

# 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Editorial

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The journal *Acta Medica (Hradec Králové)* is entering its 60th year in a new format. The anniversary brings an opportunity to recall the path the Journal has gone through, and to consider possible future trends.

The first issue was published in 1958 under the title of *Sborník vědeckých prací lékařské fakulty Univerzity Karlovy v Hradci Králové* (A Collection of Scientific Works of the Charles University Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové). The new journal then started to cover the publication needs of the new medical school established shortly after the World War in October II 1945 and affiliated to the renowned Charles University in Prague. Since then, the journal has remained interdisciplinary and has been bringing important findings of the research teams from various departments of our Faculty. There has always been a close association to the University Hospital in Hradec Králové, the most important hospital in East Bohemia and one of the best in the Czech Republic. As the years passed, increasing numbers of papers by extramural authors were published, including those from the other biomedical schools in Hradec Králové (Faculty of Military Medicine and Faculty of Pharmacy) as well as those from other medical schools and hospitals in Czechoslovakia, and now in the Czech Republic. In addition, there are a growing number of manuscripts submitted by authors from all around the world. In 2016, 57 manuscripts by foreign authors were submitted (i.e. 79% of all submissions), of which 13 (i.e. 23%) were accepted for publication after two peer-reviews.

The increasing participation of foreign authors (and readers), together with increasing confidence of Czech authors, has been paralleled by the changes in the publishing language. The first issues were published in Czech, with English and Russian summaries. Gradually, there were increasing number of articles in English, German, Russian, and occasionally French. Since 1974, all articles have been published in English. In 1996, the journal was renamed *Acta Medica (Hradec Králové)*.

In 2007, *Acta Medica* incorporated an older journal *Lékařské Zprávy (Medical Reports)*, published in Czech by our Faculty since 1956.

Since 1958, there has also been a considerable development in the informational technologies. While in the early years typewritten manuscripts were sent by post to the editorial office, the suitable ones were sent (also by post) to the reviewers, who made their corrections by pen and sent typewritten comments back to the editors, etc. and ultimately the revised manuscript, again typewritten, returned to the editors, and then to printing office for publication. The introduction of the Internet changed all that. Namely, the communication is more rapid and the corrections easier, leaving the availability of the reviewers and their time the most important factor of the manuscript processing time. Since 1997, the journal has been published both in printed and online version. Since 2015, all articles (online also those from the previous years) have received the unique and persistent identifier Crossref DOI, allowing for persistent link and precise citation analysis of our articles.

We have also adopted the open access approach, with no financial obligations either for the authors or the readers (platinum open access). The journal was included into the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) in 2004, and this was confirmed in 2016. Our articles are published online after being accepted (ahead of print), and shortly the abstract appears in PubMed, with a direct link to our website, where the full text is available for free. This brings our articles more publicity, resulting in increasing citation (though naturally even more affected by the quality of the article). The citations are being registered in Scopus, SCImago, Google Scholar and ResearchGate.

Today, *Acta Medica (Hradec Králové)* is an interdisciplinary medical journal, published quarterly and indexed in Index medicus, MEDLINE, Scopus, EBSCO, DOAJ and Chemical Abstracts.

We are happy that in its 60th year the journal is still going strong. We would like to thank all those participating in its successful course. We greatly appreciate the effort of all the previous Editors-in-Chief, Prof. MUDr. Jan Řehoř, DrSc. (1958–1965), Prof. MUDr. Jindřich Groh, CSc. (1966–1990), Prof. MUDr. Stanislav Němeček, DrSc. (1991–2006) and Prof. MUDr. Bohuslav Melichar, CSc. (2006–2008). With the exception of Prof. Němeček, who was widely educated histopathologist, they were all internists, with excellent general clinical knowledge and experience. I would like to give my special thanks to another generally educated internist, Prof. MUDr. Bohuslav Král, CSc., who was a long-term Edi-

tor-in-Chief of the incorporated journal *Lékařské Zprávy* and then became the most effective member of the *Acta Medica* Editorial Board. He was my invaluable teacher both in clinical internal medicine and in editorial work, and he is still (at the age of 87) greatly helpful to the journal. Also many other members of the Editorial Board have provided important help. However, as the quality of any journal is mostly dependent on the quality of the submitted manuscripts and on the peer-reviewing process, we are very grateful to our authors and reviewers. Especially for the reviewers, the cooperation means unselfish service to the scientific community, and we greatly appreciate their contribution. Both in better and worse times, the success of the journal would not be possible without unceasing support of our Faculty of Medicine, in the last 8 years led by Prof. MUDr. RNDr. Miroslav Červinka, CSc., as the Dean (picture on the cover). Last but not least, we have been enjoying a fruitful and strong liaison with Charles University Publishing House (Karolinum Press), led by Mgr. Petr Valo.

For future trends, an informal advisory group of experienced researchers led by the Vice-Dean of our Faculty Prof. MUDr. Sylvie Dusilová Sulková, DrSc., has been recruited. The new format of our journal is the first achievement. Other improvements are being discussed, and we will inform you on our plans in one of the following issues.

We will do our best to ensure that our Journal will continue to provide an efficient medium for scientific reports from members of our Faculty as well as from various Czech and foreign authors. We offer a friendly (though demanding) approach of our Editorial Board and the peer-reviewers.

Prof. MUDr. Jiří Horáček, CSc.  
Editor-in-Chief