-Chief of the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology (CJASN). M.C. and I.d.B. are Deputy Editors of CJASN.

References


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