

New Taipei Journal of **Medicine**

To Our Readers and Authors:

"The scenes were different then, and there were only a few general hospitals and medical schools in Taiwan" said an internist from Chicago who recently visited Taipei. Much has changed in the past 30 years. He recalled his impressions of Taiwan in the 1960's — there were no cellular phones or Armani suits on the streets of Taipei. While a cup of coffee then meant a cup of coffee, cappuccino and red wines are now the favorites. Taiwan has rapidly transformed into a fully democratic society and as the capital city, Taipei is increasingly cosmopolitan.

The idea for a new medical journal before the dawn of the new century came from a consensus of the faculty of Taipei Medical College (TMC). We decided to discontinue our campus publication which has existed for nearly 36 years, — TMC Bulletin, and launch a new journal with a larger scope and scale. The New Taipei Journal of Medicine (NTJM) represents a reinvention of the older journal.

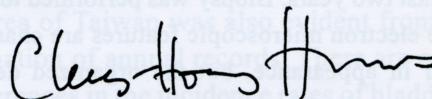
We had intense debates on "medical sciences vs. health sciences" and finally reached a consensus— medicine is a simplified term and a unified concept encompassing various fields of health-related sciences. NTJM will publish studies from a broad spectrum of health-related sciences.

What is unique about Taiwan as well as medicine in Taiwan is its diversity. There is western medicine alongside many forms of alternative medicine. We wish to tell the story and the study of medicine through the eyes and hands of investigators in Taiwan. Our new journal should serve as a forum for exchanging information and experiences uniquely Taiwan — be they similar to or totally different from those of other parts of the world. In addition, we welcome our international colleagues to express their ideas and views in NTJM. Global participation is important to us.

To quote a local saying — "Pao Tswan Yin Yu" (抛磚引玉) literally meaning "to bring out jades, show bricks first". It expresses an enthusiasm of believing that things in less perfect form must come first, then better things will follow.

The New Taipei Journal of Medicine is not just a journal. It is an attitude, a spirit.

The New Taipei Journal of Medicine is a newborn journal and, as a new century dawns, will continue growing and striving for excellence. We welcome all of you to join us to work hard and share the joy of learning together.



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