

*Correspondence*

### Some suggestions

I am taking the liberty of suggesting some ideas for Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences (PJMS).

1. As PJMS has an excellent and regularly updated web-site, I was wondering if it would be possible for you to accept the letters by e-mail. As I am sure, you are well aware that BMJ and American Journal of Public Health do have this option for contributors of letters commenting on the published articles and on matters of professional interest.
2. Author of the articles whose address is listed in the PJMS for directing correspondence, may be requested to give their e-mail address as well. As this will ensure easy, convenient and timely communication between the scientific community in the country.
3. In order to encourage the ethos of research and scientific publishing in the country, a student section could be considered in the PJMS. In this section articles with substantial work done by students may be published. Although this is already being done by JPMA, the PJMS perhaps could go a step further and have one member of Editorial Board or one of the Assistant Editors to act as the students mentor and guide their research endeavor from beginning to end.
4. To promote research in the country, PJMS could have a yearly award for the best published paper. This award does not need to be monetary in nature, just a certificate of recognition and its announcement in PJMS. And/or perhaps an award for the best 2 -3 papers published in the country from the list of all the Pakistani medical journals approved by the PM&DC.
5. United Nations has a Library in Islamabad, which is used by everyone in the UN

system in the country. Many Islamabad-based national and foreign NGOs also use this library. Could you kindly consider having this library added to the gratis mailing list of PJMS.

6. The PJMS does not have "Short Report" section. Would you like to have this section added? As for articles with either a low sample size or without extensive literature citations etc, could be considered for publication in this section, which otherwise might get rejected.
7. Presently, members of Editorial Board get their articles published without publication charges. Most of them are very senior in their field and could very easily afford to pay this small sum of money.

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*Editor's Note:* Letters by e. mail are accepted and published regularly. In future the authors will be asked to provide their e. mail address as well and it will be added to facilitate convenient communication between the research scientists and investigators. Other suggestions including students section and student mentor to guide them in research activity are all useful. These will be considered by the Managing Committee of the Editorial Board. The name of the United Nations library has been listed on our regular mailing list.

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### PJMS Website

Please accept my warmest greetings on the appearance of 'Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences' on its own Website. I tried this online

edition of PJMS. It is quite comprehensive and easily trackable. It is a great service to the medical community both at home and overseas to make available the work of our academicians and research scientists to a

much wider audience.

*DR. ALI MUHAMMAD FRCP, FCPS  
Consultant Physician and Cardiologist  
Hyderabad. Pakistan.*

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After the enthusiastic reception of compilation of the medico-political columns by the author published earlier in three volumes, "The Whole Truth" (1994), "Beyond the Whole Truth" (1997) and "The Naked Truth" (1999), "Conscience Calls" the fourth volume is yet another landmark publication, compiling the "Off the Record" columns published in "Pulse" International.

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**PMJA**

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