



ULTRASONOGRAPHY: current status, challenges, and future directions

ULTRASONOGRAPHY

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Honorary Editor
ULTRASONOGRAPHY

EDITORIAL

<https://doi.org/10.14366/usg.17069>
pISSN: 2288-5919 • eISSN: 2288-5943
Ultrasonography 2018;37:1-2

Since *Ultrasonography* was launched as an international peer-reviewed academic journal dedicated to medical ultrasound (US) in January 2014, it has been an honor and privilege for me to serve as the journal's Honorary Editor [1]. The purpose of this editorial update is to provide readers with some recent information and to share my views on the journal and its future directions.

During the last 4 years, *Ultrasonography* has published a total of 160 peer-reviewed articles. In 2017, the *Ultrasonography* home page had over 85,000 hits per month, with over 2,300 downloads of manuscripts from 115 different countries per month. In 2016, *Ultrasonography* demonstrated an increase in the number of citations by authors throughout the world, and the estimated impact factor of *Ultrasonography* reached 2.075 [2], as it has continued to attract more and more international readers. Consequently, *Ultrasonography* became indexed by the Web of Science's new Emerging Source Citation Index (ESCI) in November 2016 [2] and by SCOPUS in September 2017, marking it as one of the leading global journals in the field of medical US.

The aim of *Ultrasonography* is to provide up-to-date information on new diagnostic concepts and technical developments, as well as to publish well-designed reviews of contemporary issues in patient care in the field of medical US. As the Honorary Editor of *Ultrasonography*, I am aware of the editor's tremendous responsibility in guiding the publication to fulfill the aims of *Ultrasonography* and of how important the roles of the authors, reviewers, and readers are for a journal to be successful.

Those of us who are involved in the journal's publication have the great responsibility to provide an effective means to disseminate the original work of the authors as well as to provide timely, high-quality research to readers. We will continue to promote and publish high-quality peer-reviewed research. We also plan to invite internationally renowned scholars to submit reviews of the latest research and introductions to innovative new technologies to enhance the quality of the content and to attract a larger international readership. Original articles that advance the science of US will remain the centerpiece of the journal, while

Received: November 2, 2017
Revised: November 22, 2017
Accepted: November 23, 2017

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Ultrasound in Medicine (KSUM)



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How to cite this article:
Choi BI. ULTRASONOGRAPHY: current status, challenges, and future directions. *Ultrasonography*. 2018 Jan;37(1):1-2.

Pictorial Essays, Technical Notes, and Perspectives will continue to be published. Sonologists and US-related specialists are encouraged to submit their most promising research results to *Ultrasonography*. We will continue to provide high-quality editing and publishing services without cost, and there will be no fees for submissions or for the publication process.

A quality publication must have capable, fair, and considerate reviewers, as well as outstanding authors and manuscripts. The adoption of a double-blind peer review process and an open-access policy will enable *Ultrasonography* to fulfill its obligation to publication ethics; each article must also comply with our editorial standards for quality and ethics. We have thus established an Editorial Board composed of internationally renowned scholars and scientists to meet global standards for the process of peer-reviewing submitted manuscripts. We are grateful to the many reviewers and editorial members who volunteer their time and effort to ensure the quality of the journal's content. The speed of publication is also important for the journal's success. We

have established a state-of-the-art electronic manuscript submission, review, and electronic publishing system, and we make our best effort to complete the review process as soon as possible, ideally within 4 weeks of receiving a manuscript submission.

Going forward, I believe *Ultrasonography* will be a useful and valuable international journal covering recent advances in US for every US-related specialist. I look forward to receiving a wide range of submissions and contributions from basic and clinical researchers throughout the world.

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