

## A Decade of Work and Progress



2015 marks the 10th anniversary of the current editor, editorial board, and our management administration.

We have been extraordinarily gratified by the many healthcare workers, physicians, nurses, and specialized technical personnel who have contacted us with mostly positive comments during our tenure with *The American Journal of Medicine*. Yes, there have been some irate letters when one or another “sacred cow” has been gored. However, these negative messages have been few and far between. The most common accolade involves thanks for publishing material that is relevant to the day-in and day-out practice of internal medicine and its subspecialties. We have thoroughly enjoyed working initially with the staff and members of the American Professors of Medicine (Chiefs of Medicine in the United States and Canada) and more recently with similar leaders of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine, to which the American Professors of Medicine now belongs alongside a number of other closely affiliated organizations, for example, the Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine.

*The American Journal of Medicine* of today is quite different from the *Journal I* (JSA) read as medical student and a resident in the late 1960s and early 1970s. At that time, the *Journal* focused primarily on publishing research studies with a modicum of case reports, reviews, and clinical pathologic conferences. Before we took over the *Journal* in late 2004, many of the research articles were quite sophisticated and, in my opinion, would have been more appropriate for a subspecialty journal. With this in mind, initially, I (JSA) had a number of in-depth conversations with my contacts at Elsevier, Pamela Poppalardo and Glen Campbell. These 2 superb and knowledgeable publishers helped the *Journal's* editorial board and staff formulate a new, more successful direction. Working closely with Elsevier, a number of popular venues started during our tenure, include the Diagnostic Dilemma, a variety of images of the month, and a new emphasis on publishing useful quality assessment and improvement articles. Our impact factor has risen modestly over the years, but, more important, our *Professions Education Research Quarterly* (PERQ)

readership analysis has increased dramatically (Table 1). Nearly 50% of internists in the United States report that they read a substantial portion of *The American Journal of Medicine* each month. For me, this is a terribly important statistic. Just like a newspaper, a medical journal seeks to communicate information. If there are no readers perusing the published material, then we have failed in our mission to communicate. Both the independently run PERQ analysis and my own impression from hundreds of personal, written, and electronic communications from readers confirm that we have succeeded in reaching our audience (Table 2).

Many things have changed at the *Journal* in the past 10 years. After the establishment of our electronic submission system in 2005, new submissions have risen steady; in 2013, more than 1800 manuscripts were submitted (Figure 1). Ten years ago, the *Journal*, of course, had a website, but the official publication was the print edition. In 2006, Elsevier added E-extra pages (online content related to print articles) and E-only content (articles that appear only on the web); at this time, the official publication shifted from the print version to the online version. In 2008, we initiated a very successful blog under the leadership of our remarkably skilled and versatile Managing Editor (PPH). More recently, AJM added a Facebook page, a Twitter account (@amjmed), an app to facilitate reading AJM on a tablet or smart phone, and a mobile-optimized website design (Table 1).

*The American Journal of Medicine* is always looking for feedback from our readership, and all such communications receive an immediate response from us. As we go

**Table 1** *The American Journal of Medicine* Statistics

Total print circulation	116,383
Website page views (2013)	2,122,353
Website unique visits (2013)	816,534
Acceptance rate, overall	20%
Acceptance rate, clinical research studies	15%
Impact factor (2013)	5.302
Website	amjmed.com
Facebook	facebook.com/amjmedicine
Blog	amjmed.org
Twitter	@amjmed

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**Table 2** Most Cited and Most Downloaded Articles Since 2005

Pub Year	Article Title	Authors	Vol	Iss	Total Citations
<b>Top 5 Cited Articles- AJM</b>					
Published 2005-present					
2009	Weight and Type 2 Diabetes after Bariatric Surgery: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	Buchwald H., Estok R., Fahrback K., Banel D., Jensen M.D., Pories W.J., Bantle J.P., Sledge I.	122	3	817
2007	Fixed-Dose Combinations Improve Medication Compliance: A Meta-Analysis	Bangalore S., Kamalakkannan G., Parkar S., Messerli F.H.	120	8	448
2006	Late Thrombosis of Drug-Eluting Stents: A Meta-Analysis of Randomized Clinical Trials	Bavry A.A., Kumbhani D.J., Helton T.J., Borek P.P., Mood G.R., Bhatt D.L.	119	12	385
2006	Etiology of insulin resistance	Petersen K.F., Shulman G.I.	119	5	384
2006	Metabolic Syndrome and Risk of Cardiovascular Disease: A Meta-Analysis	Galassi A., Reynolds K., He J.	119	10	379
Cover Date	Article Title	Author(s)	Vol	Iss	Full-text Requests
<b>Top 5 Downloaded Articles- AJM</b>					
Published 2005-present					
01-Nov-2007	Hyponatremia Treatment Guidelines 2007: Expert Panel Recommendations	Verbalis, J.G.; Goldsmith, S.R.; Greenberg, A.; Schrier, R.W.; Sterns, R.H.	120	11	20,999
01-May-2006	Etiology of Insulin Resistance	Petersen, K.F.; Shulman, G.I.	119	5	20,733
01-Oct-2009	Treatment of Neuropathic Pain: An Overview of Recent Guidelines	O'Connor, A.B.; Dworkin, R.H.	122	10	18,320
01-Jun-2006	Mechanisms of Antimicrobial Resistance in Bacteria	Tenover, F.C.	119	6	18,149
01-Jul-2011	The DRESS Syndrome: A Literature Review	Cacoub, P.; Musette, P.; Descamps, V.; Meyer, O.; Speirs, C.; Finzi, L.; Roujeau, J.C.	124	7	16,900

**Figure 1** Articles published in print and online since 2005.

forward, our goal is to be even more useful to internists and subspecialists in internal medicine in the United States and throughout the world.

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