

Dear Colleagues,

We are proud to say that after publishing 20 issues of our medical journal, "Tanaffos", the journal has gained vast popularity on an internal, regional and international scale which we could safely say is our pride and joy.

In the extensive research of medical sciences, especially in the vast scope of Respiratory Diseases such as Thoracic Surgery, Tuberculosis, Intensive Care, Tobacco related issues, Air Pollution, Environmental and Occupational Hazards, etc. and in the competitive world of medical journalism, perpetual publishing of our journal and ultimately its qualitative and to some extent its quantitative improvement could undoubtedly demonstrate the commitment and interest of the editorial team in order to have a permanent presence in this competitive field.

As science and research have got an increasing trend in developing countries, their observable effect could be found in both internal and regional journals. However, in the wide range of medical journalism, the great support of "International Medical Index Systems" could be considered as a motivating encouragement to reinforce research fields in developing countries, esp. considering the approval and accrediting aspects of journals. One of the most important responsibilities of developed countries in the field of North-South cooperation with developing countries is supporting and promoting them in research projects. Moreover, indexing their journals as well as article acceptance from the side of relevant organizations in developed countries are considered as other effective measures in this regard.

Hence, this journal openly welcomes any constructive criticism from its readers in order to fulfill their high expectations accordingly.

From this issue on, the journal will be presented to its honorable readers and researchers with a new cover design and a transformed format. Moreover, we are seriously decisive on adding interesting, new sections worth reading.

We hope you enjoy our revised version of Tanaffos.

Mohammad Reza Masjedi, M.D.

Chairman and Editor-in-chief, Tanaffos

Secretary General, International Union Against of Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases (IUATLD)