
A page is turned in the digital era

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Back in 1991, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Online Library Center were able to foresee the future of scientific journals and successfully launched the first electronic medical journal, the *Online Journal of Current Clinical Trials*. Publishing journals online has significantly reduced delays in releasing important new research results and the price of printing and distribution – two of the most important limitations of traditional printed journals. In addition, this journal laid the first stone in the foundation of modern online journals' workflow, in which authors submit their manuscripts to the journal via the internet, and then those manuscript files are delivered electronically to peer reviewers for their comments. As soon as the experts' comments are returned electronically, the authors upload revisions to the online submission system before the finalized version of article is published on the Web. What seems like a routine today was only recently a revolution in scientific journal publication that required foresight about the future of technological development.

One of the crucial requirements for the eventual success of the *Online Journal of Current Clinical Trials* and other online journals that followed shortly after was inclusion in an international index of journals with a recognized level of quality. In 1994, this first electronic journal was finally listed in the Index Medicus of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) of the United States based on the recommendations of an independent committee.

While the general growth of the internet has motivated the online publication of scientific journals, the democratizing effect of the Web has likewise affected academic publication, as researchers would like their papers to be made widely available at no charge. The launching of PubMed Central (PMC) was key to this movement. I had the opportunity to meet Dr. David J. Lipman, who is the director of the Center for Biotechnology Information at the U.S. National Institutes of Health. During our discussion, he noted that the editorial boards of journals should consider PMC an opportunity to maximize the effectiveness of the structure that would make scientific information readily available in the present and archive it for the future. It is now evident that this mission has been successfully achieved.

Those of us from the Korean Academy of Periodontology, the publisher of the *Journal of Periodontal and Implant Science (JPIS)*, have been putting our best effort into reaching the same goals as the first online journal and PubMed Central – technological advancement in publishing and accessibility of content. While we have still been producing traditionally printed issues of JPIS, we have also established an online version of our journal with an open-access policy. Due to the proficiency of our renowned partners, JPIS online (www.jpis.org) is now well equipped with the resources of ORCID, MeSH, ScholarOne, CrossCheck, and CrossMark, which together guarantee the availability and utility of the entire contents of our publication.

Now that we have established a complete electronic infrastructure for our journal, we

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have decided to end the print edition and publish JPIS only in electronic format beginning in January of 2016.

Warmest wishes for a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year to all our patrons!

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