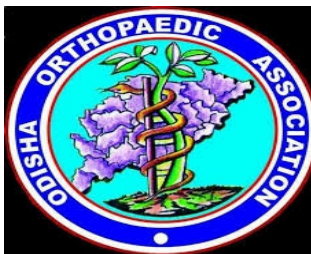


From Editors Desk

Nirmal Chandra Mohapatra¹

The purpose of our journal has been to serve as a permanent, transparent and open platform for the presentation, scrutiny, and discussion of Orthopaedic research in our state. This we have endeavoured since the very inception of our journal in 1979. Despite the multitude of impressive articles and sustained enthusiasm with which the previous editors and authors carried on, we realised that a massive change was needed in order to maintain our utility and contribute to our goals in this ever changing world. We had to sit down, introspect and decide how we could do things better. The shortcomings were glaring. We lacked indexing in any major form. In this technologically savvy age, our online presence and article submission system was archaic. Despite having such a senior and talented pool of orthopaedic surgeons our peer-review system was abysmal. Our editorial/reviewer teams have to be moulded in order to solve the problems of deprecation into the journals working methods. All this requires not only a coordinated effort on the part of the editors & reviewers but it also needs the sustained support of the authors and the entire orthopaedic community of the state. There are many issues that need to be tackled. We lack subspecialty focus, an online submission system, a proper peer review system, our articles are submitted just in the nick of time and yet it is expected to be published early (without a proper peer-review or constructive criticism) and finally, we lacked a professional vetting system for the submitted articles. We decided to rope in professional publishers and approached the Indian Orthopaedic Research Group. The changes that we attempt to bring in will require long term planning, patience (for the results will require a lot of time to present) and probably also require cajoling for acceptance by our whole fraternity. But these changes are absolutely mandatory and this piece of the editorial is probably akin to Nokia CEOs infamous “burning platform” memo (before Nokia/Symbian sank in 2011), except that we envision a very successful transition. The effect of these changes will be apparent over the next 2 to 3 volumes and we hope these will set in motion improvements that last a foreseeable future.

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