

Editorial



Dear Readers

Welcome to the transformed version and latest issue of the *MBMJ*. Hopefully not only the discerning will notice and approve the new cover, layout, style and design of this issue. The aspiration of the Journal is to be inclusive to all aspects of the wider NHS such as Lancaster University, Nursing services, AHP and Social Services whilst embracing Primary and Secondary Care. The contents of this issue are carefully planned to reflect this philosophy. To assist and counsel, a new Editorial Board has been conscripted and the Advisory Board expanded.

The plan for the Journal is for there to be Key Article on a topic of general health care appeal and a Radiology interesting case section in each issue. I invite articles for publication that are broad based and could generate an extended interest on most aspects of health care. They could influence local practice and service development. Articles which are highly specialised will be considered in relation to their general contribution and significance to local health care. In the future a section on *Letters to the Editor* could be created.

The NHS remains a durable and enviable system in the heart of British Society. The article on the Hospital Alcohol Liaison Service epitomises the breadth of NHS service development and refinement. It explores the recognised impact of binge drinking and the potential of millions being saved with some investment. Such quality improvement issues and suggestions strike at the core of contemporary NHS. Similarly so is the case with the Advice and Guidance article. This article reviews a new system for referrals and patient care. Advice and Guidance when utilised to its full potential could see video consultations, transfer of images and more meaningful first appointments in clinics. This method will rightly blur the boundaries between Primary and Secondary Care. The role of probiotics in the treatment of neonates with necrotising enterocolitis offers food for thought for a difficult condition. The chance to celebrate Dr S Gaskell's medical and literary legacy must be broadcast as well as it brings in turn fame to Lancaster. I was quite tempted to comment on the news item in the weekend edition of the Times newspaper that a special species of Cockroach Milk could be the next super food or on the *Five Minute News* article in the recent BMJ that *Retraction Watch* has identified certain authors for scientific misconduct. These authors have been imprisoned. Glum thoughts !!

It is not possible to move on and ignore the seismic national geopolitical circumstances; the unprecedented and unexpected executive upheaval with the possible ambivalent impact directly on the NHS. However our philosophy in the Journal office remains to provide a sense of calm and certainty in mercurial times and provide the Autumn issue in November 2016. Submissions for this will be gratefully accepted until end of October 2016.

I should end now and let you read the rest of the Journal. But before I do I must extend my deepest gratitude to Janet Reed and Bryan Harper. They have indulged and humoured my ideas and thoughts endlessly in the production of this issue.

THANKS for reading

Wishing you a good summer

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shadaba Ahmed". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Shadaba Ahmed
Editor