



Editorial

A New Web-based HRDJ

This issue of the HRDJ is the last of its fourth year. It has been four years of great experience for the editorial team. We have learned that although human resources share the biggest proportion of the operating health budget, not enough attention is paid to improve its management. Not enough research is undertaken to generate appropriate wisdom to improve human resources planning, production and utilization. This fact is found at the country, regional as well as at the global levels. It is even more evident in the developing world.

The problems of external brain drain from developing to developed countries appears to be an eternal unsolved issue. The problems of inequitable distribution within a country also continues unsolved. Notwithstanding the fact that human resources in the health sector are usually recruited from the better or the best brains of the country, their skills and productivity are insufficient to cope with rapidly changing public health conditions.

Four years of experience has told us that it is difficult to get very good evidence-based articles for publication. The advancement of telecommunications and increased accessibility to the Internet also convinced us that there is less need to publish a hard copy version of the HRDJ.

Our editorial team has thus consulted with the Department of Health Service Provision, WHO/Geneva on the continuity and sustainability of the HRDJ. Finally we agreed that the HRDJ should be continued as a web-based system. The editorial work will be transferred to WHO/Geneva. A new editorial team with wider and more active participation will be established. A more stringent peer review system will also be initiated.

This new system will start with the 5th year of the HRDJ.

The first web-based HRDJ should come out during the second half of 2002.

For the accomplishments over the past four years, the current editorial team was indebted to the WHO country office in Thailand, WHO/SEARO and WHO/Geneva for their kind support. We would like to thank all editorial board members for their most significant advice and their invaluable most significant and their invaluable voluntary contributions to the peer review processes. We also appreciate very much all researchers, managers, policy makers and thinkers who contributed their articles to the HRDJ. We will definitely provide strong support for the up coming new web-based HRDJ.

Let us work together to generate and disseminate more wisdom to improve the future management of human resources for health.

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Editor

