

The Puerto Rico Health Sciences Journal

Thirty years ago the PRHSJ was founded with the primary objective to provide a forum for the publication and dissemination of scientific work conducted by the professionals of all the schools of the University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus. At that time most of the research ongoing in the Campus was that of the School of Medicine most of which was published in national and international journals as preferred by the Accrediting agencies. We were conscious of this but our dream was then that this Journal, *The Puerto Rico Health Sciences Journal (PRHSJ)*, could become internationally recognized as was *Porto-Rico Journal of Public Health and Tropical Medicine* (ISSN 0370-1506, 1929-1951). I think that thanks to the hard work of the Editors, the Editorial Board, the Faculty, and the students who submit their manuscripts for publication as well as the support of all the administrations in the past 30 years we are close to accomplishing this ambitious goal. The quality of the publications has improved remarkably. Thanks to the appointment of a copy editor, specialized in the editing of manuscripts in the health sciences, a valuable resource is available to the faculty and students to improve the quality of their manuscripts. As in all prestigious journals the PRHSJ has its web page (<http://prhsj.rcm.upr.edu>) and is cited in the most important catalog index such as PubMed/Medline, SCOPUS, Index Pharmacus, Science Citation Index Expanded (SciSearch®), and Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition.



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Although the statistics show the visits to the Journal in the web is increasing, I do not think is being read by our medical community nor our faculty and students. To address this I suggest that our faculty when lecturing our students in a given topic start the lecture by giving the state of the art of such problem in Puerto Rico; e.g., Diabetes, HIV, metabolic syndrome, osteoporosis, cancer, etc. Most of such data has been published in the PRHSJ. Of course they will not pay much attention unless you include questions in their exams. Another strategy is including the review of pertinent articles published in the PRHSJ in the Journal clubs. The Associate Editors of each school could attend this matter.

Health professionals nowadays get most of the information from the web. I suggest you get the E-mails from the professional societies and send the table of contents of each issue including abstracts and full text to all health professionals in Puerto Rico. The health professionals of Puerto Rico should be aware of the magnitude of our health problems.

Regarding the prestige of the PRHSJ, I suggest that the established investigators in our faculty should send some of their original papers to the Journal. Once you are an established investigator the search is usually by author rather than topic. I remember that Dr Enrique Koppisch, renowned pathologist of our faculty, published all his original studies in the *Porto-Rico Journal of Public Health and Tropical Medicine* and the *Bulletin of the Puerto Rico Medical Association*, and he was internationally recognized. I know this because I had the privilege of spending a four month rotation in Pathology with him as an elective in my Internal Medicine residency in the San Juan City Hospital. It was his letter of recommendation that gave me the opportunity to train in Endocrinology and Metabolism at the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

At present the research activities are increasing in our campus with the Comprehensive Cancer Center, the unit of Translational Research, the Neurobiology Center, and the Caribbean Primate Center. As medical director of the Puerto Rico Diabetes Center, a corporation of the government of Puerto Rico, it is one of my major responsibilities to develop clinical, epidemiological, health delivery, and basic Sciences research. This is quite a challenge which I have accepted enthusiastically. I promise that some of our original studies will be sent for publication to the PRHSJ. After all, the Journal is one of my babies and I have to help it grow.

¡HAPPY 30th BIRTHDAY!

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