



New Journal?

The development of hospices and palliative medicine was undoubtedly one of the top achievements in the second half of the 20th century. In many countries, Palliative Medicine and hospice care are well-established and financed by public money and elements of Palliative Medicine have been integrated into mainstream medicine. However, these achievements should not be used as an excuse not to change anything. Voices of criticism both from the public (why do hospices need to be so expensive?) and from academia (most of what is done in palliative care is not based on evidence!) are louder than ever. Having a specialty such as Palliative Medicine is expensive and it may happen that somebody will question its need very soon. All of this calls for changes and a revision of our attitudes. We, in Palliative Medicine, always say that there is no money for research and development. But are we right or are we only using this as an excuse to do nothing? What do we need and what are the needs of modern Palliative Medicine? How can we, as editors of palliative care journals, contribute to these fascinating time?

After ample debate, we decided to change many things in the current journal, "Polska Medycyna Paliatywna" (Polish Palliative Medicine). First of all, we split this title into two different journals. The first, entitled "Medycyna Paliatywna w Praktyce" (Palliative Medicine in Practice), will be published in hard copy and in Polish and will concentrate on translational and educational aspects of Palliative Medicine. There you can expect to find excellent quality, up-to-date review articles on most current and actual topics. We shall also try to extrapolate the developments in different specialties to the needs of patients with advanced diseases.

The second title will be published in English and on-line only. There will be no paper version but it will be available to a wide range of doctors and nurses working worldwide in palliative care. This publication, "Advances in Palliative Medicine" will be a high-profile research journal publishing original articles by authors not necessarily living and working in Poland. "Advances" will inherit academic credits previously earned by "Polska Medycyna Paliatywna". We really hope that this will be just the beginning of an academic career, a kind of "wedding present" which will grow and develop for you and with your help.

There will be some changes to the Advisory Board of both journals and we assure you that we shall try to attract some big names in the field. Watch this space. If you feel competent and would like to write an article for one of the journals, please contact the editor-in-chief and we shall help you. Writing in English should not be a problem for anybody. If you provide us with an original article, we may promise it will be brought to the attention of your peers and will, potentially, have an impact reaching far beyond the borders of the country in which you live. We warmly invite all people from "new" and "old" European countries to read and publish in "Advances". This journal is for you!

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