

Editor's note I

Dear readers, how time flies, 21 years have passed by! And as I have come to the end of my 'four year' service as editor-in-chief of our medical journal, with this note I would like to share some remembrance and highlights of the MJI with all of you, readers, contributors, and editorial board members. I still remember, when our tutor the late Prof. Abdul Bari Saifuddin called several of our FMUI staff members including me to help him with the newly born journal, the very first scientific medical journal belonging to our faculty, at the end of 1991. I'll never forget how surprised I was, feeling both alarmed and filled with pride.

Alarmed! Yes, since the journal was to be published in English, with the aim to disseminate scientific works and research results from our faculty members to start with, and then several years later from researchers all over our growing nation, all over Indonesia. In 1995, three years after first published in January 2, 1992 the Medical Journal of Universitas Indonesia (MJUI) was awarded the first batch from the 'University Research for Graduate Education' (URGE) and we were urged to change our name to 'Medical Journal of Indonesia' (MJI), and with the mission to stimulate research and publication in the national level. Twice being granted the URGE award, in 2002, the Ministry of Higher Education started applying accreditations to chosen scientific publications in Indonesia, in which MJI has always succeeded in obtaining; all that despite the lack of funding plus the multitasking of everybody involved in the board which meanwhile had several times been reshuffled.

In 2008, Prof. Abdul Bari Saifuddin, our first Editor-in-Chief and one of our founders passed away following years of poor health. He has always been our source of strength and someone to look up to in times of trouble! One of his main concerns was the existence of our MJI. And the last time I visited him, he made me promise to keep our journal going and to strive to bring it to the international level.

In the meantime, eventhough our board consisted of full time medical educators in the changing world of Medical Education, with obligations to do researches, and public services (for the Clinicians among us), despite the need to juggle our time, we still manage to 'exist' among the 'qualified' if not the best scientific medical journals belonging to a Medical Faculty in our still growing country; and our journal has become one of the leading journals in Indonesia, and we started accepting more articles, not only from research writers in our faculty but also from all over Indonesia and some even from abroad, mostly India.

In striving to reach the international level, MJI has formed a kind of collaboration with the *Deutsch-*

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Indonesische Gesellschaft fuer Medizin (DIGM), the German-Indonesian Medical Association, as the German President of DIGM, Prof. Dr. Freisleben, is a member of our editorial board. Besides publishing articles, the MJI also has the obligation to perform trainings twice a year, one for writers and one for the editors of medical journals. In 2009, the MJI received the Internationalization grant from the Indonesian Directorate of Higher Education (DGHE) to increase its visibility to a more global level, thus in December 2009, we launched the 'electronic MJI', and we continuously keep improving the display and services available in our electronic form. We are now beginning to receive more visitors and contributors from the all over the world.

Last August, as Chief Editor of the MJI I was invited to the second APAME (Asia Pacific Association of Medical Editors) convention in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It was a very fruitful meeting where I met with medical editors from all over Asia Pacific, I learned that we share the same problems with many other South East Asian countries. At that convention, the President of the WAME (World Association of Medical Editors), Dr. Farrokh Habibzadeh, kindly accepted our invitation to afterwards come to Jakarta, and to become the main and only speaker in a meeting of medical editors and there it was decided that what we need to succeed in answering the globalization in scientific journal publication is to start having our Indonesian association of medical editors, in order to increase the quality and professionalism in medical editing and publishing, and to position ourselves in forming a network with the regional and international association of medical editors. And thus, on September 21, 2012, in a gathering of medical editors from Jakarta and Bandung, **the Indonesian Association of Medical Editors (IndAMEd)** was founded, with a handful of Jakarta and one Bandung medical editor as the first members of the organization. to form a more solid organization joined by medical editors of scientific journals nationwide we are planning to invite members from all over Indonesia, to the first general assembly meeting to be held early next year in Jakarta.

Finally, I believe that all the above and with younger, more energetic, idealistic members in its board, MJI will be brought, to a fresh new beginning in our endeavour to raise the quality and professionalism to a higher level, so that our founders may well be assured of the continuation, and hopefully in the near future, the Internationalization of the journal that they founded two decades ago and have fought for ever since...

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Isnani A.S. Suryono
Editor-in-Chief (2008-2012)