A commitment to excellence

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The Korean Journal of Urology (KJU) has adopted “A commitment to excellence” as a slogan for 2015. Selected by members of the editorial board among various candidates, this slogan most accurately reflects the eagerness and passion of our members and our commitment to reaching excellence in the field of urology.

To be an excellent journal in the field of urology, the KJU should be indexed in SCIE (Science Citation Index Expanded; Thomson Reuters, New York, NY, USA), because this index provides powerful access to bibliographic and citation information. The KJU took a first step towards becoming an international journal in 2005 by being indexed in Scopus, and another step in 2010 by being indexed in PubMed and PubMed Central [1]. Furthermore, in the previous year, KJU took a giant leap forward by being indexed in MEDLINE, an internationally respected premier database in the field of biomedicine [2]. The impact factor of the KJU began to increase dramatically after being indexed in PubMed and PubMed Central. The most recent SCImago Journal Rank is 0.547 for 2013 (ranking 35/93 in urology); the value for cites per document for 2 years (previous impact index) is 1.24 and the ranking is 38/93 in urology.

Recently, KJU revised the Information for Authors to broaden its scope and add new fields such as “genomics/stem cells in urology” and “geriatric urology.” The field of genomics and stem cells in urology is an emerging one in urological research. The KJU welcomes original articles from genomic medicine and stem cell research to be incorporated into the field of urology. Geriatric urology is a special field of urology. A new society for the study of geriatric urology was established in the Korean Urological Association last year. Also, there was a minor change in the field name from “voiding dysfunction” to “lower urinary tract dysfunction.”

Beginning in January 2015, many new changes are expected in the KJU. The article format will be changed and all figures and illustrations will be published in color in both the print and online versions. There will be no publication fee except for reprint copies. Worldwide readers will be able to gain open access to full-color articles for free online. This policy of the KJU is intended to share new ideas and information with many other worldwide experts in urology.

In 2015, the key focus of the KJU will be on rapid critical reviews, fast publication, and easy-to-access online audiovisual contents. For the rapid critical reviews, 10 associate editors will take a job of section editor in each field of urology. We invited 6 consulting editors for an in-depth review of special articles. KJU has increased the number of international editors among 15 countries including China, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, India, Turkey, Australia, Italy, Austria, Canada, UK, and USA. Fast publication is very important because it gives readers heads-up access to new findings and information. The KJU has online ahead of print publication, and we also have a fast-track publication system with rapid communication of an original article. The KJU also welcomes articles with video clips. The clips can be accessed on the journal’s website or by a QR (quick response) code located in the article.

One of the important pointers towards excellence is to publish high-quality articles. The KJU has more than 200 worldwide reviewers who are experts in various fields of urology. Every month, we select the best reviewers and list them on the KJU homepage to recognize their work. The editorial team of the KJU screens submitted content for originality by using CrossCheck (CrossRef, Lynnfield, MA, www.kjurology.org

ⓒ The Korean Urological Association, 2015
USA) and also checks whether the submission meets the criteria of publication ethics.

In keeping with the slogan for 2015, the editorial team of the KJU will commit ourselves to further improving this journal to reach excellence in the field of urology. By doing this, the KJU will be able to provide international readers with access to Asian data in various urological fields.

Finally, I express my sincere thanks to all members of the Korean Urological Association and all international contributors for their support and contributions to the KJU.

REFERENCES