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The Editor-in-Chief 2012 Report: Journal of Medical Hypotheses and Ideas

Journal of Medical Hypothesis and Ideas (J Med Hypotheses Ideas) is one of the 44 scientific journals of Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS). This online journal has been published from 2007 under the name of Iranian Journal of Medical Hypothesis and Ideas and continued from 2012 as Journal of Medical Hypothesis and Ideas. Publication of 5 volumes and more than 100 articles has been the result of the short period of this journal’s activity.

Evaluation of this journal by Scopus indicates a positive trend of publications, citations, H-index, and international collaboration.

J Med Hypotheses Ideas is an opportunity to express new ideas and hypotheses in the realm of medical sciences. The main purpose of this journal is to provide an appropriate environment to share the huge mass of ideas of the whole medical society by removing obstacles. Interestingly, in some or even most of cases, the first idea comes from somebody who does not have facilities to test the idea in a broad scale but if the idea is shared with others, thus there would be a chance for others to test. Unquestionably, the final benefit reaches world medical sciences and eventually to patients.

This open access journal offers a unique perspective, blending, in a sense, medicine with deeper philosophical thinking about science, and the origin of scientific ideas, which tend to get left behind in standard journals. The articles of this journal tend to go beyond presenting findings, and serve to stimulate debate, discussion, and critical evaluation. The current belief is that sharing an idea with other scientists of the world is much better than hiding or patenting it. Therefore, Journal of Medical Hypotheses and Ideas considers new or modified ideas and protocols to facilitate the process of idea sharing and innovation and also assigning some kind of right to the idea holder. As a matter of fact, all submission must pass through initial review and then a peer review process. Offering novelty in the idea and proposing sufficient new information are the prerequisites for passing through initial review process and entering into further peer review process. By identifying these ahead of time, the Editors of this journal save the reviewers and authors’ time and effort. Therefore, all authors would expect to get a decision about their submission in earlier possible time no later 45 days. The review process of this journal is unique in terms of questions asked from reviewers and scores they got. The following points are considered during review process:

1. How much the idea and hypotheses is important in medical sciences?
2. Is the idea and the hypothesis original?
3. How much clear has the idea or hypothesis been described?
4. How is the validity and reliability of the methods suggested for testing the idea?
5. How is the quality of discussion? How is relevancy of discussion?
6. How much the proposed conclusions are reliable and rational? What about soundness of conclusions and interpretation?
7. How much good is the manuscript written in terms of grammar and scientific style?
8. Are figures, schemes, and tables original?
9. Have you seen similar papers?
10. Are original references cited? Are they updated?
11. Do you see any kind of plagiarism within manuscript?
12. Do you see anything unlawful, libelous, or which would, if published, constitute a breach of contract or of confidence or of commitment given to secrecy?
13. Is the manuscript written according to format of J Med Hypotheses Ideas?
14. What is general and specific comments?

Also almost unique to this journal, in an overview box, all authors must answer to three questions as follow:
During activity of this journal, it had a good track record of thought provoking papers. The contents in these issues will attest to the originality and significance of its offerings, and its melding of research and clinical reports.

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