

Editorial

Dear Readers

In the history of *Biomedical Papers*, Volume 147 (2003) was the first to include two issues published as a periodical. The journal was a follow-up to proceedings of the Faculty of Medicine, Palacký University Olomouc entitled *Acta Universitatis Palackianae Olomucensis Facultatis Medicae* (1956–1986) and, later, *Biomedical Papers* (1987–2002). The journal's 15-year history is seen by the editors as a good opportunity to ask the following questions: *Biomedical Papers* – Where are we and where are we going?

Despite several offers of purchase from multinational publishing companies, the journal continues to be published by Palacký University. The budget is paid by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and the Editorial Office is part of the Department of Medical Chemistry and Biochemistry. For this reason, *Biomedical Papers* may be referred to as a “local” journal, with all the negative connotations that implies. There are a few bibliometric indicators from 2016 and 2017 to gain deeper insights into the journal's characteristics. The journal is indexed in all major bibliographic databases and, from Volume 154 (2010), it has had an Impact Factor. The journal's website is visited by some 19,000 readers each month. Of a total of approximately 180 manuscripts submitted annually, about 30% are accepted for publishing. These undergo a two-step review process (by the editors and reviewers) and language editing. Authors of articles published over the last two years were from 12 countries. On average, the

time from manuscript submission to article publication is six months. The JCR (Journal Citation Reports) Science Edition ranked *Biomedical Papers* 16th among 40 journals with impact factor published in the Czech Republic in 2016.

What next? In the years to come, *Biomedical Papers* will be published by Palacký University, with a frequency of four issues a year. As in the past, it will contain review and original articles reporting on basic and clinical research in medicine. We plan to improve the website and manuscript submission system. All papers are available online free of charge on the journal's website and from the PubMed, Scopus and Web of Science databases.

Finally, let us announce changes to the journal's Editorial Board. We would like to thank the following leaving members, Jarmila Potomková, Ph.D. for more than 20 years of editorial work and prof. MUDr. Jindřich Pazdera, CSc. for his long-term reviewing services. We welcome new members of the Editorial Board: prof. MUDr. Michal Rygl, Ph.D. from the Department of Paediatric Surgery, Second Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague and University Hospital Motol, prof. MUDr. Martin Smrčka, Ph.D. from the Department of Neurosurgery, University Hospital Brno, prof. MUDr. Tomáš Eckschlager, CSc. from the Department of Paediatric Haematology and Oncology, Second Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague and University Hospital Motol and MUDr. Ing. David Zeman, Ph.D. from the Department of Neurology and Department of Laboratory Medicine, University Hospital Ostrava.

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