

## LOOKING BEYOND THE BOX TOWARDS THE HORIZON

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Two decades ago the Journal of Chittagong Medical College Teachers Association (JCMCTA) was launched in a modest humble manner. The cherished aim was to create authors of scientific materials among the faculty members of Chittagong Medical College (CMC).

A higher educational institute is not only for imparting knowledge, skill and attitude to the students but there are more to do especially that for an applied science education a medical college. The final mission is to produce medical professionals who will be able to cater the need of the nation, through producing 'Safe Doctors and Scientists for the Nation'. Chittagong Medical College was established in 1957 with this aim. The Chittagong Medical College Teachers Association (CMCTA) was established in 1982 as a formal assembly of teachers of the institute for consolidating the fellowship to funnel into complementary activities for education, science and service to achieve the mission of the institute. JCMCTA has been the official organ of CMCTA.

The medical profession has two dimension, medical service and medical science that are initiated by education; both are inseparable from one to another. Being a learned profession to pursue this one has to be a lifelong learner as well as explorer either formal or informal. Medical science is a horizon that is expanding day by day exponentially with newer theories and practices. To be a safe professional one has to be continually conversant with all of these. A medical journal is platform for documented communication, a media of formal and other experiences with access to all concerned. Through this media experiences are exchanged, arguments are forwarded, debates are created, critical appraisals are done, linkages are established, consensuses are gained and, harmonization plus synchrony are established. This media thus provides the wave fronts for the appropriate mutation of the most mutable profession of the world. And all these are for making the professional pursuits more and more

prudent for the well being of the fellow humankind. To achieve all these, the beginning is to create authors who can transcribe their observations and others in a scientific standard format and that was the main aim during the launching of the JCMCTA. The collaterals of continued authoring are the maintenance of professional pursuits in a prudent manner. And though this science grows and services become more relevant.

Looking back to the traversed two decades it will be evident that the main aim of the JCMCTA has been achieved in a consistent and continued manner. In a country like ours over coming all the pain and perils and hurdles possibly this is an example of a success. With each issue one will find that the JCMCTA has been moulding to more and more credible media with creating authors, researchers, keen observers, documenters and communicators. The JCMCTA is now an indexed journal with Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council has an ISSN accreditation and also recently uploaded to website with full access. Contributors of the JCMCTA are now beyond the members of the CMCTA and also of the CMC yard signifying its acceptability and novelty. Many of the contributors could able to cite their publications successfully in higher recruitment process as these were acceptable. In addition endeavors for creating authors have been expanded to include medical students in a dedicated section called 'students corner' to sow the seed of the habit of documentation and writing, the upcoming dividend of that will be more and more researchers and authors among the pool of the professionals. It will not be a boasting that CMCTA and JCMCTA are forerunner of all similar pursuits in the country and Students Corner is most innovative unparallel addition in this behalf. The Editorial staffs past and present deserve thanks and gratitude in this behalf. But the unflinching supports of the members of CMCTA are the never ending driving force in this behalf. These are some reflections of the show case of the JCMCTA.

From lookback we are now poised to and vis a vis have to look forward towards the horizon with a renewed target of making it per contemporary international standard. For this we have to come out of the box of our traditional thinking, exercises and

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attitude. The classical guideline in this direction is ADVISE stands for Analysis, Dissemination, Visualization, insight Semantic and Enhancement. At the same time there is a need of more professionalism, standardization, dedication, documentations, commitment and no doubt hard works. Let the gathered experience of last two decades provide us the momentum for achieving new set aims without forgetting that our primary target is to create authors.