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Editorial

CLINICAL AND BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH: THE FIRST YEAR OF THE JOURNAL

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The journal Clinical and Biomedical Research (CBR), a scientific publication from Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre and the School of Medicine of Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, has just completed its first year with this new name, which replaced the former Revista HCPA.

Following the tradition of a 34-year-old publication and a centennial School of Medicine, and in line with an internationally accredited hospital, the change that occurred in 2014 sought to make the journal undergo the necessary evolution to deal with the new challenges faced by a scientific publication that aims to expand its boundaries in a highly competitive environment. At the same time as there has been an international growth in the production of knowledge, there has also been an increase in the number of new scientific journals that compete to publish high quality content and being indexed on important databases. Therefore, in this first moment, the journal, as a continuum of Revista HCPA, attempted to gain space as a vehicle to disseminate scientific knowledge among an audience from outside the regional boundaries of the journal, facing several competitors that are in a more advanced position. However, CBR published high-quality studies from experts in their research fields, including international authors.

Of the 59 articles published in the 2014 issues, including original articles, special articles, review articles, and case reports, 34 were published entirely in English, which is certainly a milestone in the history of the journal. Additionally, the participation of international authors was considered satisfactory for this first year, because the journal published four articles from international authors.

However, the most remarkable step towards journal internationalization was the number of reviewers external to the institutions responsible for the journal, especially that of international reviewers who collaborated with CBR in the peer review process. Overall, the journal had 12 international reviewers coming from countries such as: USA, Canada, Norway, Portugal, Iran, and Japan. Moreover, manuscripts are reviewed by several international members of our editorial board. The participation of international reviewers provides us with a perspective external to that we are conveying, somehow ensuring that the published studies provide some data of interest to readers from other countries.

As the editor-in-chief of the journal, I would like to especially thank Prof. Flávio P. Kapczinski for the invitation to take on this transition and to Prof. Eduardo P. Passos for believing and reinforcing this proposal and relying on our work. I would like to thank our associate editors Gilberto Friedman, José R. Goldim, and Renato S. Procianoy for providing important contributions to journal's general strategies and policies, as well as suggestions to guide difficult decisions.

All the merit achieved throughout this first year should be unquestionably shared with all editors and members of the editorial board, especially with Afonso L. Barth, André Kalil, Bruno Peixoto, Flávia K. Borges, Jason M. Pogue, Letícia S. Weinert, Lúcia C. Pellanda, Rafael S. Scheffel, Tiago L. Ghezzi, and Tyrone L. Pitt. These particular colleagues stood out for their more active participation in the development of the journal.

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Finally, I am grateful to all external reviewers and authors who somehow relied on the journal, whether by collaborating with their expertise or by disseminating their study in our journal.

In the year 2015, some further changes will be made in our editorial board in order to suit the fields of greater demand in the journal and due to new editorial

policies. There will be also space for review articles and special articles in Portuguese again, among other minor changes. In conclusion, we hope that the year 2015, which has just begun, is the year to consolidate the journal and its new proposal, with the aim of being indexed on other important international databases already in this year.