

## Editorial

# Sixty Years of the Indian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology (IJPP): An introspection

The birth of our Indian journal of Physiology and Pharmacology (IJPP) was the result of adoption of the constitution of APPI in 1956. Since then IJPP has been the official organ of APPI. The main aim of APPI envisaged was: "Promotion of advancement of Physiology, Pharmacology and allied Sciences in the country". Since its inception, the journal has been pursuing this aim. IJPP serves as a vehicle for dissemination of scientific temper and thought pertaining to the above mentioned disciplines. Since its commencement, a total of 3,298 articles have been published in IJPP. In the beginning, 15-20 articles were published in the journal per annum. This gradually increased and currently publishes 75-80 articles per annum. Thus, it started as a small journal substantially, grew over the years. It certainly mirrors the progress of physiological and pharmacological scientific activity in the country.

Out of 3312 articles available in Pubmed, 198 are clinical trials and 306 are reviews. The most remarkable feature is the publication of 477 articles pertaining to complementary and alternative medicine, which is a unique feature of the journal. IJPP is one of the most sought after journals for Yoga, Meditation and related domains.

Out of 3312 articles, there are 1502 human studies and 1792 animal studies on the whole. A close analysis showed a change in the pattern of animal *versus* human studies. An analysis of three blocks (20 years each) since the inception of IJPP shows a serious decline in the number of animal studies. The ratio of animal *versus* human studies shows 2:1 to 1.7:1 to 0.6:1 ratio for 20 years block for last 60 years: 403 *versus* 198 for 1957-1976; 915 *versus* 524 for 1977-1997 and 474 *versus* 780 for 1998-2016. This data clearly provide categorical evidence that there has been steady decline in number of animal studies reported in Physiology / Pharmacology in India. In an earlier editorial, a similar finding was echoed in terms of declining skills for animal research.

This is a serious trend perhaps reflecting a decline in fundamental research in Physiology. Animal research is one of the foundations of medical research in our country. It is an asset for which we must invest for betterment of mankind.

As per Scopus Database, SCImago Journal and Country ranking system, the H index of IJPP has grown to 38 from 30 in the last 4 years. Based on the H index, IJPP continues to maintain its 5<sup>th</sup> ranking amongst all medical journals published from India (out of ~156 Journals) and 10<sup>th</sup> ranking amongst all scientific journals published from India (out of ~442 Journals). When ranked on basis of SJR criteria, IJPP ranks at 79<sup>th</sup> position amongst all medical journals from India.

In addition to indexing in Pubmed, IJPP is also indexed in IndMed which is an Indian medical journal database of selected peer reviewed journals. This is developed and maintained by ICMR in collaboration with NIC. Soon we will make our full text available on IndMed platform also. Although, we have achieved certain goals of 100% digitations, availability of soft copies of current issues and rapid feedback mechanism, we

need to achieve full online submission and tracking facility. We also need to improve quality of our refereeing procedure.

We are grateful to the large numbers of our readers, contributors and reviewers who have upheld the value of our esteemed journal. We look forward to your continued support in our endeavor.

Wish you a happy scientific reading.

## References

1. Anand BK. Forty years of APPI and IJPP. *Indian J Physiol Pharmacol* 1996; 40: 281–288.
2. Deepak KK. Towards an eco-friendly journal. *Indian J Physiol Pharmacol* 2013; 54: 342.