



Introduction to the Publication of the Journal of Medical Bacteriology in Iran

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Over the past few decades, the science of microbiology in general and bacteriology in particular, has played a key role in fighting against infectious diseases and improving public health worldwide. During this period, we learned that as our knowledge of microbiology increases, we will face yet more scientific questions some of which may not be easy to answer. We have also learned that solving a scientific puzzle may open new sets of even more challenging questions. This is the nature of science and in our country, we as scientists, have an obligation to challenge these questions by sharing our knowledge, experience and our findings with other scientist through publications in scientific journals.

In recent years, Iranian scientists have achieved a great deal of success enough to include the name of this country amongst those with the highest scientific capability and progress (1, 2). This is despite the tragic fact that most of our findings are either not published or are published in journals that have low citation rates.

Iranian microbiologists have been shown to be amongst the best and most skilled scientists in the region. Naturally such position warrants a better quantity in research and an increase in the number of our publications. An improved quality of research can be achieved by an increase in the quantity of publications mainly as this will allow our young scientists to experience constructive criticisms needed for refining their scientific vision thus leading to scientific awareness and expertise. Despite an increase in the number of

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research projects in the field of microbiology, the numbers of published articles in this country are lower than expected. In view of the above and in line with the world's trend toward specialisation in different disciplines, we have launched publication of the Journal of Medical Bacteriology and hope that this journal fulfils its mission by uplifting the science of microbiology in Iran. We also hope that this journal serves as a mediator for presenting highly advanced research articles in medical bacteriology and establishes a niche for young scholars to communicate their findings with other microbiologists nationally and internationally.

References

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2. Van Noorden, R. 365 Days: 2011 in Review. *Nature* 2011; **480** (7378): 426-429.