Dear All,

I hope and pray that this year brings lots of happiness, prosperity and peace in your life.

The change in chief editorship is instituted to continue the publication of the Annals of Abbasi Shaheed Hospital and KMDC, since our much respected Prof. Farah Asad Mansoori is outside the country.

It is an honour to work for this journal. I have been trained / guided by my many people, some of whom i would like to mention such as Prof. Sarwar Jehan Zuberi (late), Mr. Azmat Ali Khan (late) Managing Editor, Journal of the College and Physician and Surgeons of Pakistan (JCPSP) and presently my very dear senior colleague Dr. Fatema Jawad Chief Editor Journal of the Pakistan Medical Association (JPMA), who has helped me further by giving her guidance and moral support when this tremendous task was put on my shoulders.

In addition my experience at JCPSP and Journal of the Pakistan Medical Association (JPMA) will hopefully also help me to make this journal read by many both locally and abroad. I remember with much gratitude late Mr. Azmat who was always there at CPSP to guide me by his very strict critique of all that I did. Mr. Azmat, was meticulous and his strong point was his ethical approach to everything related to the journal and life in general. He was quite adamant about the merit of an article being published and would not relent regardless of the pressure from any quarter, hence, rarely was he pressurized to publish a manuscript without merit. I have been lucky to be strongly influenced by his approach.

The aim of our team, especially our patron, Prof Waqar Husain Kazmi, is to have this journal recognized internationally and make improvements where necessary.

I am thankful, to the previous team, (Dr. Farah Asad Mansoori, Dr Najeeb Ansari and Dr. Farhat Jafri) without them the journal would not have progressed. I continue to seek their help in future also.

We have made some changes in the submission criteria, for e.g. all submissions now require approval from an IRB (institutional review board); ICMJE (International Committee of Medical Journal Editors) guidelines for submission have to be followed. The guidelines are being revised and all articles will be screened for plagiarism. We will also be making an effort to make all articles available on the website of the journal for easy reference.

The prime request to all of the prospective authors of this journal is to follow its guidelines. If any assistance is required the office bearers are there to help you. Kindly keep in mind the time frame when submitting manuscripts as initial submission followed by pre-assessment, peer review, editing and final proof (at all these stages the manuscript can be sent to the author for revision) requires months and not weeks before an article can be accepted for publication.

In this publication, the present team apart from the chief editor includes Prof.Tariq Aftab (who has been with the journal for a long time), Prof. Nishat Ayub and Dr Tahmeena Siddique and a few fourth year students. Two of which have been included as student editors for a period of one year.

My final message to all of you is that this is your journal and we all have to work very hard to improve the manuscripts we submit and make an impact in the medical world of literacy.