

## **Publisher of the Asia Pacific Family Medicine journal**

### **1. Past situation**

The Asia Pacific Family Medicine journal (APFM) is open access journal and the BioMedCentral (BMC) was its publisher.

<https://apfmj.biomedcentral.com/>

It had about 20 articles once but the number of articles of the journal was decreasing. The reason is suspected as below.

- \*Reviewing time was long due to delayed handing.
- \*The number of reviewers was not enough to review manuscript timely.
- \*It does not have impact factor although it listed at the PubMed or Scopus.
- \*Co-editor-in-chiefs among three did not function well.

The regional council meeting was held in Seoul in 2018 and the reform of the journal below was decided.

- \*Primary care research is crucial for WONCA-APR and need to continue the journal.
- \*Only Yousuke Takemura, MD, PhD is the only editor-in-chief to act rapidly and effectively.
- \*WONCA-APR makes new editorial board and gather relatively young and smart primary care researchers from each member organization in each country.
- \*Each member organization list at least fifteen reviewers who can review submitted manuscript timely and effectively.
- \*WONCA-APR provides APFM journal of some budget for its advertisement.

However, due to the decline of the number of articles of the APFM, the BMC decided to cease publishing it at the end of 2018, two months after the announcement of the reform.

The editor-in-chief tried to find the next publishers; for example, WILEY, ELSEVIER, Taylor & Francis, BMJ, and Japanese publishers, but there were no successful answers.

### **2. Current situation**

The Gajah Mada University Press or UGM Press provides a free online journal system and it can be a publisher of the APFM journal. It can do open access online journal for the APFM journal and it could be free for author. The author does not need to pay any money for article processing charge or APC. However, it requires the WONCA-APR to pay 3000 USD per year for management including hiring an assistant.

However, the merit is that UGM Press publishing APFM journal can gather much more articles due to no APC for author and it could enhance primary care research activity in this region.

### **3. proposal**

The editor-in-chief of the APFM journal request 3000 USD per year for its publishing management by the UGM Press.

Yousuke C Takemura, MD, PhD

Editor-in-Chief

the Asia Pacific Family Medicine journal