

The Role of Student-led Journals in Capacity Building

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Medical students have been making substantial contributions to the practice of medicine since the 1600s by performing high-quality research and publishing papers. [1] The benefits and significance of early exposure to academic study have lately been examined. Undergraduate medical research is linked to short- and long-term academic successes, such as enhanced research knowledge and skills, greater interest in future research, peer-reviewed journal articles, funding, and recruitment to academic positions.[2]

Medical student journals (MSJs) are a group of student-run journals that publish papers written by students. [3] Their main goal is to encourage medical students to publish scientific findings. Multiple factors contribute to long-term academic success, including early positive exposures to the publishing and peer-review process, development of key academic skills while still a medical student. Students can acquire a scholarly voice as not only authors but also as reviewers and editors in medical student research journals. As the corresponding author of their own work, student authors learn to communicate professionally to address reviewer concerns. As peer-reviewers in training, students learn to analyze manuscripts for quality and document their concerns in a cohesive manner under the supervision of a faculty advisor. [4] As part of the editorial board, with senior editors and reviewers offering help and support, students learn the process of manuscript handling and coordination. Most of the MSJs have faculty reviewers who actually give inputs on acceptance or rejection

which serves as a guide for student editors. It is also significant to note that there is a paucity of such journals in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) while in the High-Income Countries (HICs) even universities have such journals. This training right from the medical student life capacitates them to bag more opportunities as journal editors in future which can be seen through the global Representation of specialty journals.

MSJs are of paramount importance in developing scientific and academic skills amongst medical students and cultivating future clinical academics. There are a number of MSJs available currently which provide avenues for students to publish their scientific work. (Table 1)

In conclusion, preconceptions about who can engage in knowledge sharing are challenged by putting

students at the heart of the publishing process. All stakeholders, including students, should be able to expand their ability to consume, share, and produce information, while journals should include measures to encourage diversity and equal participation among academics and citizen researchers.

Tables:

Name of the Journal	Publisher	Year of Establishment	Global Representation in Editorial Board	Indexing	Peer-Review	Involvement of Residents/Faculty	Access Policy	Publication Fee/APCs
Journal of Asian Medical Students' Association (JAMSA)	Asian Medical Students' Association (AMSA) International	2012	Australia, Bangladesh, China, England, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Scotland, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam	ICMJE, CrossRef, Ulrichsweb, Google Scholar, ROAD, Gale Cengage, BASE, and Genamics Journal Seek, IndexCope rnicus, Publons	Double Blind	3 Advisors and Senior Reviewers	Online Open Access	None

International Journal of Medical Students (IJMS)	University Library System, University of Pittsburgh	-	Australia, Austria, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Columbia, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, Palestine, Pakistan, Romania, USA, UK, Vietnam	BASE, DOAJ, EZB, Google Scholar, HINARI, Journal Seek, ICMJE, IMBIOMED, OCLC, WorldCat, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Information for Africa, JournalGuide, J Gate, Publons	Double Blind	Recent Graduates as Associate Editors and Executive Committee, Experienced Researchers as Senior Editors as well as Reviewers	Online Open Access	None
Student British Medical Journal (sBMJ)	The BMJ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

*ROAD- Directory of Open Access Scholarly Resources, BASE - Bielefeld Academic Search Engine, DOAJ - Directory of Open Access Journals, IMBIOMED - Mexican Index of Latin American Biomedical Journals, EZB - Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek, HINARI - Health InterNetwork, OCLC - Online Computer Library Center, J Gate - The e-Journal Gateway

Table 1 (a) - International MSJs

Name of the Journal	Publisher	Year of Establishment	Indexing	Involvement Residents/Faculty	Peer-Review	Access Policy	Publication Fee/APCs
New Zealand Medical Student Journal (NZMSJ)	The New Zealand Medical Student Journal Society	2002-2003	Google Scholar	Reviewers	Double Blind	Online, Print Open Access	-
American Medical Student Research Journal (AMSRJ)	Independent	2013	AMSRJ uses the LOCKSS system to create a distributed archiving system among participating libraries and create permanent archives.	Final decision on Desk Rejection Reviewers	Is conducted	Online Open Access	-

Medical Student Research Journal (MSRJ)	Michigan State University College of Human Medicine	2011	DOAJ, Google Scholar, Mendeley, Michigan State University Libraries Online, Index Copernicus, J Gate, Directory Indexing of International Research Journals, NewJour, WorldCat, Researchbib, Journal Seek, The Internet Archive	Reviewers	Is conducted	Online, Print Open Access	None
Australian Medical Students' Journal (AMSJ)	Independent	2010	-	Reviewers	Double Blind	Online Open Access	-
Cooper Rowan Medical Journal (CRMJ)	Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.	2018	CrossRef, SPARC, PORTICO, DOAJ, Google Scholar	Editorial Board (<i>partially student-run journal</i>), Reviewers.	Double Blind	Online, Print Open Access	None
Harvard Medical Student Review (HMSR)	-	-	-	Advisors and Reviewers	-	-	-

Table 1 (b) - National MSJ

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