Journal of Infection in Developing Countries (JIDC)  www.jidc.org

Please allow me to introduce our novel scientific publication, “The Journal of Infection in Developing Countries,” that offers an innovative solution to a long standing problem for scientists in developing nations. Currently nearly all the major international scientific journals in health-related areas are written in English with editorial staff almost exclusively from developed countries. Consequently, nearly all articles published in these journals are from resource-rich Western countries. The Journal of Infection in Developing Counties has the mandate of concentrating on publishing scientific work from studies by scientists in developing nations and has an editorial team from over 40 countries. Most importantly, The Journal of Infection in Developing Countries offers a mentorship program that allows scientists from developing nations to engage a JIDC mentor who will aid the scientist with the construction of a research article that meets international standards in academic writing and scientific quality. JIDC therefore offers both an international forum and an enabling vehicle for scientists from developing countries to showcase their scientific achievements in the field of infectious diseases.

The international problem of infectious diseases.

According to the latest WHO statistics, infectious disease is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality throughout the world. Developing countries have a greater incidence of infectious diseases than resource-rich nations because of substandard economic conditions leading to poor healthcare infrastructure, education, and nutrition. Most disconcerting is that children under the age of five and pregnant women are at highest risks for infectious diseases in developing countries. Due to the diversity of environmental conditions in varying developing countries, a need has arisen for conducting regional scientific studies on infectious diseases and the publication of these studies in international journals.

Promoting research on infection by scientists in developing countries

Several international journals are currently published that focus on infectious diseases; however, these journals have editorial staff that are located within resource-rich nations. For example, the journal “Emerging Infectious Diseases” is published through the Centers for Disease Control in the United States. While there is agreement that such journals publish high-quality research articles, it is commonly felt that they do not meet the needs of scientists from developing nations. Specifically, scientists from developing nations face difficulties both gaining access to and publishing in these journals.

The Journal of Infection in Developing Countries is a new academic publication with an international editorial staff from both developing nations and resource-rich countries. JIDC is a peer-reviewed journal with a focus on publishing research articles on studies
performed in developing countries by scientists from developing countries. The journal is an online publication www.jidc.org with an open access policy; that is, it is free to all who register on the Web site. This policy differs from those of most international journals that charge either for access to read the journal or charge a substantial fee for publishing an article, making them virtually inaccessible to most scientists from most developing nations.

Almost all abstracts are published in four international languages including Arabic with an invitation for translation into all languages.

One of the most important aspects of JIDC is the “Mentorship” program. Given that most scientists from developing countries do not have a background in English, they often encounter difficulties publishing in international journals not because of the quality of the scientific study but because the construction of the article in English does not meet international standards. To aid scientists from developing nations who encounter this problem, JIDC editorial staff will match the scientist with a mentor who will help construct the article to meet international standards. This ambitious policy will not only help scientists from developing countries to publish articles in JIDC, but also provide an educational process for them, enabling them to submit high-quality manuscripts to other international journals.

The goal of JIDC is to become the leading international journal for publication of infectious disease studies conducted in developing nations. JIDC has been accepted in PubMed listing (a database search engine for high-quality scientific journals). Within four years JIDC will strive to have an impact factor of “3”. Furthermore, JIDC will host a database that lists local journals within developing countries; sponsor scientific meetings; and publish commentaries by scientists in developing countries to expedite the exchange of ideas which require rapid flow of information on infectious diseases. Finally JIDC will host an archive of short scientific studies that may be valuable as a resource for other scientists.

I will like to receive your comment on this project.

Sincerely

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