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Editorial

IJGO at the FIGO 2012 Congress and beyond



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This is an especially exciting year for the *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics* (IJGO). As the official journal of the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), IJGO's mission is to support the activities of the organization, its Executive Board, and its constituent societies, and we are particularly happy to support and be part of the 2012 FIGO Congress in Rome (October 7–12).

We have just learnt that the 2011 Impact Factor (IF) of the IJGO was 2.045, which achieves our IF goal of above 2.0 (IF2) a year ahead of the target we had set for ourselves. The IF is a measure of how often publications are cited and quoted by other authors and scholars, and this is an important benchmark for IJGO as many authors need to publish in journals with an IF2 for academic promotion and demonstration of their scholarship. IJGO has been able to achieve this goal by maintaining its priority of publishing important documents from FIGO, such as the FIGO Gynecologic Cancer Staging [1], the recent FIGO Abnormal Uterine Bleeding Classification (PALM COEIN) [2], and important opinions from, for example, the Ethics Committee [3,4], the Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health Committee [5], and the FIGO Working Group on the Prevention of Unsafe Abortion and its Consequences [6]. In addition, our special contributions, such as the section on Ethical and Legal Issues in Reproductive Health by

Professors Dickens and Cook and special editorials by members of the Editorial Board and the Executive Board, have been important additions.

Our major goal is to publish clinically important material, but also to support the developing scholarship and publication from low-resource countries and those countries that are not commonly heard from. This year includes papers from Morocco, Jordan, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, and Bahrain—just to mention a few of the smaller countries—but also papers from countries that do not often publish in the English international literature, such as Russia, Georgia, Slovenia, and others.

IJGO, because of its international focus, has recently been able to publish major randomized clinical trials that add to the evidence-based literature on the gynecologic and obstetric use of misoprostol [7,8], the use of tranexamic acid to prevent and manage postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) [9], and innovative clinical approaches to the management of PPH [10]. In addition, we have published important papers describing clinical programs that can improve outcomes and health through the implementation of evidence-based practices and interventions [11,12]. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge with gratitude the hard work and loyal commitment of Clare Addington, Pete Chapman, and Helen Metherell in the London office, and Paula Flynn, the Journal Manager, in Shannon.

During this exciting year, members of the Editorial team are delighted to be participating at the FIGO Congress in Rome. IJGO will have a booth in the Exhibition Hall, where the Editor and Managing Editor will be available for discussion and engagement. On Thursday afternoon, October 11, there will be a special author workshop, with presentations from the Editor and some of our Associate Editors discussing the journal and how to maximize getting published. Anyone, especially young obstetricians/gynecologists, interested in publishing in the IJGO should come along and hear about the Journal's priorities and receive useful advice on writing tips, our requirements, and the submission and review process. The Rome meeting will be an outstanding opportunity for FIGO and IJGO to highlight the contributions that they make to women's health. IJGO is extremely pleased to be publishing, once again, a World Report on Women's Health [13], edited by President-Elect Professor Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran, which gives a clear direction and vision for the activities of FIGO under the leadership of its Chief Executive, Professor Hamid Rushwan.

We look forward to a bright and exciting future for the Journal and hope to share our vision and engage your thoughts and suggestions at the FIGO Congress in Rome.

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