

Editorial

As in the progress of all established and upcoming journals, there comes a stage when we ask ourselves, where are we heading? And what is our ultimate goal. As a journal, we have come a long way, thanks to the sterling efforts of many people before me. However, we still lack visibility in various forums, though our viewing is very healthy.

I was pleasantly surprised to receive a letter from a retired teacher in Michigan, who happened to read the Icon of the Issue - Dr. Reed Dingman (ref April issue 2016). She mentioned about two of her siblings who were treated by Dr. Dingman, and were very grateful to him. In fact, her second sibling was named Reed! I have requested her to officially write to the IJPS, and we should be able to see it, in one of the future editions.

The point of this message is to emphasise the visibility. That is the bottom line for any journal.

We are at a stage, where we are now cited in the emerging scientific index. However, we need to move ahead. We also need to plan to make the journal website not just for the articles, but as a source for information, education and guidance. One of the plans is to introduce a section for patients. This deals with various aspects of the subject from the patients' point of view, and will clearly elucidate common do's and don'ts, what to expect from their surgery, limitations, etc. This will also aid in projecting our specialty as a whole, and that will go a long way.

How do we improve our visibility and impact factor? As I mentioned briefly, in my editors report at the last APSI conference in New Delhi, there is a key word - citation. Please cite as many previous articles from our journal. It will add to the impact factor.

Plagiarism is reaching alarming proportions. It seems that authors are borrowing large segments of previous publications. This is NOT acceptable, even if the reference

is cited. My request is for the seniors and seasoned campaigners to lend a hand in the preparation of these articles.

We are in the process of trying to allow full text articles for the editorial board as well as reviewers, in a limited way. This will make the process of review easier for the reviewers. Of course it will be restricted to four or five leading journals, and need based. Nonetheless, it will go a long way. If it does happen, we will be the first journal to provide these services to our reviewers. We are also trying to have an official bio statistician appointed by the publishing house. This will again streamline the analysis, and will relieve the reviewers of this burden.

I am aware that several authors have been faced with site related glitches. We are trying to sort this out.

In conclusion, we need to move ahead. I welcome any and all suggestions in this regard. Without your assistance, we will remain at the same place, moving only laterally. Please write to me with your ideas and suggestions.

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Access this article online	
Quick Response Code:	Website: www.ijps.org
	DOI: 10.4103/0970-0358.197242

How to cite this article: Jagannathan M. Editorial. Indian J Plast Surg 2016;49:299.