

# Via Medica comes back as the publisher of *Kardiologia Polska*

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Over the years 2019 to 2021, Medycyna Praktyczna published *Kardiologia Polska* (*Kardiol Pol*, *Polish Heart Journal*). After 2 years, the Board of the Polish Cardiac Society has decided that Via Medica, a former publisher of *Kardiol Pol*, will resume its work for our journal from April 2021 to March 2023. The formal decision has been taken on April 1, 2021 and the current April issue is the last published by Medycyna Praktyczna.

What have we achieved with an editorial and logistic support of Medycyna Praktyczna? *Kardiol Pol* has had 25 issues online and in print in full color. A new initiative, *Zeszyty Edukacyjne Kardiologii Polskiej* (Educational Issues of the Polish Heart Journal) published in Polish has attracted a wide readership including cardiologists, general practitioners, and other specialists. All 6 issues have disseminated new advances in cardiology presented in the European Society of Cardiology guidelines, position statements from Polish experts from the Polish Cardiac Society, and translations of review articles. Two supplements with congress abstracts from the XXIII and XXIV Congresses of the Polish Cardiac Society have also been issued. Medycyna Praktyczna also provided a new title page and layout, and *Kardiol Pol* has appeared in red with a quite positive feedback from readers.

A mobile application presenting the pocket European Society of Cardiology guidelines developed by Medycyna Praktyczna with the support of Professor Andrzej Budaj has been a unique achievement in educational tasks of *Kardiol Pol* and became a popular way of spreading the current knowledge among our readers.

From my perspective, the professional Editorial Manager system introduced in its customized form in April 2019 and supported by

the grant of the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education was of particular value. *Kardiol Pol* has become similar to several prestigious journals and this system underscores our ambitions. Our authors, reviewers, and editors used functions well-known in scientific community which rendered editorial activities easier and has led to my most important goal, a fast editorial turnaround, and the current times are as follows: the mean time since admission to the first reviews, 21 days; time since the acceptance to indexation in PubMed, 8 days, and time since the acceptance to final publication, 90 days, while the acceptance rate is 26% of all submitted manuscripts. There is no backlog of accepted materials. Another must-be in growing journals is the linguistic correctness and a highly proficient level has been achieved by a team led by Ms. Małgorzata Kurowska. The Publons system to acknowledge the work of reviewers has been launched. The plagiarism detection software, iThenticate, integrated with Editorial Manager has enabled to identify frauds and struggle for integrity of published research in our journal.

Last but not least, it should be highlighted that in the ravaging time of the COVID-19 pandemic, Medycyna Praktyczna was able to ensure that all issues come out on time despite a marked increase of the number of submissions.

Editing a journal is a team-work. All contributors involved in the editorial work in the project called *Kardiol Pol* have my gratitude for their commitment. First, it has been a privilege to work with Ms. Joanna Łepicka, the editorial manager since January 2020.

In April 2019 in my editorial comments I wrote: „The path ahead is certainly full of challenges and I am privileged to be in the position of

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Received: April 22, 2021.

Accepted: April 22, 2021.

Published online: April 23, 2021.

*Kardiol Pol.* 2021; 79 (4): 371-372  
doi:10.33963/KP.15947

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leading *Kardiologia Polska* in this time of positive growth, where every step represents a chance of moving towards a higher quality and higher impact of our journal. We are struggling for the 2021 impact factor above 2.5." Our predicted IF for 2020 (not 2021) is 3.0; most likely the value announced usually in June will be close to this extremely high figure, and to maintain it will be a great challenge for us all. This impact factor is the best measure of success achieved over the 2 last years in collaboration with *Medycyna Praktyczna*. On behalf of all editors, I express my gratitude for all advice and technical support to several people involved whose names are not listed here.

I do hope that the next 2 years will be the time of continued growth and increased journal's visibility and standing of *Kardiol Pol*. Given the fact that Via Medica publishes almost 30 journals, we hope for further promotion of editorial excellence in months to come. The Editorial Manager will be still active as well as the high standards of editorial work. I and my co-workers promise to do our best to keep *Kardiol Pol* at the highest possible level in order to show the potential of Polish cardiology as a rapidly developing field of clinical research. Within the nearest weeks where new editorial team will start its work, some problems might be encountered, in such a case, our readers, authors, and reviewers will be kept posted.

I am optimistic about the future of the journal with new ideas and technical solutions to be demonstrated with the new publisher.

#### ARTICLE INFORMATION

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST** None declared.

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**HOW TO CITE** Undas A. Via Medica comes back as the publisher of *Kardiologia Polska*. *Kardiol Pol*. 2021; 79: 371-372. doi:10.33963/KP.15947