



# Editorial

Dear Reader

You hold my *piece de resistance* of the MBMJ thus far. This issue includes international articles, the beginning of a historical section as well as a brand new student series on emergencies. The focus of this issue is **Oxytocin** and **COVID 19**. Dr Phuoc-Tan Diep, our very own histopathology consultant, published the first ever paper in the world on Oxytocin and COVID-19. Oxytocin, it appears, has the theoretical potential to profoundly improve patient outcomes in the current pandemic. Read and learn! Dr Diep has collaborated with local and international researchers to publish intriguing insights into this powerful, natural molecule. It has the potential to offer both social and physiological solutions to the “stress of life”. Oxytocin, it appears, could lead to a maelstrom in improving public health generally. Thank you Dr Diep.

The *Lancashire and South Cumbria New Hospitals Programme: once in a generation or generation gap?* is a timely and relevant article by M Lambert. He is associated with the Sociology Department in Lancaster University and is a historian, primarily of the British welfare state since 1945. By using archival material from the Ministry of Health, local pre-NHS bodies and the University of Manchester, he offers a brief exploration of how we might ‘learn from history’ in developing current and future services from this ‘failed’ moment.

The book review section appears to be established now. This issue features review of *Seven Signs of Life - Aoiffe Abbey* by Dr Richard Carruthers. Also included is the first article in the A&E series. Hopefully this should interest the perigraduates, medics and nurses. I am keen to attract the younger readers to engage with MBMJ.

The Editorial Board welcomes Ms Emma Hodgson; a trainee advanced clinical practitioner from Lancaster Medical Practice. I remain on the lookout for a patient representative. Registration with PubMed remains the sedulous plan. I can assure everyone though, that MBMJ publications are picked up regularly by *Google Scholar*. This fact is reflected in the growing number of downloads and citations that our articles currently receive.

Hopefully 19th July will be our “freedom day” as anticipated. Enjoy and please feedback on this issue.

THANHS for reading,

Shadaba Ahmed, Editor

Dear Reader

Firstly, may I begin by expressing how pleased I am to have been asked to write the Foreword for the very first international issue of the MBMJ. This alone is a fantastic achievement and I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in making this happen. The past year has been extremely difficult for a number reasons, not least with the challenges faced by the Pandemic. Despite this, the journal continues to evolve and as Chief Executive of the funding Trust – University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay (UHMBT), it is an asset that I am very proud of.

Thank you for your continued support of the MBMJ and its work. A special thanks to the Editor, Ms Shadaba Ahmed, the Editorial Board and Editorial Team, and of course, all of those who have contributed.

**Aaron Cummins**

**Chief Executive**

University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust

