

# FROM KUST MEDICAL JOURNAL (KMJ) TO KHYBER MEDICAL UNIVERSITY JOURNAL (KMUJ)

Akhtar Sherin

KUST MEDICAL JOURNAL (KMJ) was a brainchild of Prof Dr Lutfullah Kakakhel, Vice Chancellor (VC) of Kohat University of Science and Technology (KUST). First issue of KMJ was published in 2009 and Prof Tariq S. Mufti was the 1<sup>st</sup> the Chief editor of KMJ. Prof Mufti's vision of a publishing a quality medical journal from KUST Institute of Medical sciences (KIMS) Kohat was reflected in his 1<sup>st</sup> editorial.<sup>1</sup> Since the departure of Prof Mufti, Prof. Salim Khattak is working as the Chief editor of KMJ.

KMJ was a properly planned journal with an independent editorial policy. KMJ was granted permission for its publication by Provincial Government vide order no. 772/EDO/F&P/KT/Dev. Asstt, dated Kohat, the 8/10/2008. KMJ was also approved by the *Advanced Study and Research Board (ASRB)* of KUST. KMJ has got the honour of being the 1<sup>st</sup> Pakistani medical journal with online manuscript submission, tracking and review system based on open journal system (OJS). It was made possible only with the untiring efforts of Prof. Lutfullah Kakakhel who himself spent hours during the initial days to train the editorial board members in managing the online journal. His efforts were acknowledged by Higher Education Commission (HEC) as well and a two-days workshop of Editors of HEC Recognized Science Journals on online journals was organized by the HEC and KMJ from August 17-18, 2009 at HEC Islamabad. During this workshop, it was emphasized that all HEC recognized journals should be facilitated to adopt online system for manuscript submission, tracking and peer review.

Over the last three years, KMJ has progressed in a more positive way. The hallmark of KMJ is the rapidly growing peer review database. At the moment, KMJ is proud to have a panel of 108 national and international experts in major and minor subspecialties of medicine, surgery and allied subjects. All original articles are subjected to minimum two peer reviews. Although continuous publication of unrecognized journal in Pakistan is an uphill task, KMJ editorial board tried it best to maintain the quality of the journal by selecting best available research.

KMJ believes in the high standards of ethics in research and medical publications. KMJ has been granted the membership of Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).<sup>2</sup> So far KMJ has faced and resolved

various issues of research and publication misconduct like plagiarism, simultaneous submission to multiple journals etc. KMJ is also participating in promoting medical journalism in Pakistan and managing editor of KMJ has the honour of holding the position of president of Pakistan Association of Medical Editors (PAME) for the years 2011-13. KMJ is actively involved in various conferences on medical editing and medical journalism arranged by PAME like 5<sup>th</sup> regional conference on medical journals in eastern Mediterranean region (EMMJ5) at Karachi (December 2010) and upcoming National Conference on Medical Publications at Peshawar in collaboration with JPMI-Journal of Postgraduate Medical Institute (Jan 2012).

During this short period of three years, KMJ has regularly published 3 volumes comprising of 6 issues. KMJ has been included in WHO Index Medicus (IMEMR), Index Copernicus and directory of open access journals (DOAJ). KMJ is now available on EBSCO, FACTIVA, GALE and affiliated international databases through Asianet-Pakistan. KMJ has applied for PMDC recognition and we are waiting for the decision of *PMDC journals recognition committee* meeting in this regard. We are also applying for HEC to be recognized in near future.

However, due to some legal requirements after amendment in the Khyber Medical University Act of the Provincial Legislature; provincial administration, Chancellor and vice chancellors of *KUST* and *Khyber Medical University (KMU)* Peshawar agreed to hand over *KUST Institute of Medical Sciences* from KUST to KMU in Nov 2011. Now that the KIMS has been handed over to KMU and renamed as *KMU Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS)*, it was also decided that in future *KUST MEDICAL JOURNAL (KMJ)* will be published by KMU. KMU has declared KMJ as official journal of KMU and renamed it as *KHYBER MEDICAL UNIVERSITY JOURNAL (KMUJ)*. KMJ will continue its regular publication from Volume 4, issue 1, 2012 onward as KMUJ on quarterly basis.

Editorial board of KMJ is thankful to Prof. Nasir Jamal Khattak, VC KUST and Prof. Lutfullah Kakakhel Ex. VC KUST for their valuable support in regular publication of KMJ. We are also grateful to Prof Mohammad Hafizullah, VC KMU for his cordial support

and guidance to KMUJ. We are also thankful to the members of the review panel for their excellent contributions in the peer review process. We would like to expand the panel of peer reviewers and would like potential reviewers to join our team of experts for the peer review of the manuscripts submitted to KMUJ.

We are all committed to bring KMUJ at par with other national and international journals regarding quality of the published matter and we would like to bring publication ethics in to practice so that medical journalism in this part of the world may also be improved.

Dr. Akhtar Sherin  
Managing Editor  
KMJ- KUST MEDICAL JOURNAL Kohat Pakistan  
Email: akhtarsherin@yahoo.com

## REFERENCES

1. From the desk of chief editor – Launching first issue of KMJ (Editorial). KUST Med J 2009; 1(1): 1.
2. <http://www.publicationethics.org/members/kmj-kust-medical-journal> (last December 2011).

## ANNOUNCEMENT

KUST Medical Journal (KMJ) has been taken over by Khyber Medical University (KMU) with a mutual agreement between Kohat University of Science and Technology (KUST) and KMU. KMJ has been renamed as KMUJ-Khyber Medical University Journal.

KMUJ will continue its publication from Vol 4 No 1: 2012 onwards from KMU Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) Kohat - Pakistan.

KMUJ will be available on web address: [www.kmuj.kmu.edu.pk](http://www.kmuj.kmu.edu.pk)

Email Address: [kmuj@kmu.edu.pk](mailto:kmuj@kmu.edu.pk)