

Editorial

It is heartening to see Pakistan Chest Society grow over the years, from a few members to a very large group across the country, acknowledged in various forums. Our Biennial conferences have also grown tremendously both in respect of number of participants and number and quality of papers. In this respect Pakistan Journal of Chest Medicine, the official journal of the society, deserves a special mention too. The project started by our friend Dr I S Burki single handedly in 1995, soon became the official journal of the society. Over the last fourteen years, it is an admirable achievement that the journal continued to be published regularly. The hardships faced by Dr Burki, in terms of getting articles, getting them edited, their publishing, getting the journal recognized by the PMDC and more than that, arranging its finances, can only be appreciated by someone who has done this kind of work. Pakistan Chest Society members' contribution also continued to grow, though it could have been more than what it was in terms of publications. The governing council contributed by forming a larger 'support group' in the form of publication committee three years ago; its inclusion definitely brought a new dimension in respect of peer review and improvement of quality of papers. In February 2009, during the governing council meeting in Karachi, Dr Burki requested to step down as the chief editor due to personal reasons. It was appreciated that such hard work does take its toll and it is but natural in life for people to be replaced so that the momentum of organizations continues to roll on. Therefore it was decided unanimously to let Dr Sohail Akhtar, who was earlier heading the publication committee, step in as the chief editor.

Dr I S Burki, the founder chief editor, will always be remembered as the pioneer of the first Pakistani journal of Pulmonology; we owe a lot to him.

I extend best wishes to the new team to continue their efforts. I also urge all the members of Pakistan Chest Society to strengthen the journal's standing by contribution of articles and co-operation in editing process.

And finally one good news. PMDC, which has started the process of 're-recognition' of all the journals in the last year or so, has inspected and passed our journal as recognized once again. This process was pending due to insufficient correspondence, finally concluded last week, for which efforts by the current editorial board deserve full praise.

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