



香港眼科醫學院

Looking back and moving forward

Ian Y. Wong,¹ MMed (Ophth), FCOphth HK, FHKAM (Ophthalmology), FRCSEd (Ophth), FRCOphth, Alvin K. Au,² MBBS, MRCSEd (Ophth), FCOphth HK, FHKAM (Ophthalmology)

¹Department of Ophthalmology, LKS Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China.

²Department of Ophthalmology, United Christian Hospital, Hong Kong SAR, China.

Correspondence and reprint requests:

Dr. Ian Y. Wong, Department of Ophthalmology, LKS Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China.

Email: ianyhwong@gmail.com

The last 2 years have seen a leap forward for the *Hong Kong Journal of Ophthalmology* (HKJO). The transformation of HKJO from a physical-only journal with distribution restricted to fellows and members, to one with both a print version and an electronic online version, with distribution beyond our local community has been a major step in making our Journal more visible to ophthalmologists globally.

With the generous support of the College of Ophthalmologists of Hong Kong, we have been able to set up a dedicated website for HKJO since May 2015. At the time of writing, our website <www.hkjo.hk> has received 2642 hits, with 28.1% from within Hong Kong and the remainder from various overseas countries (**Table**). The majority of these visitors (over 90%) are new to our website and we are starting to build a steady pool of returning readers. Alongside the launch of our own website in 2015, we have been almost simultaneously indexed by Google Scholar. Among the 2642 visits, 2150 (81.4%) were referred from searches on Google or Google Scholar. This proves the importance of having an electronic platform for HKJO, as well as being indexed by major academic search engines.

Another advantage of an electronic platform is that proper statistics of reads for articles published in HKJO is made possible. For instance, the top 3 most downloaded articles of HKJO to date are: 'Update on the management of non-infectious uveitis' by Dr. Danny Ng and his colleagues¹ with 99 downloads; 'An experimental autoimmune uveoretinitis model and intraocular inflammation' by Dr. Jian Li and Dr. Wai-Kit Chu² with 91 downloads; and 'Safety and efficacy

Table. Point of access of the Hong Kong Journal of Ophthalmology website.

Location	No. (%) of visits*
Hong Kong	742 (28.1)
United States	355 (13.4)
United Kingdom	327 (12.4)
India	151 (5.7)
Indonesia	85 (3.2)
Brazil	68 (2.6)
China (excluding Hong Kong)	53 (2.0)
Japan	46 (1.7)
Singapore	43 (1.6)
Australia	41 (1.6)
Malaysia	40 (1.5)
Canada	38 (1.4)
Italy	37 (1.4)

* Total = 2642

of dexamethasone intravitreal implant injection for macular oedema associated with retinal vein occlusion' by Dr. Angie Fong and her colleagues³ with 81 downloads at the time of writing.

All of the above have important implications. With the indexing of HKJO in MEDLINE as the ultimate goal, there are several aspects of competence that the journal must

demonstrate. There are currently over 5600 titles indexed in the MEDLINE database, and the number is growing every year.⁴ The Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC) reviews new applicant journal titles for consideration of indexing in MEDLINE. The LSTRC meets 3 times a year and considers approximately 180 applications each time. Only approximately 12% to 15% are recommended for indexing at each meeting. Rejected journal applicants can reapply after 2 years.

The United States National Library of Medicine provides clear guidelines for indexing of a journal in MEDLINE.⁵ They include, among others, a history of publishing scholarly content for a minimum of 2 years; and a scope that covers biomedical subjects. In our situation, this refers to the appropriate content with relevance to ophthalmology, the quality of the content and editorial work. The validity, importance, originality and contribution to the development of the field concerned are important key components for

evaluation, as is the ability of the journal to publish an array of articles, such as reports of original research, critical reviews, and case reports, etc. The peer review process is also another important and vital element for consideration. Citations of articles published in the HKJO by other journals are also very important.

The HKJO has progressed substantially over the last 2 years. This would not have been possible without the full support of the authors, College Council, Editorial Board members and reviewers, fellows and members of the College, as well as each and every reader. In the next 2 years, together with the new Editorial Board, we hope to bring HKJO to new heights. We encourage all fellows and members to support HKJO by submitting your work to us. Even if you decide to submit your valuable work elsewhere, please consider citing works published in the HKJO, as this is also an important boost for our scientific impact. Let's work together to make HKJO an effective platform for academic exchange.

References

1. Ng D, Mohamed S, Chu WK, Luk FO, Brelen M, Chan CK. Update on the management of non-infectious uveitis. *Hong Kong J Ophthalmol*. 2016;20:95-105.
2. Li J, Chu WK. An experimental autoimmune uveoretinitis model and intraocular inflammation. *Hong Kong J Ophthalmol*. 2016;20:7-17.
3. Fong AH, Lau TW, Luk FO. Safety and efficacy of dexamethasone intravitreal implant injection for macular edema associated with retinal vein occlusion. *Hong Kong J Ophthalmol*. 2016;20:78-83.
4. Fact Sheet MEDLINE® Journal Selection. Available from: <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/jsel.html>. Accessed 4 Jul 2017.
5. FAQ: Journal Selection for MEDLINE® Indexing at NLM. Available from: https://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/jsel_faq.html. Accessed 4 Jul 2017.